

**INTRODUCTION OF THE 2016/17 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE PREMIER BY PREMIER DAVID MAKHURA. GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.**

**01 September 2017**

Honourable Deputy Speaker;  
Honourable Chief Whip;  
Members of the Executive Council;  
Honourable Members of the Legislature;  
Director General, Advisors and Senior Managers in the Office of the Premier;  
Fellow Citizens:

Happy Spring Day!  
Happy Heritage Month!

The tabling of the 2016/17 Annual Reports takes place during the third year of the fifth provincial administration which is led by the ANC.

At the onset of this administration in 2014, we adopted a ten-pillar programme for radical transformation, modernisation and re-industrialisation.

In May this year, we submitted our Mid-Term Report to the Provincial Legislature and further released it to the people of our beautiful province. This we did as part of the commitment to accountability and transparency.

The Mid-Term Report was brutally frank in the assessment of the gains we have made since 2014 and the stubborn challenges that remain.

Between May 2014 and December 2016, we had made tremendous improvement in the quality of governance and administration (60% clean audits, drastic reduction of corruption through the open tender system, rapid response through Ntirhisano and enhanced accountability on delivery through the Delivery Unit).

The Midterm Report also points out that we also recorded significant improvement in the quality of educational outcomes due to investment in ICT and our flagship programme to open employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for the youth are beginning to yield positive results.

Lastly, the Report showed major gains in employment creation (more than 300 000 nett jobs), greater attention to the radical economic transformation (91% spend on HDIs) and mainstreaming of the township economy (R7 billion procurement spend by Gauteng government), increased levels of foreign direct investment (R66 billion) and public investment in infrastructure.

Among the stubborn problems and challenges that we face, the Report admits that crime remains extremely high, the housing backlog persists at around 600 000 unhoused Gauteng residents, poverty and inequality remain stubborn and the failures of our public healthcare system.

These were both the positive and negative trends that were highlighted in our Mid-Term Report that was subjected to rigorous public scrutiny earlier this year.

As we table our Annual Report, I would like to assure the House and citizens of our province that the administration committed to tackling unemployment, poverty and inequality through our radical programme of transformation, modernisation and re-industrialisation.

Although there are many national and global developments that have impacted negatively on the performance of our province with regard to the economy such as the sovereign downgrade, we shall continue to work hard with municipalities and the private sector to ensure that Gauteng continues to mitigate the negative effects of job losses and increased levels of poverty reported by the StatsSA in its most recent reports.

The one released last week, "Poverty Trends in South Africa" points out that 55% of South Africans live on less than R1000 per person per month. Although the report indicates that Gauteng and Western Cape have a better profile with regard to levels of poverty and have relative success in anti-poverty measures, I am deeply concerned that 4.2 million or 33% of Gautengers live on less than R1000 a month. We have to do much more improve the lives of our citizens and all the programmes of this administration will be sharpened to demonstrably and drastically reduce poverty.

The StatsSA report also shows that the face of poverty in our country is Black, African, female, is that of children below the age of 17 and is mainly those without education.

Honourable Members, we have just concluded Women's month – a month in which we renew our commitment to the struggle for a more equal and caring society.

In marking Women's Month we in Gauteng took a decision to focus on raising awareness as well as mobilizing joint and sustained action by all stakeholders to respond to the plight of the close to 4 million girl children and young women in Gauteng below the age of 34.

We are also seeking to respond to the plight of the 106 000 girl child headed households, the relatively high levels of unemployment affecting young women, which in 2015 stood at 42.6% and the very low number of female owned enterprises - currently at 7%. Most of the women-owned enterprises are informal businesses.

StatsSA poverty report also highlights the plight of girls and young women, indicating that 51% of South Africa's children were living in poverty, which is 11 percentage points higher than the national poverty headcount.

We must continue not only to shine the spotlight but also to act decisively in addressing the plight of the girl children and young women. We have launched this campaign on Women's Day.

In this regard, our package of interventions. The Welfare to Work pilot Programme has already lifted more than 10 000 mainly young women out of the social grant system.

The supply dignity packs will now be increased from 300 000 boys and girls to 1 million girls by 2019.

This administration is refocusing major interventions on health, skills development and entrepreneurship programmes are increasingly being targeted at girl children and young women.

As we accelerate radical social and economic transformation, we are also building a record of being an accountable, responsive and clean government in Gauteng. Our achievements improving the quality of governance and administration are both irrefutable and indisputable.

In the 2016/17n financial year, two-thirds of Gauteng departments and entities have achieved clean audits. These the best audit outcomes in fourteen years – an improvement of 9% in 3 years from 56% in 2014/15 to 65% in 2016/17.

We have also significantly improved our performance in the national governance and administration annual performance assessments (MPAT) conducted by the Department of the Performance Monitoring and Evaluation. Out of a score of 4, which represents 100 % compliance, we have moved from 2.6 in 2013 to 3.2 in the current financial year. We are on track to achieve 3.6 progress by 2019.

Fellow residents of Gauteng, I wish to assure you that in the remaining term of office of our administration will see better delivery capacity by all departments. We have adopted delivery targets on all key performances areas that address the needs of our citizens, especially on the economy and jobs; education and skills; health and social development; public transport, housing and infrastructure development as well as on fighting crime and corruption.

These delivery targets and timeframes will be made public through the delivery agreements that I have signed with all MECs and HoDs. You will see greater delivery and increased levels of engagements with citizens and various sectors of our population. Every MEC and HoD shall be held accountable to the delivery improvements and transformation targets we have set for each Department.

We have declared corruption and red-tape the enemy of our administration. Accordingly, we are working with municipalities to roll out the Open Tender System, cut red tape and improve the Ease of Doing Business in the entire Gauteng City Region in order to increase levels of foreign direct investment.

Already, a total of 460 FDI projects were recorded in Gauteng, representing a capital investment of around R152 billion, which is an average investment of R331.5 million per project. Between 2014 and 2016 alone, the Gauteng economy attracted R66 billion worth of FDI inflows, creating a total of 41,729 jobs within this period. The biennial Gauteng Infrastructure Investment Conference has been central to our efforts to make Gauteng a preferred destination for FDI and international tourists.

In addition, working with key industry leaders we are intervening to position the Gauteng economy in particular our strategic economic sectors and firms to benefit from opportunities within SADC and the entire African Continent – a market of around 350 000 million people and 1 billion people respectively, expected to reach 2 billion people by 2050.

As one of the leading economies on the African continent, responsible for 8 to 10% of the Continent's GDP, Gauteng has an important role alongside other mega cities on the continent to take a lead in driving Africa's changing economic fortunes.

Earlier this year I called for a complete overhaul of the Gauteng public health system following the tragic and highly regrettable loss of life of more than 100 mental health patients in the care of our government.

Myself, Minister Motsoaledi and MEC Ramokgopa have been working very hard to address and resolve all matters raised by the Health Ombuds. Former Chief Justice Dikgang Moseneke has been appointed on mutual agreement with affected families to be the mediator. We are confident that he will conclude the mediation process as soon possible.

In order to stabilise the finances of the Health Department, I have already announced in this House the appointment of an Executive Council Committee to work with the MEC for Health. Everything should be done to ensure that the bulk of health resources are directed at providing quality healthcare to patients and that efficacy and economy are realized.

Comment [D1]:

One the issues we are calling for as part of a lasting solution is the need to re-look at the baseline allocation for health and education in provinces affected severely by rapid urban migration. Otherwise, we will be managing the crisis instead of tackling the fundamental underlying source of the problem.

We also want other provinces and state entities which owe us money to pay for services received from the Gauteng Department of Health. I call on all members of the House to work with us on this matter. I have already raised this matter with Finance Minister Malusi Gigaba and several Premiers.

We also have a process underway to work with Transport Minister Joe Maswanganyi to finalise resolve the matter of e-tolls. We have made it clear that we have done our best at the provincial level. The final solution must come from our national government.

We cannot allow our province to be pulled down by factors that have nothing to do with our administration. We must and we are standing up for the people of our province.

I reiterate that despite the many challenges we still face, our administration has significantly improved the way government works with its citizens. We are cultivating ethics and integrity and cutting red tape across the Gauteng City region. We are transforming, modernising and reindustrialising Gauteng City Region.

I would like to thank all members of OCPOL and the Legislature for keeping us on the straight and narrow regarding accountability.

I also convey my gratitude to the Director General, my Special Advisors and all senior managers in the Office of the Premier for their hard work in ensuring that the Office of the Premier adequately discharges its primary function of being the principal driver of transformation, modernization and re-industrialisation in the Gauteng City Region.

I also take the opportunity to once more congratulate all Departments and Entities that have achieved clean audits in the current financial year. They are shining the light on what this province is capable of doing - we want to ignite excellence and become the pioneer of good governance, delivery, transformation and innovation. Our target for next year is to achieve 75% of clean audits. This ANC-led administration aims to be the leader in all these matters and be second to none.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, I therefore table the Annual Report of the Office of the Premier for consideration and deliberation by this House.

Ke a leboga. Ha khensa. Ndo livhuwa. Ngiyabonga. Ndiyabulela. Thank you.

