



WHEN THE SUN RISES
WE WORK HARD TO DELIVER

Second Provincial Adjustment Budget Speech for **2014/15**

HON RM MTSHWENI

**ACTING MEC FOR FINANCE, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

31 MARCH 2015

Together We Move South Africa forward



finance
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**SPEECH BY THE ACTING MEC FOR FINANCE, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM, HON. RM MTSHWENI (MPL) DURING THE
OCCASION OF THE TABLING OF THE MPUMALANGA SECOND
ADJUSTMENTS BUDGET FOR THE 2014/15 FINANCIAL YEAR AT THE
MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE, MBOMBELA**

31 March 2015

- Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker
- Honourable Premier, Mr DD Mabuza
- Honourable Members of the Executive Council
- Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature
- Chairperson of the Mpumalanga Provincial House of Traditional Leaders, Kgoshi ML Mokoena
- Director-General, Dr Nonhlanhla Mkhize
- Head of Department of Finance, Ms Nombedesho Nkamba and other Heads of Department
- Chairpersons of Boards and Chief Executive Officers of Public Entities
- Esteemed guests
- Ladies and gentlemen

1. It gives me a great pleasure to introduce the Mpumalanga Second Adjustments Appropriation Bill 2 of 2015 to this august House.

Freedom Charter and human habitat

2. Honourable Speaker, the multitudes of freedom-loving South Africans who descended at Kliptown, Soweto, 60 years ago laid an unshakable foundation for the human rights we are celebrating this month. Under the leadership of ANC leaders such as Z.K Mathews and Lionel 'Rusty' Bernstein, the 3000 delegates who participated in crafting the Freedom Charter, were in unison in demanding the recognition of the rights we enjoy today.
3. We look back with pride that their demands were not in vain, as they have found expression in our treasured Constitution.

Some of these demands included the following:

- All people shall have the right to live where they choose, be decently housed, and to bring up their families in comfort and security.
4. Madam Speaker, we must admit that more still need to be done in the realization of all that is contained in the Freedom Charter. However, we are inspired by the fact that we have already started the journey.
 5. The tabling of this Second Adjustments Appropriation Bill 2 of 2015 today, coincides with the end of the Human Rights month, which rights are expressed vividly in our Constitution. Therefore it gives me a great pleasure to introduce

this bill on this important day. More so because the bill is aligned with the aspirations of the masses contained in the Freedom Charter.

6. The irreversible developmental path we have undertaken as Mpumalanga enjoys the full support of this adjusted appropriation bill which seeks to make the dream of Isithwalandwe, Dr Nelson Mandela, a reality. He envisioned this dream when he said and I quote: ***“Our drive for human dignity and basic rights is premised on the development of our country and the improvement of the living conditions of the people. The freedoms whose virtue we are extolling will be meaningless in the face of grinding poverty and underdevelopment”.***
7. We are inspired to implement programmes and intervene where possible to ensure that ***human dignity and basic rights become the hallmark of development in our country.***
8. As we table this bill, Madam Speaker on the last day of the Human Rights month, we do so in paying tribute to the heroes and heroines who have made our rights possible.

Adjusted Fiscal Framework for 2014/15

9. The Adjusted Provincial Fiscal Framework for the 2014/15 financial year has been increased from **Thirty seven billion and sixty eight million rands (R37.068 billion)** to **Thirty seven billion, one hundred and thirty eight million rands (R37.138 billion)** for the year ended 31 March 2015.
10. The Province received **Seventy million rands** (R70 million) from the Human Settlement Development Grant after we have tabled the Provincial Adjustment at this august house on the 18th November 2014.
11. The availability of additional funds presented an opportunity that could not be missed, especially given the tight fiscal and economic conditions as outlined in the Main Appropriation Speech on 17 March 2015.
12. Four Votes declared underspending mainly on compensation of employees and other non-committed funds.
13. A total of **Thirty six million and eight hundred thousand rands (R36. 8 million)** is therefore reduced from the baselines of four votes and directed towards the water provision support in the various municipalities.
14. This budget augments the **Two hundred and seventy three million rands (R273 million)** which was added to the baseline of the Department of Human Settlements in November 2014.

Changes in baseline of Departments

15. The following changes are effected in the budget of the Votes for the financial year ending 31 March 2015:
 - 15.1 The allocation to the Department of Finance is adjusted downwards **by R4 million**, from **Two hundred and seventy six million and twenty four thousand rands (R276.024 million) to Two hundred and seventy two million and twenty four thousand rands (R272.024 million)**.
 - 15.2 The budget of the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs is reduced by **R8 million** from **Four hundred and seventy three million and eighty seven thousand rands (R473.087 million) to Four hundred and Sixty five million and eighty seven thousand rands (R465.087 million)**.
 - 15.3 The Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs' budget decreased by **R20 million** from **One billion and fifty five million rands (R1.055 billion) to one billion and thirty five million rands (R1.035 billion)**.
 - 15.4 The budget of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism decreased by **Four million and eight hundred thousand rands (R4.8 million)** from **Seven hundred and sixty nine million and ninety three thousand rands (R769.093 million) to Seven hundred and sixty four million and three hundred thousand rands (R764.3 million)**.
 - 15.5 The allocation to the Department of Human Settlements increased from **One billion and seven hundred and sixty six million rands (R1.766 billion) to One billion, eight hundred and seventy three million rands (R1.873 billion)**.
16. I hereby table the Second Adjustments Appropriation Bill 2 of **2015** to the House for consideration and adoption.

I thank you.