



## **‘THE SUCCESS OF ILEMBE IS EVERYONE’S BUSINESS’**

Growth and development summits are known to lead nowhere but iLembe District Municipality has once again proven to be a leader of the pack as revealed by His Worship the Mayor of this District Cllr Welcome Mdabe this Wednesday, 12 February 2014.

With the intention of planning ahead, this week the District Municipality (with funding from the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs) held a two-day Growth and Development Summit on 12 and 13 February at the eBandla Hotel & Conference Centre in Ballito, KwaDukuza.

On the first day, His Worship the Mayor of iLembe Cllr Welcome Mdabe set the tone by revealing what the last summit was able to achieve.

“Since the last Summit in 2008 and following the resolutions adopted iLembe spent R1 billion on the development of water and sanitation infrastructure. Following on the resolutions adopted for a District economic development agency to be established, Enterprise iLembe was formed. From the 2008 resolutions, in partnership with the business sector we now have the iLembe Chamber,” said His Worship.

The summit (with more than 200 delegates attending on both days, respectively) was attended by the local mayoralty and other relevant stakeholders.

There were presentations from the KZN Planning Commission, the Provincial Treasury, ICCIT, the Ingonyama Trust Board and other entities. Mandeni, KwaDukuza, Maphumulo and Ndwedwe local municipalities gave an overview of their respective municipalities with regards to programmes and projects that support economic and social development and growth.

Cllr Mdabe told delegates that the success of iLembe depended on everyone.

“Today we will focus on presentation and tomorrow will be a day of coming up with a program of action where we will need all your input, views, ideas and wisdom on how can we shape this district. The Honourable Mayor also highlighted the importance of skills and institutional development revealing that there were discussions being held with the Durban University of Technology to establish a satellite campus within iLembe.

On the second day, delegates had to choose which of the four commission i.e. agriculture, services, manufacturing and tourism they would participate in with each commission coming up with its own resolutions.

Subsequently, a summit report will be compiled and submitted to all stakeholders and ultimately adopted by the District Inter-Governmental Relations forum, which comprises of all five Mayors. It was decided that an investigation will be done to determine the creation of a multi stakeholder forum including all municipalities, sector departments, and private sector and community organizations to implement, monitor and report on the summit resolutions.

Last word went to the Speaker of iLembe Cllr Thokozani Msweli after expressing how honoured he is to be closing the summit in exactly two days after the 20th anniversary of the release of Dr Nelson Mandela.

“What we need to ask ourselves is can we tap into his legacy and adapt them to the current scenario in resolving the challenges whether socio-economic or political?”

**Note to editors**

Regional radio station Gagasi 99.5 FM were also present on the first day of the summit and covered the event on their current affairs programme, View Point.

To listen to the coverage, tune into Gagasi this Wednesday, 19 February 2014 between 18h00 and 19h00.

## Captions



His Worship the Mayor of iLembe District Municipality Cllr Welcome Mdabe with the Honourable Deputy Mayor of the District Cllr Dolly Shandu (right) and the Mayor of KwaDukuza Local Municipality Cllr Ricardo Mthembu at the iLembe District Municipality Growth and Development Summit 2014.



His Worship the Mayor of iLembe District Municipality Cllr Welcome Mdabe setting the tone of the 2014 iLembe District Municipality Growth and Development Summit held at eBandla Hotel this week.

Issued by the iLembe Communications Unit.