

**Deputy Minister of Public Works  
Ms BM Nzimande  
5 August 1999**

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## **Visit to Port Elizabeth Regional Office**

Minister Sigcau, Regional Manager Ms Ramncwana, colleagues from Public Works ....

Please accept my appreciation for your warm welcome to Minister and myself. And on behalf of all of us, let us thank Minister for making time in her schedule to meet with us, to discuss our shared achievements and common problems. Thank you Minister for the way in which you are setting the scene for the Public Works Team to work together.

I need to echo Minister's message: we now have to pull all our resources to ensure that we accelerate delivery. We have our policies in place, we have progressed in implementation and we have achieved many milestones, .....but, .....but, let us just shortly reflect on some of the milestones you have achieved, and some challenges you are currently dealing with:

The New Brighton Mortuary should be acknowledged as a successful achievement - I am sure that Minister, as I myself, would love the opportunity to visit this completed project on a subsequent visit.

The Police Station at Walmer is another ..... and so are the activities at St Albans Prison.

The renovations at the Bunga in Umtata are important when considering the future impact this venue will have on tourism in the Eastern Cape.

You have walked the road thus far in transforming towards meeting the socio-economic objectives set by government. Do not falter now - continue to make your positive contribution by attending to each and every task with the diligence required to excel.

As a team, we can only deliver when each participant adheres to his or her clearly defined responsibility and deadline. Make sure that you understand the full import of your individual role, because no task is too small to halt the process if it is not well executed. Pay attention to what your team members are expecting of you - afford them the same courtesy in the work environment that you would expect for yourself. Our motto should be to be sure that we are doing the right thing at the right time, and that we do it right!

In this way we will not waste resources of either time, money or effort, and we will be sure to improve on our service delivery.

We should not allow prejudices, be that racial, sexual, religious or otherwise, to interfere in judgement, conduct, dedication or any act that would inhibit top performance.

It is important that we assess not only individual performance, but also that of teams working together, or sometimes competing against each other. We must ensure that we ourselves maintain a healthy working environment in which our best contributions may be collectively realised.

Representivity, diversity of culture, tradition and belief - all these are factors that should stimulate our minds, open up new solutions to existing problems - it is up to us to integrate these diversities and learn from each other, not to abstain or reject simply because we have not engaged with other opinions or views than that of our own group.

May I close by saying: Yes, we will respond. Yes we will accelerate delivery - and we will do this together, as a team, and serve our country as a team.

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