



REPORT ON

GAUTENG PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

AFRICA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY CELEBRATIONS

23 JUNE 2006

Africa Public Service Day: Gauteng Provincial Government Celebrations

Purpose

Africa Public Service Day (APSD) was celebrated by all Gauteng Provincial Government departments on Friday, 23 June 2006 and public servants in the province joined their African counterparts to celebrate.

A live broadcast was held for public servants to watch at the various departments, where the celebrations across Africa could be followed. Presentations were also made by various African countries including Morocco and Namibia.

In Gauteng the live broadcast was done simultaneously with the broadcast of the Gauteng Premier's budget vote speech for the Office of the Premier.

On this day government recognize the value and virtue of the community and reiterate our commitment to deliver value and quality public service to Africa's citizens and to promote the values of professionalism, accountability and responsiveness within the public service.

The continent also paid tribute to the public servants who devote their lives to diligently serve the people of the province, the country and the continent.

The 2006 APSD celebrations were held under the theme '**Building an Ethical Public Service for Improved Service Delivery in Africa**'. It was set by the APSD Ministerial Steering Committee with a focus on promoting good governance, empowering the citizenry and enhancing access to services and government information, capacitating the public service to meet the expectations of the people and restructuring the public sector in line with Africa's unique challenges.

"We must continue to build a public service which upholds the highest moral values, integrity and ethics. We are currently developing an ethics programme with the provincial government to promote employee awareness of ethics and ethical behaviour within the public service. This will complement our current anti-corruption campaign which is succeeding in rooting out corruption in our ranks," said Gauteng Premier Shilowa.

The Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment hosted an APSD event over the weekend which took the form of an information day. The department displayed some of the projects and programmes they undertake to improve the lives of communities.

The APSD is an entrenched strategic event on the African Union calendar held every year on 23 June to recognize the value and virtue of service to the community.

Conclusion

The Africa public Service Day celebrated in Gauteng was a successful event. All Gauteng departments celebrated the event and this day was well observed by SADC in Africa paying tribute to public servants and their dedicated spirit in assisting government on serving the communities. The office of the Premier would like to acknowledge and extend its message of appreciation to all departments for their cooperation in making the celebration of this occasion a major success in Gauteng.

Recommendations for future celebrations of the Provincial APSD:

As from 2007 GPG Departments will celebrate APSD together on the same day and venue. Preparations to celebrate the event will start in **April** each year. In order for the event to be successful, the following aspects must be established:

GPG departments must budget for this event. It is also recommended that this day be part of the provincial department's calendar in order to prevent programme clashes in future. Provincial Organizing Committee comprising of officials from GPG Departments' Service Delivery Units, Transversal Human Resources as well as Communications Units: This committee will be responsible for conducting awareness campaigns to all GPG departments and stakeholders; compiling the programme for the day and identifying a suitable venue for all GPG Departments for celebrations.

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Date: