



**WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE MAYOR  
OF  
MAKHUDUTHAMAGA MUNICIPALITY  
CLLR. MOKHABELA Q.E  
DURING THE  
LAND USE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
WORKSHOP  
@  
MUNICIPAL CHAMBER  
30 - SEPTEMBER-2009**



- **Maapara-Nkwe**
- **Magoro go ya ka kgati**
- **Mantona le Baeletsi ba Meshate**
- **Bangwaledi**
- **Government Officials**
- **Distinguished Guests**
- **Ladies and gentleman**



**Firstly I would like to make use of this opportunity to thank the organisers of this workshop for all the arrangements they have made. Really it worth mentioning that your efforts and dedication has made this initiative a success and I hope it will yield positive results too.**

**I understand that it is not always easy to get all chiefs of Makhuduthamaga in one room due to busy daily schedule in the villages.**

**Without any waste of time I would like to indicate that today we are meeting here for two reasons. That is; to strengthen the working relationship with you as stakeholders and also to address the issue of Land Use Management System (LUMS). It therefore important that we participate actively during the workshop for sake of development of our communities.**

**Ladies and gentlemen, we are living in the era during which our villages are gradually becoming modernised. Although this process of modernisation is evolutionary, it is having direct impact on the use of available land. It is therefore our baby as Magoshi and the Municipality to ensure that we manage the land properly to avoid congested and unplanned settlements that may be stumbling blocks of development.**



**As I speak right now, the community is queuing at the tribal offices and municipality to seek permission to occupy land. This indicates that it is imperative that we meet frequently to plan around this issue of distribution of land so that we can have a common approach towards development of our communities.**

**The municipality has already made efforts to do land audit survey but we cannot solve the problems of land use alone without assistance of our *Meshate* because tribal authority may have its own plan other than ours.**

**Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to advice this house that we should note the following points as we will be discussing LUMS issue later during the day:**

- Firstly we must know that the population has increased a lot. This means that the number of people who need stands is likely to be doubled in the near future and we must try to agree on standard of hectors that must be allocated for the people in the villages.**
- Secondly we must bear in mind that there is a need for the municipality to be given pieces of land for infrastructure development. You all need facilities such as libraries and there must be a land for**



government to implement programmes easily.

- Third point that I would like to bring into attention is the haphazard allocation of stands. Due to this problem, some citizens end up building houses below electricity cables, on the river banks, on alongside our main tar roads as well as on top of sewage pipes. Believe me this is putting lives of ordinary citizens at risk and I propose that something should be done before it gets late.
- Cooperation and relationship between tribal authorities and municipality is also key in rural development process. We appeal to those who allocate stands to be honest to the municipality by not issuing double PTO's because that alone disturbs development programmes.
- I also challenge this house to bear in mind that we still need land for economic reasons. For example we have fertile lands like the Nebo plateau that needs to be preserved for agricultural purpose. More so, we have heritage sites as well as growth points such as Apel cross area that needs serious management for us to be able to lure investors to Makhuduthamaga.



- **Another critical factor that we should also discuss as we meet is the issue of municipal cemeteries as well as dumping sites.**

**Programme director, these are just some of the examples I can give and I hope lots will be discussed during the workshop.**

**Before I go into conclusion, I would also like to discourage our Magoshi from supporting *toyi-toyis* to the municipalities. Our doors are always open and you should not feel ashamed to approach the office of the Mayor when there are problems in the villages. Together we can influence our IDP and ensure that we achieve a lot in developing our people.**

**Lastly I would like to announce that we are left with 244 days to Fifa Soccer world cup. Some of the villages may be fortunate to be visited by overseas guests and potential investors. I therefore appeal to our Magoshi to ensure that we educate our communities to make all visitors to feel at home. Let's discourage criminal activities so that 2010 visitors may also prefer Makhuduthamaga as their holiday destination.**

**On behalf of the executive committee, the council, and the administration of Makhuduthamaga Local municipality, I once again thank you for coming to the workshop and I believe that you will all feel**



**free to address problems of illegal occupation of land as well as discussing way forward.**

**Ke a leboga, pula!!!**