

WELCOME SPEECH OF THE HONORABLE MEMBER OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT MOTHEO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, Cllr V. RANI, ON THE OCCASION OF THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE FREE-STATE SPORT CONFEDERATION AND CELEBRATION OF ATHLETES' ACHIEVEMENTS BY THE HONORABLE MEMBER FOR SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION, FREE-STATE, D.M.A.KHOTHULE, ON THE 15 JANUARY 2010.

The honorable Minister for Sport and Recreation, Reverend Makhenkesi Stofile,
The honorable Member For Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Free-State, D.M.A. Kgothule,
The honorable President of the ANC Youth League, Mr Julius Malema,
The Director- General of the Department of Sport and Recreation,
The World Champion, Ms Caster Semenya,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen: and all Protocol Observed,

Program Director,

We wish to express our deep-felt words of gratitude to the Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation for inviting us to welcome visitors on behalf of the honorable Member of the Executive Council, Mr D.A.M. Kgothule.

We are performing this task overwhelmed by elation and pride because five days ago, our Movement, the glorious and the biggest liberation movement in the African continent, the African National Congress celebrated ninety-eighth birth day. This movement accounts for our deployment in government and has made it possible for me to be officially delegated to represent the Executive Mayor of Motheo District Municipality in this function.

It is this glorious movement which correctly prides itself of having made it possible, with the support of the people of South Africa, to defeat the demons of apartheid and darkness. The movement which will continually be credited by posterity for having produced leaders such as Dr James Moroka, President-General from 1949 to 1952, whose hometown is Thaba Nchu, fifty or more kilometers in the East of here, Oliver Reginald Tambo, Chris Hani, Joe Slovo, Chief Albert Luthuli and Dr Nelson Mandela, to mention but just a few.

Today, Program Director, we are able to welcome our guests in a climate of peace which has come about as a result of the struggles of the people of South Africa under the excellent leadership of this glorious movement, the African National Congress

As one of the 2010 Fifa World Cup host cities and in line with the Mangaung 2010 theme which is "My Mangaung, My 2010" we would like to invite our hosts to take ownership of Mangaung.

We are deeply honored to welcome our guests in Motheo.

THANK YOU.
Cllr RANI.