

Mayor's keynote address at the Sod turning ceremony for the Segorong relocation, Praktiseer, 27 October 2011

Programme Director

Madame Speaker

EXCO Members

Councillors

Developers

Ba ka moshate

Invited guests

Media

Setshaba ka moka

We are here to officially pronounce to the community of Segorong that the process of relocation is starting now with full force. It has been years since the process of relocation was started and people have been losing hope. We are here to tell you that the wait is now and now is the time for our hands to get dirty in realising the dreams of the Segorong community.

We would like to thank Rhino Minerals, Kgoshigadi Malepe and the community of Segorong for being patient while the processes were unfolding despite the challenges and obstacles overcome. There have been some disputes which delayed the project but today we can confidently say that all the disputes have been resolved and the project will continue without disruptions.

The Council has resolved to allocate this piece of land for this important development of bringing dignity to our people especially the Segorong community. This is the investment that will stick with you for the rest of your life and will be inherited by the future generations. We would also like to applaud the role played by the Social facilitator to bring sanity and understanding between the community and the Mine. A lot has happened and we are proud of the decision of the community and the Mine to relocate the people in order to extend the operations of the Mine.

Our area is rich in mineral deposits and we welcome any investment that will assist in reducing the rate of unemployment and poverty. The Mine will require a certain number of people to come and work in the operations. We will be happy if the people of Segorong though relocated will be given opportunities to compete for the work in the Mine. We need skilled people and we hope that the Mine will invest in the

education of our community as education is one of the Five key priority areas of the government.

The process of relocation is a huge task which will need the cooperation of every stakeholder. Kgoshigadi Malepe and the people of Segorong have worked together over a long period to prepare for the relocation and we hope that togetherness will continue. We would like to take this opportunity to appeal to the community of Praktiseer to welcome the people from Segorong and assist them to be reintegrated into the society.

The infrastructure to be developed in this piece of land should also benefit the entire people of Praktiseer. It is positive move because some of the projects would have taken ages to be implemented. Our people need water, electricity, roads, houses and sanitation and this is what Rhino Minerals wants to bring in this piece of land. The relocation will increase the revenue base of the Municipality and we encourage people to pay for services that they are getting.

This development will create many jobs and we would like to request the developer to consider local people for jobs and other business opportunities. We do not want this development to stall because of the disputes in relation to job and business opportunities. If there certain things that can be done locally let us engage each other for sanity to prevail.

We are blessed as Greater Tubatse because since June 2011 we have seen construction of major developments taking place and we hope that after this event we will see people busy on this site. Once more our appreciation goes to the Malepe Tribal Authority, Rhino Minerals and the people of Segorong for the cooperation you have shown since this project was started. We want to see this project succeeding in order to bring smiles upon the faces of the recipients. Our doors are always opened and we will entertain any challenge that may seek to hamper this development. Ward 13 has increased and we want to see the full integration of the people of Segorong and Praktiseer. Let us make this a remarkable and memorable day.

**I thank you**