



# LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Department  
SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE  
OFFICE of the MEC

## REMARKS BY MEC LERULE-RAMAKHANYA ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING CEREMONY: TELKOM NETBALL LEAGUE

Friday, 28 April 2023

Telkom Chief Marketing Officer – Gugu Mthembu  
Netball SA President - Cecilia Molokwane  
NSA Vice President – Mami Diale  
Chief Operating Officer -Blanche De la Guerre  
Limpopo Sport Council President – Mr. Ali Pole  
NSA Director Demarcation & Structures – Claudine Claassen  
NSA Director Selection - Ivy Khumalo  
NSA Director Coaches – Annelie Lucas  
President of Limpopo Netball President Netball – Christina Shikwambana  
Limpopo Netball Chairpersons  
Umpires  
Technical Officials  
Coaches  
Volunteers  
Players  
All sponsors and Spectators  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Before I introduce to you the speaker of the day, I thought it would be prudent to make these short remarks.

It is a great victory to see this female dominated sport, Netball, having such a prestigious league that is currently ongoing. The presence of this sport in our communities should change lives and inspire communities to rally behind its programmes and activities.

South Africa will be hosting the 2023 Netball World Cup led by the president of Netball South Africa and Africa, Ms Cecillia Molokoane. This is a proud moment for the country, and for the Province as a whole. Beside the president of the NSA originating from here, we will have three players who have benefited from the programmes of the Limpopo Academy of Sport partaking in the competition. Boitumelo Matlhoko, Khanyisa Chawane, and Lenise Potgieter. I know that these names are quite familiar to you and some are looking ahead to walk in their footsteps in the near future. We are proud of these ladies, and we wish them

well. Municipalities are encouraged to identify fan-parks for the World Cup so that we support the Spar Proteas.

Every Friday, like we did during the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup, I encourage you to wear the South African Netball Team jerseys. The officials of the Department are here, and they should be able to advise where in the province you could get your T-shirt.

Just like all other Provinces, Limpopo will also host a trophy tour from the 09<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. The routes will be communicated in due course.

Programme Director,

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture has sent out a circular encouraging municipality to apply for the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIGs) for multi-sporting codes courts. By doing so, government looks to ensure that sporting codes such as Netball have infrastructure. That will be through the construction of more Combi-Courts built from the R10 million grant as opposed to building one facility worth 10 million per financial year. The municipalities will be able to cover more areas and more citizens, covering different sporting codes. The view is that ultimately, leagues such as this should be able to be played at local level in future.

To my main point, Programme Director, let me introduce to you to a formidable leader of governance and society. A woman who started her professional career as a Nurse in East London, Eastern Cape and then moved to Gauteng where she later became a Councillor in Ekurhuleni, deployed by the ANC.

She has been deployed to serve as a Member of Parliament in the National Assembly from May 2014 until May 2019, where she was elected as the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements during the Fifth Parliament (2014- 2019). This remarkable woman was also a Member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Funding of Political Parties (Ad Hoc Committees) from June 2017 until May 2019.

She is also a member of the National Executive Committee of the governing party, the ANC. She is currently serving as the Deputy Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture of the Republic of South Africa, appointed by President Cyril Ramaphosa in May 2019. Please help me welcome Ms NOCAWE NONCEDO MAFU.