

Welcome Speech during QIDS-UP Programme in Henneman, 07 August 2007

Programme Director

MEC for Education, Me Ouma Tsopo

Superintended General: Education Department, Mr. Rakometsi

All Officials

Principals

Ladies and Gentlemen

Let me welcome the MEC and her officials for bringing QIDS-UP to the district. We also welcome the initiative to enhance the human resource capacity of the in the district. The supply of these teaching and learning materials will go a long way in improving the performance of our learners who lacks learning materials in their schools as well as materials in libraries in the townships. Bad results in our schools do not necessarily translate to bad teaching by our township educators but points to lack of learning materials in our schools.

Gone are the days where most township learners would be encouraged to follow a specific career and science careers reserved for certain group. Our government recognized the shortage of skills on Maths, Science and technology. The realization of this challenge prompted government to embark on a determined effort to implement the Maths, Science and Technology strategy. The strategy is underpinned by the development of sustainable learner and educator support programmes that are aimed at breaking the cycle of underachievement and increasing the number of learners and educators participating in Maths, Science and Technology. The overall goals of the strategy amongst others, is to increase and enhance the human resource capacity to deliver quality mathematics, science and technology education for all learners. And to provide and encourage optimal use of appropriate physical resources to deliver quality mathematics, science and technology education for all learners.

In the light of this, our developmental state should be seen addressing the underpinning causes that blocks good results as well as learners that will in future represent the district. So the bottom line is, therefore, for the QID-UP is to raise participation and performance of learners in general; improvement in learner attainment; enhancement of participation and performance of African learners in particular as well as improving the participation and performance of girl learners.

In the context of enhancing the culture of teaching and learning, QID-UP programme will be helpful.

We fully support the implementation of this initiative referred to as the Quality Improvement, Development, Support and Upliftment Programme (QIDS-UP). This is a programme intended to give all our schools an equal chance to provide quality education for all their learners in Maths and Science.

In conclusion, Programme Director, I wish to thank the MEC on behalf of the district for choosing our district as this programme will help enhance literacy and numeracy in poor schools. Let this be not the end but the beginning of continuous monitoring and evaluation that is intended to equip our learners.

I thank you.