



MINISTRY  
PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**MINISTER N. KIVIET  
OPENING REMARKS ON  
THE PRESIDENTIAL  
GOLF CHALLENGE PRIZE  
GIVING CEREMONY AT  
ATLANTIC BEACH GOLF  
CLUB IN MELBOSTRAND  
ON THE  
9<sup>TH</sup> OF FEBRUARY IN  
CAPE TOWN**

Programme Director , Ms Alicia Jali

His Excellency President Cyril Ramaphosa

Fellow Cabinet Ministers

Deputy Minister for Public Service and Administration , Dr  
Chana Pilane-Majake

Deputy Ministers present

CEO of MTN , Mr Charles Molapisi

CEO of the Cyril Ramaphosa Foundation , Ms Mmabatho  
Maboya

Business leaders

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my great privilege to warmly welcome you all to this ceremony after an exhausting but beautiful day of the sport of golf . I believe that all of you have played your hearts out to be winners tonight. We are delighted and honoured that so many of you participated in the Golf Day.

**Special acknowledgement Mr President of Mr Botshepehi Phakoe a young golfer from the Free State , lets give him a round of applause .**

Thank you for joining us today to celebrate the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Presidential Golf Challenge. This Presidential Golf Challenge is important as it improves the lives of the young people for the better through education.

**Mr President,**

We are gathered here tonight to follow on a well-established tradition and practice since 1999 to host the Presidential Golf Challenge following delivery of the State of the Nation Address by the then President of the Republic of South Africa.

This years Presidential Golf Challenge occurs just two days before that historical release of the first President of the

democratic South Africa Tata Nelson Rholihlahla Mandela. As we celebrate this milestone we must remember that historical day of Mandela Release 34 years ago.

We can without shadow of the doubt be proud of what we have done for the past 30 years to change the lives of the people for the better. As we celebrate 30 years of our democracy, the role we have played in the education sector cannot be underestimated. President Nelson Mandela has this to say :

***“Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mine worker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farmworker can become the President of a great nation. It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, what separates one person from another “***

Tata Mandela valued education so much hence his sterling contribution in various rural areas through educational projects for the learners. We will always remember him for what he said about the importance of education .

This initiative of the Cyril Ramaphosa Foundation has thus far assisted 20 000 learners with focus on various fields. We are proud to say we will go to this year's elections with our heads held high as we have made a difference in the lives of many South Africans.

It is worth noting, Mr President and distinguished guests that we gathered here to demonstrate goodwill and pledge support to the advancement of our communities needs through education within our society.

**Mr President,**

It is more than 22 years ago since the Ministry for the Public Service and Administration came up with a concept of a Presidential Golf Challenge (PGC) whose main objective was and remains, to raise funds for a charity nominated by a sitting President.

The Presidential Golf Challenge acknowledges the role played by business in economic growth and development through education.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to my predecessors, all the former Ministers and Deputy Ministers for the Public Service and Administration who annually carried through with this legacy diligently. **Special thanks to all the sponsors.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Despite the socio-economic challenges facing our country, a lot of progress is being made to improve the lives of our people. We may have not achieved the levels we aspire to reach but there is progress. However, government alone cannot be able to change the lives of the people for the better without strategic partnership with other role-players.

South Africa needs compatriots like you, who are willing to share their success for the benefit of those who are less fortunate in our society. It is through an initiative like the Presidential Golf Challenge that government can join hands with the private sector to participate in developmental initiatives which will benefit young people in our country.

The support of the business community for the Presidential Golf Challenge cannot be emphasized. For the business community to come on board, we have to ensure that many students and learners of previously disadvantaged communities will be beneficiaries of your boundless generosity.

You are indeed true patriots whose generous deeds will not make news headlines tomorrow but, in a lifetime, someone somewhere will proclaim that, through the assistance from the Cyril Ramaphosa Foundation, they managed to achieve their dreams. That will be the time when you would know that your investment has yielded positive results.

Today, because of your generous actions which demonstrate the love we have for our country and its people, we can proudly pronounce that ***We Belong*** (to this country), ***We Care*** (about the future of our young people), and ***We Serve*** (our nation with pride).

May I take this opportunity and invite to the podium, His Excellency the President of the Republic of South Africa, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa.

**Mr President over to you !**

