

TO : NEWS EDITORS

FROM : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE : 25 JANUARY 2010

SUBJECT : SHORTAGES OF LEARNERS DESKS MITIGATED

The shortage of desks for learners in Mpumalanga Province is going to be a thing of the past, thanks to the **school furniture-recycling project** that started in December 2010.

The school furniture-recycling project has within a month been able to make ready **8 790** learners' desks to be utilised with immediate effect.

This project is facilitated on behalf of the Department by the Mpumalanga Further Education and Training Colleges (FET's) and the Mpumalanga Regional Training Trust (MRTT).

The Colleges collect broken furniture from schools throughout the Province, rehabilitate it and send it to schools that are in need, making teaching and learning more interesting.

Already the colleges have been able to collect **16 506** of broken furniture and are hard at work to make sure that no learner will be without a desk from now onwards.

Of significance, is that the FET colleges are using this project to give practical training to fourth year FET students who require practical training to acquire a full Artisan Qualification.

The Department has set aside **R12 million** to ensure that this project progress without any glitches

The MEC for Education, Reginah Mhaule will on Wednesday; 26 January 2011 visit the Kabokweni Workshop at 13H30 to monitor progress.

Issued by the Communication Directorate

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