



North West Trade and Investment opportunities that **work**.

Partnering for Success in building a North West Province that truly belongs to all.

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**“Ours is an economy characterized by a confluence of possibilities...”** – Hounourable Maureen Modiselle

Faster, Harder and Smarter, this is the Presidential Promise of the South African Government to its people and the world. President Zuma has declared 2010, the year of action, where we not only talk the talk but we walk the walk with our heads high and filled with utmost excitement and pride at the wake of the 2010 Soccer World Cup. Since 1994, South Africa has worked its way back into the global arena, position itself not only as the most powerful nation in Africa but an equally competent member of the global community.

Put to the challenge, we have proved to the world that we are capable and eager to become better than our ultimate best. This has shown in our transition from apartheid ridden people who found democracy and peace without acrimony. In this year we celebrate 20 year since the release of Tata Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela from Robin Island prison. These celebrations define the character of a nation that resonates with this iconic symbol of peace humility which we simply term Ubuntu - Botho, encapsulating the essence of selflessness and putting the needs of other first before your own.

This year we see our economy sprout put of the ruins of recession as would a phoenix rising out of its ashes into a new birth. As the world crumbled in the effects of the financial meltdown, world class Economic and Monetary Policies is what saw South Africa into the first economic recovery indicators with a reported 0.95% GDP growth at the close of Q3 2009; exactly a full year after a concession of negative growth at the close of Q3 2008 that declared South African in full recession. This impeccable recovery was predominantly attributed to the growing capital investment in the construction sector.

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*Directors:*

Ms N Matsobane (**Chairperson**), Rev DA Gaobepe (**Deputy Chairperson**), Mr L Matlholwa, Mr AP Smith, Kgosi ME Mabe, Ms K Letselela, Mr JFT Leeuw (**Acting Chief Executive Officer**), Ms M Tumane (**Ex-Officio Member of the Board**)

Quarter four of 2009 also closed with a confident 3.2% GDP growth mainly accounted for by the manufacturing and retail industry. This is 28% more than the forecasted 2.5% recovery for the same period. Economists remain confident that such growth will continue into the great and action filled 2010 to result in a multi-sectoral growth of epic proportions.

In June 2010, South Africa welcomes the world to her humble shores in a jointed spirit of football in celebrating of the FIFA World Cup of Soccer. The North West Province will host 6 of the games at the Royal Bafokeng Soccer Stadium. The province is also a proud host of the English National Football team. We anticipate sizeable numbers of visitors from the team's followers from across the world and particularly the citizens of Great Britain

Our mission to your country falls on the backdrop of our already existing trade relationship. The UK remains South Africa's 4<sup>th</sup> largest. As with the United Kingdom, the primary sector in the North West Province of South Africa is the Agricultural Sector. The largest maize plant in South Africa is located in the North West Province; we supply the country's 40% of Sunflower and contribute immensely to the cattle farming supply.

Mining is also a primary sector in the province. It is due to the large amount of Platinum and Platinum related metals supply that the province earned its nickname "The Platinum Province". Our province is home to the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest Platinum mining house in the world, Lonmin, which is a UK based multinational. We are also proud to host more than 80 gold mines in the North West Province.

The growing confidence of Africa and the world in the products supplied from the province was evident in the 29% growth of export growth to African destination from the North West province at the close of the 2008 – 2009 financial years.

The province is proud to track footprints of other multinationals in the province such as SAB Miller, ABI and Afrox whom all have found success in doing business with the North West Province.

Ours is an economy characterized by a confluence of possibilities thus our visit to you to send out this invitation.

**"We are open for business!"** - The North West Province of South Africa

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