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MEDIA STATEMENT

PRAISED HEAPED AS PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT POST IMPRESSIVE ANNUAL REPORT PERFORMANCE

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure welcomes the support today after it presented its annual performance report before the members of the Public Works and Infrastructure Portfolio Committee.

The Deputy Minister, Sihle Zikalala and Director-General, Sifiso Mdakane, presented an impressive report on operation and financial performance by the department. The report reflects a year of strong stewardship and leadership since the start of the 7th Administration under the leadership of the Minister, Dean Macpherson and Deputy Minister, Sihle Zikalala, which has shown an improvement in the fiscal resources and meaningful service delivery to the clients of the department and the public.

The report highlights notable achievements, and a clear path towards meeting of the key priorities of Turning South Africa into a Construction Site, using Public Assets for Public Good, and creating more work opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme.

The Annual report is a key tool of accountability by the department to Parliament and the citizens of the country on its performance.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The annual report demonstrates achievements in many core programmes, among others:

- A total of 48,3058 hectares of land released from DPWI portfolio for development of infrastructure programs and socio-economic objectives were released. Land is critical as a factor of production that will contribute to economic growth.
- Seven Strategic Integrated Projects (SIP) completed where the value of SIP projects grew from R340 billion in July 2020 to R540 billion in 2024. This is an important growth that contributes to the GDP. The NDP stresses that a 30%

infrastructure as a percentage of GDP to realise economic growth and development.

- As part of bringing services closer to the public, about seven precinct plans have been developed to accommodate various departments in one centre, were concluded.
- The department has coordinated 923 718 job opportunities through the EPWP programme, which translates into a 91% achievement.
- 10 363 work opportunities have been created on Ministerial priority projects.
- 19 497 Immovable assets have been physically verified to validate existence. The Department has registered 9 221 immovable assets aligned to municipal valuations, which amount to 92%. This is critical step towards a credible Immovable Asset Register.

CLIENT DEPARTMENTS IMPACTING ON CASH-FLOWS: DEPARTMENTS OWE DPWI R14,6BILLION

The department has reported to the Portfolio Committee challenges that threatens its target of outstanding achievements. These include among others high pressure on its cash flow, due to clients departments reducing their baseline on accommodation charges. The department is currently owed R14,6billion by clients departments. This challenge largely influences the availability of funding on maintenance and the payment of property rates.

FORWARD PATH

The annual report demonstrate a vast improvement by the department in implementing infrastructure projects and improving customer satisfaction indicators.

The positive annual report performance reflects the commitment by the department to delivering on its mandate with integrity, efficiency, and responsiveness to the needs of its client departments and infrastructure, in growing the economy and creating jobs. The department has pledged to continue to pursue excellence and accountability as it continues to implement more reforms in areas such as fiscal and financial rectitude, and the implementation of projects on the ground, on time and within budget.

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