



Joint Statement by the NLC and the NHTL on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding

Polokwane, 29 November 2018. The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) and the National House of Traditional Leaders today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening the collaborative partnership between the two organisations for the benefit of the country's rural communities.

This MoU is a revival of a previous arrangement that existed before the amendment of the Lotteries Act. The amendment of the Act has improved access to funding so that a wider range of organisations which were previously excluded by stringent application criteria.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, NLC Chairperson Prof Alfred Nevhutanda emphasized the value of partnerships such as this in ensuring that rural communities are not left behind.

NHTL Chairperson Ikosi Siphon Mahlangu expressed the importance of traditional and rural communities in the lives of South Africans, many of whom reside in urban areas but call these communities home. He thanked NLC for their commitment to a rural bias when distributing funds, and shared NHTL's own commitments to contributing resources toward areas of collaboration and playing an oversight role as proactive, developmental monarchs.

Areas of collaboration in the MoU include among others:

- Provision of support to NPOs in rural communities to increase their eligibility to access NLC funding;
- Capacity building of rural communities to effectively manage community-based projects towards sustainability, while strengthening the leadership, management and institutional capacity of rural communities to deliver services to the poor;
- Proactively co-funding identified projects for the benefit of rural communities;
- Establishing monitoring and evaluation processes that support best practice in providing capacity building for rural communities; and
- Promoting awareness of the regulatory role of the NLC as per the NLC Act.

- End -

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