

**REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE PREMIER RM
MTSHWENI-TSIPANE ON THE OCCASION OF THE
MEDIA BRIEFING TO ANNOUNCE COMPOSITION
OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

DATE: 24 FEBRUARY 2021

VENUE: EHLANZENI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

1. Ladies and Gentlemen of the media, thank you all for honouring the invitation to this media briefing.
2. As you will recall, on the 8th of May 2019, the people of Mpumalanga gave this Administration a clear mandate to accelerate holistic economic growth, and to expedite our response to the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment. This mandate has been exacerbated by the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. If we are to be equal to this mandate, it is our responsibility to ensure that this Government is capable, efficient and is strategically poised to oversee the efficient and optimal utilisation of public resources.
4. It is in the spirit of optimising our effectiveness and ensuring that we deliver better services to the people of

Mpumalanga whilst calibrating the Provincial economy, that I announce changes to the Executive component of the Provincial Government.

5. I have decided to reconfigure the Executive Council taking a number of considerations into account, key amongst which include members who embody commitment, hard work, integrity and the non-negotiable commitment to bettering the lives of our people.

6. The new Members of the Executive Council are;

- Hon. Speedy Mashilo who will be responsible for the Department of Human Settlements;
- Honourable Busisiwe Shiba who will be responsible for the Department of Co-Operative Governance and Traditional Affairs
- Honourable Vusi Mkhathshwa who will be responsible for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism; and
- Honourable Mohita Latchminarain who will be responsible for the Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport

7. The following MECs will be moved from their incumbent portfolios to new portfolios;

- MEC Vusi Shongwe will be responsible for the Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison;
- MEC Thandi Shongwe will be responsible for the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation;
- MEC Mandla Msibi will be responsible for the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs;
- MEC Lindiwe Ntshalintshali will be responsible for the Department of Social Development;

8. The performance of the newly constituted executive will be monitored against specific outcomes and where there is non-performance, decisive action will be taken.

9. The composition of the Executive Council also re-affirms our commitment to advancing the development of capable female leaders who will continue to constitute 50% of the Executive Council.

10. True to our commitment to providing a platform for capable youth leadership, we have included a significant number of young people who we trust will infuse vibrancy to re-invigorate the functioning of the Executive Council.

11. As I conclude, I wish to express my appreciation to all the outgoing Members of the Executive. Your service to the people of Mpumalanga and your contribution to the development of the Province will forever be heralded in the history books of our beautiful Province.

12. I thank you.