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MEC MTSHWENI REAFFIRMS GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT TRADITIONAL LEADERS IN MPUMALANGA

MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), Ms Refilwe Mtshweni has reaffirmed government's commitment to support the institution of traditional leaders in Mpumalanga. MEC Mtshweni made the commitment during the annual Hhoyi cultural ceremonies in the Nkomazi Local Municipality, outside Komatipoort over the weekend. The ceremony was attended by traditional leaders, the local community and representatives of the Government of Swaziland.

Mtshweni said funding for cultural ceremonies has been increased and that the provincial government will soon hand over vehicles to the traditional leaders to enhance their leadership role in the tribal areas. "Our commitment to support the institution of traditional leaders, as directed by the Premier, is on track. The ANC-led government remains resolute in its course to restore the dignity of Amakhosi. Our desire is to provide you with the necessary tools of trade to make your job easier, as you work hard to improve the lives of our communities in tribal areas," said MEC Mtshweni during her address.

Mtshweni says the department is working harder to finalize the construction of offices for the Moreipuso, Malele and Lefifi Traditional Councils. The offices will also be used as service delivery points.

During the function, MEC Mtshweni further appealed to the community to use water sparringly. "The extreme heat wave and the lack of rain in our province is a serious cause for concern as water levels are very low in the rivers and the dams. We appeal to all our communities to use water sparringly. Furthermore, we appeal to you to fix all water leaks in order to save every drop of water," she said.

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