

**SPEECH OF THE MEC DAN KGOHULE FOR SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION ON
THE TABLING OF THE BUDGET VOTE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE
AND RECREATION, LUCKHOFF**

6 April 2011

Honourable Speaker
Honourable Premier
Colleagues in the Executive Council
Honourable Members of the Legislature
Executive Mayors, Mayors and Councillors
House of Traditional Leaders
Representatives of Sport Federations and Arts and Culture Councils
Soccer Legends
Management of the department
Acting CEO of PACOFS and CEO of Phakisa
Ladies and gentlemen
Comrades

We are very honoured to be presenting this Policy Speech today as we mark the 32nd anniversary of the death of Solomon Mahlangu. This gallant fighter was hanged for murder he did not commit. As we honour the memory of this martyr, we need to remember that on the same date 6 April 1994 fellow Africans in Rwanda unleashed genocide against their own compatriots which claimed more than 10 million lives. This painful event should serve as an eternal reminder that ethnic and racial bigotry have no place within a civilised world.

That is why apartheid was declared a crime against humanity. April is not only the month that we celebrate our freedom, but we also commemorate the death of liberation struggle leader Martin Thembisile (Chris) Hani. This year is the 18th anniversary of commemoration of his death. We cannot for a moment forget these stalwarts, including such icons as Mr Oliver Reginald Tambo who passed on 24 April 1993, as doing so will be doing an injustice to our political heritage. These political icons should certainly constitute the formidable part of our political history and heritage. Their immense contribution to the realisation of the goal of non-racialism, justice and peace in our land cannot just be wiped off from the slate of history. As we approach the centenary of the movement of which they were part certainly historical reflections of this movement's history will be incomplete without reference to these stalwarts.

Honourable Speaker, among the other responsibilities of the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation, I would like to highlight the heritage sector. For long this has been a grey area and neglected terrain. It is therefore our responsibility as this department to conserve, preserve, research and protect the provincial heritage for present and future generations. Our heritage is about our past and it is also about our future, about the legacy that we leave for generations to come. We would be failing our people if we do not transform the heritage landscape of this province. We appreciate the fact that during the apartheid era institutions such as the Old Presidency at President Brand Street Bloemfontein, First Raadzaal at 95 St Georges Street Bloemfontein, Vegkop Battlefield at the Vegkop farm east of Heilbron District, the Two Tower Church in Charles Street Bloemfontein and Dutch Reformed Church at Voortrekker Street Phillippolis, to mention but a few, were declared monuments in terms of the now repealed National Monuments Act, No. 28 of 1969.

When the democratic government took over in 1994, we continued to recognise these sites in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999. Former Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Pallo Jordan, once remarked that "The story of South African heritage is inscribed in the evolution and

development of South Africa's museums, memorials, monuments and the names given to geographical features. You have to be deaf as well as blind if after travelling through this country you did not realise that South Africa at one time was part of the British Empire. Our museums, memorials, monuments and place names tell that story eloquently. Some epitomise the British Empire, giving expression to and exalting the heroes, soldiers, statesmen, the values and aesthetics of that Empire".

The heritage of black people of this country is visibly absent in our museums and names of our towns and cities. It is therefore our honest responsibility as a department and the Free State government to honour our heroes and heroines. There are different ways of achieving that, namely, having memorabilia in their honour; having a series of memorial lectures; or declaring their graves as heritage sites. I therefore make an appeal to the Free State communities to identify such heroes and heroines, and also sites of historic and cultural significance in order to speedily drive the protection and declaration process. Without doubt, the Free State Province is the bastion of South Africa's history and heritage.

Almost a decade ago, a former MEC of this department informed this House that "Dr Hannes Haasbroek, historian at the National Museum in Bloemfontein, has made a major breakthrough in discovering the house in which the ANC was founded". (Hansard, Fourth Session-Second Legislature, vol.88). I am pleased to announce that after nine years of intense research and verification, my department is now in a position to finalise this matter and declare the founding venue of the African National Congress as a heritage site as a matter of urgency.

I will mention more details on this issue later in this speech.

It is our intention this year to drive at a very high speed to correct the distortions of the past by the revival and the preservation of the cultural heritage of all South Africans. We intend to liberate, depict, put on display and give equal prominence to the cultures, the experience and the stories of the previously marginalised cultures. Amilcar Cabral observed "Culture, whatever the ideological or idealist characteristics of its expression, is thus an essential element of the history of a people. Culture is, perhaps, the resultant of this history just as the flower is the resultant of a plant. Like history, or because it is history, culture has as its material base the level of the productive forces and the mode of production. Culture plunges its roots into the humus of the material reality of the environment in which it develops, and it reflects the organic nature of the society, which may be more or less influenced by external factors.

History enables us to know the nature and extent of the imbalances and the conflicts (economic, political and social) that characterise the evolution of a society. Culture enables us to know what dynamic syntheses have been formed and set by social awareness in order to resolve these conflicts at each stage of evolution of that society, in the search for survival and progress.

Programme 1: Administration

Programme 1 which deals with administration provides an important support to the service delivery functions of the department and consists of Corporate Services, Supply Chain Management and Financial Administration.

The post establishment of the department from voted funds reflects that from a total of 571 posts, 93 (17%) are vacant of which 55 (60%) are funded thus meaning 471 (83%) are actively filled. Currently the department is in process of ensuring that the funded vacancies are filled by 1 June 2011. 17 of these funded vacancies are critical management posts (Assistant Director and higher).

The departmental employment equity representations reflects 43% of African females, 43% African

males, 11% White females and 3% White males. The Senior Management Services of the department are represented by 20% African females, 53% African males, 13.5% White females and 13.5% White males. 2% of the permanent staff establishment is represented by disabled persons. We are glad that we have managed to reach the equity target as regard disability in line with legislative requirements.

During this financial year, 46 part time bursaries, four Sport Science and one Bachelor of Science in Information Technology were awarded. Currently the department is investigating placements of bursary holders that have completed studies in National Diploma: Information Technology, Bachelor of Public Accounting, National Diploma in Fine Arts, National Diploma Jewellery and Manufacture and Bachelor of Music, six Interns in different areas, one Risk Management and three Information Technology interns have been appointed with one Language Practitioner appointed by National Parliament. Of these three Information Technology interns one is due to complete during 2011 and one still has to be placed in the department. The department will undertake 16 internship programs during the 2011/12 financial year. All these are in view of our contribution to priority outcome towards job creation.

Honourable Speaker, our procurement processes also contribute to economic development which is a much needed outcome for job creation and poverty alleviation. As part of our commitment to advancing Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMMEs) we will advertise about five different commodities on a three years contract basis. These commodities include: sport equipment; sport attire; management of newspapers and periodicals; security services; cleaning services; transport as well as supply of fruits, vegetables and meat. I am happy to announce that 80% of the procurement budget was spent on BEE companies and 90% of this budget spent on Free State companies.

Programme 2: Arts and Cultural Affairs

As the honourable Premier indicated in the State of the Province address we are indeed aware of the immediate challenges confronting the performing art sector as well as the general arts and culture fraternity. Attention should certainly be given to this as a matter of urgency. The department managed to solicit additional allocation in this Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) period. This allocation will enable us to kick-start intense programmes to address some of these challenges. Our success in addressing challenges facing the arts sector is also dependent on certain prerequisites and enablers which include: strengthening the relationship between Performing Arts Council of the Free State (PACOFs); Community Arts Centres such as Mmabana as well as reviving theatres in the different municipalities. Partnerships between all these key stakeholders I believe would ensure mass participation and benefits for artists in various localities. The challenge is for these stakeholders to sit and produce a workable plan for immediate implementation.

As a result the department would be establishing a Provincial structure that will coordinate all arts and culture genres. This structure should be registered so as to enable it to independently source funding and develop viable programmes. The past year saw the kick-starting of such an initiative by establishing five district choral music forums. We cannot underestimate an organised and formal mechanism of coordination amongst the different art disciplines. One such initiative that must be applauded was Motheo musicians that formed themselves into an association. We will like to see such a move rolled out in all the districts.

Arts and Culture:

Honourable Speaker, in terms of the Arts and Culture programme we have made milestones despite the budgetary constraints faced by the programme. Through our various arts and culture institutions we have realised the following goals:

Although Mmabana Arts and Culture Community Centre has a history of having evolved from a homeland political dispensation one should not overlook its significance and role in the advancing of arts and culture. This concept of Community Centres was adopted in the new dispensation by the establishment of the so-called RDP Community Arts Centres that proliferated throughout the country made possible by the generosity of the Department of Arts and Culture with funds from the Flemish government. It is my considered view that we should not mend what is not broken. Let us accept that policy mistakes were made by the department in trying to reposition Mmabana within the department, limiting its growth. Repealing the Bophuthatswana Mmabana Foundation Act the department failed to replace it with another relevant appropriate Act such as the Cultural Institutions Act which would have made Mmabana able to source funds on its own and allowing the department to play the role of support, policy coordination and monitoring.

This year marks the 20 years of the existence of this institution. The department will embark on the programme to mark this momentous occasion. Part of this celebration will be in repositioning and capacitating it as the centre of excellence and for it to be a resource for other centres. The centre has successfully completed the three years of the Batsha Jeugd partnership Programme made possible through funding from the Flemish government. 70 participants benefitted from the programme, and a music band, called Infuse, was born from this partnership.

Some of the achievements of Mmabana in the last financial year were the following: The Dance unit of Mmabana represented the Free State Province in their national competitions by winning 120 trophies in all their 2010/11 competitions. 14 dancers that were trained at Mmabana have passed their examinations and qualified as professional dancers. To consolidate services within Mmabana the national Department of Arts and Culture handed over music instruments amounting to R500 000.00 to Mmabana to form a partnership with Field Band Foundation (FBF) which will be the first in the province. The Thabong Arts and Culture Centre expanded its services by providing dance training to 22 males and 27 females for people with disabilities with the same objective of recreation and exercises to promote healthy lifestyles.

Through the assistance from Zamdela Arts and Culture Centre the Iketsetse selfhelp disability project from Kroonstad received a donation of R850 000.00 from National Lottery. The Gundwana art project also from Kroonstad also received a donation of R 500 000.00. It is these kinds of interventions from our Arts and Culture centres that must be applauded as we really need to ensure intensive assistance for our artists in the province.

Part of the responsibilities of Arts and Culture Centres is to ensure empowerment of artists through skills development and training. Through the Zamdela Arts and Culture Centre, we, in partnership with the Department of Social Development, trained 22 of our projects from Fezile Dabi district. The objective of the workshop was to make projects aware of departments such as Social Development as sources of funding for community projects.

The centre facilitated training of 30 projects from Fezile Dabi district on business and financial management. Musicon as our music training institution embarked on outreach programmes in Welkom and Sasolburg. However, increase in intake of learners in Welkom has been hampered by shortage of instruments. We have through Music consequently embarked on fund raising strategies to alleviate these shortcomings. Amongst some of the milestones realised through Musicon are the following:

- Musicon Singing Competition which took place from 20 to 21 August 2010 attracted over 100 contestants from across the province

- On the 6 November 2010 we staged a successful Provincial Choir festival in Welkom. This festival also served as a send-off function for our two choirs which took part in the Old Mutual National Choir Festival National
- The province successfully hosted the annual National Old Mutual Choir Festival in December 2010
- The expansion of the Strings programme to the Xhariep District is proceeding well with seven schools participating and over 50 learners enrolled in the pre-violin course. 100 learners are now playing violin in the Xhariep district. Thanks to the partnership between the department, the Community Services department of the University of the Free State and support from the Violet String Orchestra in Belgium, the Strings programme is being expanded with no additional cost to the department
- The Bochabela String Orchestra embarked on a tour to 3 European countries, namely, Austria, Germany and Belgium in December 2010. The Violet String Orchestra of Belgium visited Musicon and presented joint concerts with the Bochabela String Orchestra in the Motheo and Xhariep districts in April 2010.

Honourable Speaker, one of our provincial flagship programme is the Mangaung African Cultural Festival (MACUFE). In the last three years since a turn-around strategy was developed to resuscitate this festival in the province we can proudly say that MACUFE has indeed become the cultural pilgrimage of the Free State, as described by the honourable Premier. Like the two previous editions MACUFE 2010 did not disappoint. The 2010 edition was successfully hosted with top international and continental acts performing, namely Gerald Albright, Jonathan Butler, Salif Keita and Andreas Vollenweider.

Contrary to what is often reported in the mainstream media and the social media such as Facebook a host of Free State artists were featured in the programme, totalling over 800 in the Performing and Visual Arts as well as crafts sector. This domination of local artist in MACUFE was not an exception for the 2009 edition. In terms of the 2010 MACUFE programme, for example, the following artists participated in the various platforms within this festival:

MACUFE gospel

- a) Teboho and friends
- b) Sechaba
- c) uMsingizane
- d) Paul Lechalaba
- e) Kgosi
- f) Sammy Maletle
- g) Balopolloa
- h) Jehova Shama
- i) Thabo Lebeko

MACUFE craft market

A total of 102 crafters from the Free State were subsidised by the department and other stakeholders to take part at MACUFE 2010

MACUFE Homebrew Programme

The line-up for the 2010 Homebrew Programme included both professional and upcoming artists from different districts of the Free State. A total of 87 performers were contracted, being:

- a) Musicians x 68
- b) Dancers x 14
- c) Poets x 5

MACUFE divas

- a) Free State Divas
- b) Thiiwe
- c) Ntshiuwa

MACUFE classics

- a) Free State Tenors
- b) Bloemfontein Children's Choir
- c) Free State Jazz Orchestra

MACUFE main music festival

- a) Max-Hoba
- b) Khaya
- c) Ala Yen
- d) Bonolo
- e) Fossils
- f) Peter Nthwane
- g) Ebenezer Community Band

I am mentioning all these details because we have to once and for all nib in the bud this tendency amongst some of our artists to start running to the media to make noise when they have not been featured as individuals in our programs.

We certainly cannot manage to feature every single artist in every single programme we host. The 2011 MACUFE will be themed and staged as a build-up to the 2012 Centenary Celebrations featuring activities that showcases the African heritage.

MACUFE will be profiled and marketed at the 2011 indaba tourism in Durban through staging of exhibitions about the festival, amongst other things.

Against this backdrop, we plan to intensify our implementation of arts and culture programmes in the current and subsequent financial years, to build on the steady but solid ground of the previous financial years. Some of our key service delivery objectives planned with regard to Arts and Culture include the following:

- Consolidation of Arts and Culture structures into a provincial body;
- Cultural Development Programme to expand community arts and culture centres' outreach as well as Wednesday Arts and Culture Programmes in Schools will start in the 2011/12 financial year to the tune of R750 000.00, with the pilot project in Motheo and Lejweleputswa;
- Days of National Significance will be celebrated inclusive of Freedom Day, Heritage Day and Africa Day to the amount of R3.5 million;
- An amount of R6.7 million has been budgeted for MACUFE and an additional R3.2 million is being set aside for the Centenary build-up activities. It must be noted that the amount for the

staging of MACUFE has been steadily or rapidly declining having been about R42 million in the last financial year to R6.7 million in this financial year;

- A service provider has been contracted to do a musical, drama and dance production around the centenary. This production will at a later stage be filmed. Calls for auditions have already started in this regard to ensure that large numbers of Free State artists participate and benefit. The dates and venues for these auditions are as follows: Motheo District from 31 March to 2 April; Thabo Mofutsanyana District: 5 April; Fezile Dabi District: 6 April; Lejweleputswa District: 7 April and Xhariep District: 8 April;
- The Disability Dance programme will continue under the management of Thabong Arts and Culture Centre;
- Mmabana is starting the very first brass and marching band under the Field Band Foundation in the Province which will create an opportunity for 120 students to be trained in music wind instrument playing and dancing;
- We will celebrate 20 years of existence of Mmabana Arts and Culture Centre;
- Jointly with the Sports and Recreation programme in the department we will stage the Wednesday School programme through which we will promote such arts and culture programmes like dance, music and theatre. As part of this Wednesday school programme we will also embark on a public education programme on the singing of the National Anthem. The two versions of the National Anthem are still not understood for their different contexts; and
- This year we will engage all the stakeholders involved in the staging of the Basha Youth Festival with regard to the approach to the staging of this festival. From our side we have identified serious gaps as regard the manner in which we stage this festival.

We have previously pointed out that the craft sector plays a pivotal role in the economic well-being of our artists and, consequently, the Province. To assist our crafters with the promotion of their wares various platforms were created. From these various platforms we can point out that 102 Crafters participated at the MACUFE Arts and Craft Exhibition; 13 crafters exhibited at the annual South African Handmade Collection exhibition in Midrand; 59 Arts and Craft exhibitors from all five districts of the Free State participated in the 2010 FIFA World Cup exhibitions in Bloemfontein and Welkom and all these crafters were paid exhibitors' fees for their participation. five crafters representing the five districts of the Free State and two craft assistants attended the Grahamstown Arts and Craft exhibition. In addition to these platforms monthly flea markets are being staged at the Visitors Information Centre in partnership with Free State Women in Tourism.

As part of our quest to enhance the craft sector, the department sourced the services of a company that conducted roadshows throughout 47 Free State rural towns to identify craft SMMEs and projects and 1 658 crafters were secured for the programme. These crafters will exhibit their crafts in the United States of America in September 2011. In this financial year each of these SMMEs and projects will be assisted to turn-around their businesses to be at a level and standard that will produce craft products for both national and international markets. To help commercialise their products an operating entity partner has been identified to make Free State craft industry to be profitable and sustainable.

We will continue to seize opportunities to provide platforms for crafters to exhibit and sell their craft-ware at international exhibitions such as DECOREX. 15 crafters will be selected and capacitated for this purpose to feature at the annual South African Handmade exhibition (part of DECOREX) in August.

National Days of Significance will continue to be observed. As the build-up towards the Centenary Celebrations, the celebration of those days such as Freedom day, Africa day, Heritage day and Mandela day will happen at a greater scale.

Museum and heritage services:

Honourable Speaker, we want to acknowledge the cultural heritage of other custodians within the Free State Heritage landscape in the spirit of social cohesion and nation building. The department has thus decided to concur with the request of the Afrikaner cultural sector to respect their interest in the department's support of the Afrikaner heritage. This will be done through the department consolidating various Afrikaner artefacts that are found in various museums in the province. The department will continue to provide support and create a conducive environment for it to grow and contribute towards local economic development as well as research purposes.

The 2012 Centenary Celebration of the ANC provides us as a country and province in particular to add to our cultural and heritage landscape one of the important historical landmarks. As a province we are endowed with a rich history and political heritage irrespective of your political persuasion. The formation of the then Nationalist Party in 1914, a party which entrenched the system of apartheid, was historically speaking a watershed moment which occurred in this province. Equally so the formation of the African National Congress in 1912, a party which was to wage an unrelenting war against that very system of apartheid, was, historically speaking, a moment of celebration for the entire humanity. This history, this cultural and political heritage needs to be embraced by all. In the words of Premier Ace Magashule, "after the successful 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup, the Centenary will be the next biggest African celebration of all time".

This celebration will contribute towards the transformation of the heritage landscape of the province. It provides us with the opportunity to create balance in terms of observing the totality of the cultural and political heritage of the Free State and redressing past inequities in an effort to promote social cohesion and national identity for all the population of the Free State. This is also part of the significance of preserving and protecting our heritage.

The national Department of Arts and Culture has initiated a project known as Mzansi' Golden Economy which is about the contribution of Arts Culture and Heritage to the new Growth Path. The objective being to identify/establish a limited number of nationally supported cultural precincts with anchor attributes of comparable advantage. The Waaihoek Precinct has been identified as one such area. It will also be incorporated into the National Liberation Heritage Route (NLHR). The NLHR is about narrating our road to freedom, giving recognition to those sites which were part of the epoch. Finally the Liberation Heritage Route project will be submitted for nomination to UNESCO World heritage committee. Truly, the economic spin-offs of such a venture should be clear even to the daftest among us.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to share with the House the fact that the South African Heritage Resource Authority has provisionally graded both the Waaihoek Founding Venue of the ANC and Mapikela House as heritage resources of national significance. They now enjoy protection. As mentioned by the honourable Premier in his State of the Province Address we will as a Province embark on Centenary Legacy Projects for which an amount of R100 million has been budgeted. These include the declaration of Mapikela House as a national heritage site. Mr Thomas Mapikela is one of the icons of the liberation struggle who ensured that we enjoy the fruits of liberation that we are enjoying now.

The house is currently provisionally declared as a national heritage site. Other icons whose graves will also receive attention for declaration as heritage sites include the following: Reverend ZR Mahabane, Dr James Moroka and so on. As a symbolic way of bridging the divide among the different racial groups caused by the forceful removal of black people from Waaihoek, the railway bridge will be constructed linking Batho location and the town. A memorial wall that will depict the timeline of people who were involved in the founding of the ANC will also be established.

The renovation of sport stadia across the province and the establishment of the Winnie Mandela museum in Brandfort will also serve as part of the celebration. The Free State Provincial Heritage Resources Authority has been appointed and its term will last for 3 years and one of its main responsibilities will be to fast track the process of declaration of identified sites of cultural significance. The term of the Provincial Geographical Names Council has ended and calls for nominations have been made.

The contribution of our provincial museums towards the staging of the 2010 FIFA World Cup must not go unnoticed. These museums rallied around this tournament by developing and showcasing exhibitions on the history of soccer during the 2010 FIFA World Cup. Basotho Cultural Village (BCV) and the Old Presidency served as platforms for Public Viewing Areas.

As part of efforts to strengthen services within BCV, this living museum entered into an agreement with the Free State Provincial House of Traditional Leaders to embark on a joint programme to facilitate social cohesion through presentation of cultural competitions within communities. The above cultural competitions started in 1998 as the initiative of the department through BCV. They will now be presented in the categories of Drama, Traditional Dances, indigenous games, Monyanyako as well as Dithoko le Dithothokiso. The latter category is meant to revive dithoko tsa marena, to promote interaction between the youth and aged in order to close generation gap and to facilitate access to Traditional Councils as well as making use of "Living Treasures" (specialist practitioners of high public regard in living heritage). The outcome of these is intended to empower youth with skills in praise singing.

The annual New Year celebration that is normally in August according to Sesotho calendar will also be celebrated jointly by the two institutions. We do this with the understanding that Marena are the custodians of our cultural heritage and BCV is a place where our heritage is preserved and promoted. A memorandum of understanding has been drawn in this regard and the services of the two institutions will be promoted through the programme.

The department is in negotiations with the national Department of Arts and Culture to reposition BCV as one the "More than you can imagine" hub of the Free State. This is going to be a place where one can get almost everything at one place.

We have just completed the state of the art restaurant and the conference hall. In due course we are going to kick start the process of outsourcing these facilities to professional people in this business so that we can focus on what we do best, cultural heritage preservation and promotion.

National Afrikaans literary museum (NALN)

Honourable Speaker, at the end of a seven year long renovation process at the National Afrikaans Literary Museum (NALN) Building, the building in which both the Afrikaans Literary Museum and the Sesotho Literary Museum (SLM) are housed, this department was confronted with immense challenges to get these two museums into normal operations again. In previous years all existing exhibitions and displays had to be taken down and packed into storage, while also the huge collections of an estimated three quarters of a million items had to be packed in boxes and moved repeatedly as various areas in the building had to be evacuated.

While through all these years the museum building actually was a construction site, basic museologic operations and literary information services were kept going as far as limited capacities allowed. However, to reorganise storage and exhibition facilities and to catch up with immense backlogs in the professional processing of museum collections that had developed over the past decade, more financial and other resources that the Department did not have available at that stage were required.

These included cleaning operations and pest control initiatives; the erection of racking and shelving in about 20 strong rooms and other storage areas; provision of other specialised museum furniture and equipment and of huge volumes of conservation materials; the upgrading of the out-dated Information Technology infrastructure and the software system on which the museum data bases were operated; the re-fixing of ultra-violet protection film on all windows; the upgrading of fire protection installations and climate control systems, etc. A team of additional specialised professional staff had also to be contracted to assist in catching up with backlogs in documenting and indexing of museum collections.

To assist in meeting with these demands, the department signed a Service Level Agreement with the Heritage Foundation (HF) and appointed this organisation as a remunerated service provider to implement a Short Term Intervention Plan at NALN. As part of this agreement, the HF raised more than R3 million from private sector donors to fund these needs, while the department from its own budget installed the final phase of mobile shelving in NALN's Seloshesha Museum Storage Facility at a cost of R443,862. We have already paid five professional contract workers the total amount of R877 000.

Over the past year most of these targets were achieved through cooperation between the HF and the NALN staff, and positive exposure to NALN was conveyed to the public at large. A three year project that started in the previous financial year in collaboration with the Free State University's of Afrikaans and Dutch, German and French, funded with private donor money of more than R1 million from the Dagbreek Trust, to digitise NALN's huge newspaper clippings collection, was incorporated into the Short Term Intervention Plan. Through the above Service Level Agreement we also facilitated an investigation into the prospects of repositioning NALN as a national resource under the national Department of Arts and Culture while still located in the Free State, in Bloemfontein.

Beyond the Service Level Agreement the department has taken note of further outstanding matters to be attended to such the digitalisation of information, research, employment of museological officers, training of existing in museology and security matters.

Sesotho Literature Museum (DINGOLWENG)

In pursuit of promoting and developing indigenous languages, Sesotho as the most spoken language in the Province requires attention for its development and preservation. The role of DINGOLWENG (SLM) is to serve as a resource to schools and tertiary institutions for research purposes and promoting in pride in Sesotho language. This will further enhance pride and cultural identity among our youth. We will realise this goal by establishing exhibitions of Sesotho authors' literary works and history as well as inviting schools to the museum.

The department is looking at identifying a place to house the museum so as to create and profile its own identity. We have established relationships between all Sesotho books authors through collaborative efforts with Basotho Cultural Village and Language Services as well as partnerships with other departments like the Department of Health. This partnership with the Department of Health involves assisting Health in the collection of traditional healing oral information to produce a Sesotho book on this. The challenge to be addressed in order to realise our vision for the museum is staffing and skills.

Language Services:

Honourable Speaker, the icon of our history, Dr Rolihlahla Mandela, once reflected that if you speak to a man in a language that he understands then you speak to his head, but if you speak to him in his language then you speak to his heart. Language is cardinal in the process of nation building and social cohesion.

It is for this reason that we have to prioritise the issue of finalisation of the Language Policy for the Province. In the 2010/11 financial year the draft Language Policy and Implementation Implications has been elevated to the level of the Forum of Heads of Department (FOHOD).

The Multilingual Information Development Project (MIDP) came to a close at the end of 2010. Five interpreting trainees graduated with Postgraduate Diplomas in Language Practice from the University of the Free State. One of them has taken up employment as an interpreter at the national parliament in Cape Town. We have been able to offer a successful twelve months internship for our MIDP IV graduate. We have also purchased our first interpreting kit which comes with 20 ear pieces.

In the last financial year we have through our Language Services unit realised the following key objectives:

- A comprehensive Sesotho Soccer Terminology booklet, which was launched 30 days before the 2010 FIFA World Cup, has been published with 1 200 soccer terms.
- We have published a 66 page anthology in the main languages spoken in the province. The book, titled Mokolokotwane 2008, is made up of poems collected from the budding and established authors who attended the 2008 Macufe Wordfest.
- On 12 February 2011 the department celebrated the establishment of the Free State Writers Forum, the objective of which is to bring the writers together and create a conducive environment for them to practice their art. This financial year we must realise the following in the language services arena:
 - Continue facilitating translation services and coordinating interpreting for the Free State Provincial Government departments;
 - The process of consultation towards the implementation of the Free State provincial language policy will continue, with implementation envisaged for the 2012/13 financial year;
 - The Basic Departmental Terminology project will be completed;
 - The established Free State Writers Forum will be supported with the emphasis on empowering the member organisations in recruitment, 24 governance, fundraising, good quality book production and marketing; lastly
- We will work towards the establishment of the Free State Language and Culture Forum.

Programme 3: Library and Archive Services

Honourable Speaker, the Free State has 171 library facilities. Of these 140 are fully fledged services while the rest consist of services at institutions like prisons and hospitals. 30 towns require new functional buildings and areas like Mangaung, Botshabelo and so on require about 15 additional libraries.

Our library building and upgrading programme continues unabated. We completed the Edenville Public Library in Ngwathe Municipality, Fezile Dabi District. The contract amount for this library was R8 678 660-00. The size of the library is 570m². The library opened with a stock of 9463 items and can seat 70 students at a time in the study areas.

14 Computers with on line internet access will be available from May 2011. The library has a fully equipped toy library rendering services to early learning centres, nursery schools and primary schools. The library also has a vegetable garden with its own 5 000 liter rain water tank, and vegetables are provided to the Thusano HIV and AIDS Group feeding scheme. Eleven people were employed permanently during the building project and nine temporary workers were employed on site. Of the eleven people, 5 were youth.

In terms of renovations Riebeeckstad Public Library building in Matjhabeng Municipality, Lejweleputswa District, which was closed by the municipality a number of years ago was rehabilitated and will open to the public during June 2011. The library will also be equipped with computers and on line public access. Philippolis Library in Kopanong Municipality, Xhariep District, despite many challenges faced, is now 95% completed with its renovations and the library will open to the public during July 2011.

Other library renovations completed include: Masilo, Phomolong, Kutlwanong, Thabong 1 and Hloholwane Library. Security continues to present itself as a challenge in our various institutions. To safeguard library property, security fences were installed at the following 8 libraries as planned: Bethulie, Reddersburg, Koffiefontein, Ladybrand, Welkom, Riebeeckstad, Dealesville and Viljoenskroon. Burglar alarms were installed at 73 libraries bringing the total number of libraries with burglar alarms to 103. The roll-out of burglar alarms to libraries has now been completed, one year ahead of the original plan. Electronic security gates to safeguard library collections were installed at 6 libraries.

In terms of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), the roll-out programme which started in 2007 has been completed and 162 libraries of 171 were provided with equipment and on line access to the World Wide Web. This means that the Free State is busy narrowing the digital divide and people in rural areas like Luckhoff, Jacobsdal, Verkeerdevlei, Thaba Patchoa and many more can now also use the Internet for information and recreational needs. In Luckhoff this service will be expanded once the new library building is completed.

One of our service delivery priority areas is job creation. Through Library and Services programme we have managed to contribute 157 jobs since 2007 with the appointment of library assistants. IT support staff and administration support staff were sustained during 2010/11. Training workshops were presented throughout the year with the main focus on computer skills and customer care training. Contributing to the priority goal of education and job opportunities 20 bursaries for study in library and information science were maintained and 5 new bursaries were allocated.

In terms of reading material in the last financial year we were able to procure approximately 50 000 new books for libraries. The focus areas for collection development are African and South African history, politics and literature, study books for primary, secondary and tertiary levels, indigenous languages, science and technology and healthy lifestyles. Libraries are subscribed to more than 2 000 periodicals and newspapers but the timely delivery of daily newspapers in rural areas is becoming a challenge. To keep up with technology, libraries are also subscribed to electronic books, periodicals and newspapers. In 2010/11 approximately 17 000 books in the indigenous languages used most in the Free State were bought. Approximately R700 000 was spent on books in Sesotho, Setswana, Isi-Xhosa and isiZulu.

To support early childhood development, educational toy library services were established at 5 libraries namely Phahameng (Bultfontein), Sedibeng (Kroonstad), Tsiame, Bohlokong, Edenville and Matlakeng (Zastron) bringing the total number of toy library services in the Province to 20.

Programmes to promote a culture of reading, namely the A re lthuteng Reading Programme and Read your way through the alphabet were presented at 36 libraries with approximately 1 500 participants. A writer's workshop was presented during September 2010. Dr Wally Serote was the main presenter and about 50 people attended. A set of posters to promote awareness and celebrate classic African writers was distributed to all libraries.

Equipment is essential for delivery of services, including library services. To this end, the roll-out programme to provide libraries with photo copying machines has been completed. 120 libraries were

provided since 2007 and the Department will continue to maintain the equipment. Ten libraries, 2 per District, were provided with A-V equipment (TV sets with DVD players). The equipment is used for educational programmes and story hours for children.

In many rural areas, public libraries are the only facilities where people can get access to services such as photo copying, word processing, internet access and e-mailing. These facilities contribute to the enhancement of human settlements in especially rural areas. For the 2011/12 financial year library services will further be expanded across the Province through the library building and upgrading programme, procurement of reading material as well as provision of specific services.

To ensure that all communities will have functional library buildings by 2020, planning and construction of libraries in the followings towns will continue or start in 2011/12:

- In Xhariep District: Jacobsdal, Smithfield and Luckhoff
- In Motheo District: Wepener
- In Lejweleputswa District: Soutpan
- In Thabo Mofutsanyana: Clarens, Memel and Arlington.

The average cost per project amounts to R11 million and for 2011/12 an amount of R14.8 million was allocated for new buildings. Over the next three years between 11 and 15 jobs will be created per building project. The upgrading of existing libraries will also continue in this financial year. The Bloemfontein Public Library will be upgraded to provide more seating space for students using the library. Other libraries earmarked for rehabilitation and renovation are Harrismith, Bethlehem and Parys. An amount of R6.9 million, funded from the Community Library conditional grant, was allocated for this purpose. An amount of R2 million is available for the day-to-day maintenance of library and archive facilities.

To further address security concerns in our libraries an amount of R3.74 million will be available to upgrade and maintain security at library buildings with security fencing, electronic security gates and burglar alarm systems.

Furthermore, IT equipment will be maintained at libraries and where the need arises data lines will be upgraded to increase bandwidth and improve the speed on data lines. Libraries will provide computer and information literacy training to communities. An amount of R10 million was provided from the Community Library Conditional Grant for this purpose.

We will continue to contribute towards the job creation goal of government. Jobs created during previous years at libraries will be sustained and 13 additional posts will be created and filled. The training programme for library staff and the bursary programme will continue. R19. 199 million was allocated from the conditional grant for job creation and skills development.

Library material to be procured this financial year will include approximately 60 000 new books and other formats being bought. Access to electronic publications will be improved with subscription to a virtual library from where e-publications can be downloaded on media such as I-pads and e-readers. We will work closely with the custodians of the newly established Writers Forum to develop strategies to support Free State writers and to ensure that their books are available at public libraries.

Given the significance of toy libraries in the early childhood development of children educational toy library services will be established at 6 extra libraries. As part of the programme, training on the effective use of educational toys will be provided to caretakers of young children.

Honourable Speaker, we cannot for a moment take our eyes away from the need to embrace people with disabilities as and when we deliver services. To improve access to library and information services, a service for the visually impaired will be established at 15 libraries, three per district. The service will consist of the provision of audio-books and the digital readers to use these books as well as computers with special software for use by visually impaired persons. Eighty digital readers and 15 computers were already purchased for this service. Training of library workers in the effective use of the media will be provided so that library staff will be able to assist users. The service will be provided in consultation and cooperation with the South African Library for the Blind.

The A re lthuteng reading programme will be implemented at five libraries to promote a culture of reading and improve children's functional reading skills. The Trevor Barlow Public Library in Heidedal will implement the Read through the alphabet reading programme at five schools in Heidedal. This project already received coverage on National Television.

The National Symbols Programme will be expanded to become part of Magnificent Friday celebrations at libraries. The aim is to promote awareness of and love for our national symbols and develop a feeling of pride and cohesion amongst young children. A series of exhibitions on the country's rich struggle history will be developed and displayed at libraries to create awareness of and provide easy access to information about our country's history.

The Executive Council took a resolution that 'the roll-out of libraries to municipalities should not constitute an unfunded mandate for municipalities. Provincial government must assume responsibility for library services inclusive of concomitant mandate and responsibilities of paying salaries in phased-in approach.' Funding for this purpose will become available from year 2 of the MTEF. An amount of R110 million per annum will be needed to give full effect to the EXCO resolution. During 2011/12, the department will finalise the implementation plan and implementation protocols in cooperation with municipalities. Planning to establish an advisory Library and Information Services Board will also start in 2011/12.

The Archives component will continue with its programme to assist municipalities and government departments to develop and implement sound records management systems.

Government offices are the places where history is made and the records of their activities constitute the archives which form the primary sources of information for research projects. To fill the gaps in the collection and make our archives fully representative of our country's history, the oral history programme will be revived with the appointment of an oral history archivist. The focus of the oral history programme will be the role and experience of the man in the street in the struggle for liberation.

Mr Speaker, the allocation for the Library and Archive Services Programme for the 2011/12 financial year amounts to R95. 642 million and is constituted as follows:

- Equitable share: R32. 733 million
- Infrastructure Grant: R15 million
- Community Library Conditional Grant: R47.909 million

Living in times where governments of first world countries are planning to close down libraries and where communities must struggle to retain their right of access to information, the Free State is privileged to have a government who understands the importance of libraries as gateways to information and reading. Access to reading and information resources is essential to develop an informed citizenry who can ensure that democratic ideals are upheld and who can partake meaningfully in the democratic process. Where some foresee that libraries will disappear with the

printed word, we are fortunate to develop libraries which will fulfill the need for access to information, reading and learning material, be it in printed, audio-visual or digital format. It remains our mission to bridge the information and digital divide with well-equipped, functional libraries in every community.

Programme 4: Sport and Recreation

Honourable Speaker, undoubtedly the 2010 FIFA World Cup has left an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of the entire global community. Through sport we have been able to change to a large extent the image the world had about our country. As the province we stand tall and proud at the magnificent stride we have made towards ensuring the successful staging of this world spectacle in our province and country. This was certainly the people's World Cup as we embarked on mass mobilisation campaigns and availed Mobile Fan Parks to rural Free State communities.

Certainly, the legacy left by this tournament will last for generations to come. In the national Minister's "Road Map" one of the priorities is to enhance optimal performance and excellence in sport. In this "Road-Map" School Sport is indicated as the bedrock for mass participation, social cohesion and one crucial anti-juvenile delinquency. It is of the utmost importance that the Free State re-engineer its school sport delivery system to support the "Road Map". We are left with the task of ensuring that the face of sports and recreation changes quite fundamentally as a result of the impact of the World Cup.

Through our various sport and recreation programmes we will ensure that this happens. As already stated by the honourable Premier in the State of the Province Address following the successes of the 2010 FIFA World Cup tournament the ANC Centenary Celebration will be the next major event in our province. The following stadia in the Province will be upgraded as part of the centenary legacy projects: Fezile Dabi, Zuka Baloyi, Seiso Ramabodu, Charles Mopeli, Botshabelo, Maokeng, Zamdela, Bohlokong and Siphon Mutsi. An amount of R15.6 million has been set aside for these upgrading.

In the next financial year we will realise the goals we have set for ourselves and as set out in the Premier's State of the Province Address. These include buying name rights for the Vodacom stadium for an amount of R5 million per year for the next coming 3 years. This is a worthy and essential step as the long term benefits of the province owning name rights over this stadium are beyond doubt. Every time when there is an international match playing at this stadium, and that match is broadcast globally, we stand a good marketing chance for the province and the good chance for tourist attraction. In our quest to promote social cohesion, nation building and sport tourism in the province we will annually host a soccer, rugby and golf Reconciliation Challenge. This programme will happen over the long weekend. The Challenge will involve Free State Soccer outfit playing against any other PSL soccer team, as well as the Provincial Rugby team against another franchise team. This year the Challenge will take place from the 16 to 18 December and will also be linked to the centenary build-up programme.

In line with the injunction in the State of the Province Address we will also donate R1 million per team to Bloemfontein Celtic, Free State Stars, Cheetahs and Griffons. This is also a necessary and important investment for the province. These are teams representing the province at national level. They carry the name and pride of the people of this Province. Their matches in the province also contribute to a capital injection through sport tourism.

Community Sport

Through Community Sports we will continue to ensure that mass participation in sports penetrates every croon and cranny of our communities. We will build on the positive outcomes realised in the last financial year which include, amongst others, the following milestones:

- New strategy was introduced for sport and recreation activities in all 82 Towns of the Province as opposed to operating only in 33 Hubs;
- The Fourth OR Tambo Games were successfully staged in Matjhabeng municipality, from 3 to 5 December 2010;
- Six Recreational Sport Leagues were established in all towns of the province from town level, municipality level, and district level culminating in the Provincial OR Tambo tournament and these are:
 - Football, Netball, Volleyball, Rugby, Table Tennis and Basket Ball Recreational Leagues;
 - Playing equipment and attire for Volleyball, Netball, Football, Table Tennis, Rugby and Basketball was distributed to all 82 towns in September and November 2010;
 - 246 Sport and Recreation Coordinators were appointed to assist with the development and promotion of sport activities within the communities;
 - Sport and Recreation Councils were successfully established in all five districts and supported;
 - Several events for marginalised groups in the form of golden games, indigenous games, women in sport were held;
 - Capacity building workshops were conducted for sport administrators within the district municipalities; and
- We launched the Magnificent Friday Project in February 2011 in a quest to creating the hype for the Federations that will participate in World Championships this calendar year. We must at this stage express our disappointment at the unfortunate departure of the Proteas from the ICC World Cup in the quarter-final stages.

As part of our efforts to ensure access to sports facilities for our communities we have erected 5 MUNMAN multi-purpose courts in Van Stadensrus, Petrus Steyn, Heilbron, Luckhoff and Vredefort. These facilities allow for a number of different sporting codes to be played simultaneously. Other areas in the Province where these facilities will be rolled out are: Diyatalawa, Makgolokweng and Tweeling. The Indigenous Games, which promotes our identity as a people, as well as the Senior Citizens Games, which allows time and space for our elderly people to exercise, will be intensified and further developed up to National level. These games will be staged in partnership with the Health and Departments of Social Development.

Sport and Recreation Councils at District level will be supported financially to run their affairs with additional support from sport and recreation officials as secretariat.

Sport and talent development

Honourable Speaker, in the last financial year we established the Sport and Talent Development programme, which incorporates school sport, with the objective to creating an enabling environment for communities and learners to participate in sport and recreation. Our contribution to the priority objective of healthy life styles is underscored by these programmes. We are proud of the contribution we made through this programme towards the successful staging of the 2010 FIFA World Cup. As a prelude to that tournament we embarked on two important build up programmes and these are: the 32 Schools 2010 Mini Soccer World Cup for boys and the My 2010 School Adventure Competition.

On 28 April 2010 we launched the Free State School Sport Organisation which is the controlling body for school sport in the province. As the honourable Minister Fikile Mbalula pointed out school sport is going to become the bedrock of sport in the country. We have no doubt that the Free State School Sport Organisation will assist us in realisation that vision. This structure is constituted by 16 school sport codes, being athletics, aquatics, baton twirling, baseball, basketball, chess, cricket, cross country, football, hockey, netball, rugby, table tennis, tennis, volleyball and gymnastics. This structure has been established from code committees that represent the above mentioned sport codes as well as regional and district committees constituted by various schools in the province. The process for the

establishment of this structure involved a collaborative effort between the Free State Department of Education and the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation.

Amongst some of the achievements of the last financial year are the following:

- New strategy for School Sport Mass Participation to implement programme with educators was developed and implemented;
- Playing equipment and attire for netball, volleyball, football and rugby were delivered to schools;
- Local and District Sport Festivals were staged to increase Mass Participation in 146 schools and contribute towards an active and healthy communities;
- From 10 to 12 December 2010 we staged the first successful Siphon Mutsi Games in Lejweleputswa District, Matjhabeng municipality.
- This is the Provincial multi-code competition aimed at identifying talent to be nurtured at the Local talent Development Centers;
- Local Talent Development Centers (LTDC) in Matjhabeng local municipality was launched on 10 December 2010 while equipment for the Metsimaholo LTDC has been delivered and ready to be launched in April 2011; and
- We staged the Wicket Wednesdays for Mmulakgoro, Kgothatso and Kgorathuto schools in Botshabelo on the 9th March 2010 and for Phomolong, Moso, Bahale and Reiketseditse schools in Lejweleputswa District on 30 March 2011.

As part of the new “Road Map” of the national Minister in this financial year we have set ourselves the tasks of establishing and sustaining school code committees to run sport within schools. This programme will be run with both the Provincial and National Federations. In line with the Minister’s roadmap we will also establish and sustain structured leagues in all schools in the province.

One of the programmes that will be implemented this financial year is the establishment of vegetable gardens as a pilot project in 5 schools as part of the school sport programme. We will install water boreholes as well as sprinklers to assist in the irrigation of these gardens. This project is to enable schools to raise funds and sustain sport activities. The construction of the Botshabelo Local Talent Development Centre will happen this financial year. Xhariep LTDC will be built in the 2012/13 financial year.

In remembrance of the late soccer player who passed-on while taking part in the 2010 Mini Soccer World Cup tournament, Mr Motlalepule Ntsala we will launch a soccer tournament within Setsoto municipality. To promote boxing in the province start-up kits for boxing will be provided as a pilot in schools around areas in the Free State where boxing is popular. This will include headgears, mouthguards, gloves, punching bags and skipping robes. Table Tennis will be promoted in schools in the province.

We have been providing sport equipment and attire to 146 schools. This financial year we are adding extra 323 schools for provision of attire and equipment. The Siphon Mutsi Games will continue this year as an annual event having been successfully launched last year. These Games are in honour of one of our struggle icons in Kutlwano/Odendaalsrus. We continue to encourage and support schools to give learners opportunity to play as part of the overall social cohesion strategy and programme to identify talent for the national teams. All schools are going to participate in the local leagues of 8 codes already communicated to schools this year. In football, together with the Department of Education we are going to establish Provincial Schools Premier League for 38 under 18 boys constituting of two schools per District. Annually one school per District will graduate from local leagues to join the Premier League.

Through the LTDC we will continue to identify and develop talent. The target is 450 learners who will be taken for further acceleration at the 3 LTDCs. We will appoint LTDC managers, sport trainers and coaches to ensure that the implementation is effective. May we note that we are the first and only province in the country that has moved towards this direction of establishing LTDCs and DHPCs.

Free State Sport Confederation:

Honourable Speaker, the amalgamation of the Free State Sport Council and the Free State Academy of Sport culminated into the establishment of the newly controlling body of sport in the province which is known as the Free State Sport Confederation (FSSC).

The FSSC was formed by representative of 25 Municipalities and 48 Sport Federations in the Free State as well as other associate members from the Disability, School and Tertiary Sport. The organisation's main objective is to promote and develop sport in the Free State and to act as the controlling body for the preparation and delivery of Team Free State at all multi-sport national games, including the senior citizen games, indigenous games, South African Games and so on.

The past year, which was our inaugural year, has seen a combination of the inevitable challenges associated with the integration of a number of organisations, as well as the excitement of laying the foundation for one of the most formidable and important organisations to emerge. The membership of the confederation has grown quite significantly in the year under review. The next challenge will be to ensure that all the federations align their structures according to the current politically demarcation as stipulated by government to ensure effective, efficient and speedy delivery of sport services to our communities. Recognising the importance of improving the administration of Sport Councils, funding will be made available from the Confederation budget to assist in this regard.

Our Provincial Federations continued to make us proud at various national championships by representing us well. To date the Confederation has allocated funding to ensure that all our teams have access to transport and accommodation for the athletes, officials, coaches and managers who are representing us at various tournaments. These federations were assisted to the tune of R1 020 043.75 Currently out of 5 District Sport Councils, the Confederation has managed to convene 2 District Summit for Sport being Lejweleputswa and Xhariep districts.

The aim of the summits were to allow ourselves to have an invaluable quality dialogue on the burning issues facing the municipal and District Sport Councils such as the matter of development and transformation in our sport. The key element being addressed through these summits is also to develop a programme of action to level the playing field and create opportunities for all to excel in sport of their choice, in particular the marginalised rural youth, women and the disabled.

The greatest challenge facing us with regard to District Sport Councils as effective delivery tools for sport is the lack of adequate resources which has forced us to curtail some of our immediate goals and adopt a more conservative approach to committed projects.

Amongst other major sporting events hosted is the Dlala Ntombazana Games to which the FSSC, through the assistance of the Department, made available an amount of R1.8 million for the hosting of these Games.

As the financial year unfolded, it became clear that our resources were depleting without commensurate revenue generation. In the coming year the Confederation will produce a zero budget with a view to align costs with income generation.

Sport Science, High Performance and Rehabilitation:

Honourable Speaker, the Free State Sport Science Institute (FSSSI) continues to play an important role to assist athletes that have to perform on the highest level of the sport continuum. During the previous financial year the FSSSI continued to deliver sport science services to our athletes in a remarkable way:

- Rendered to 2,257 athletes sport science services;
- Assisted 2,134 athletes with their sport specific conditioning; and
- Trained 494 coaches, 297 administrators and technical officials.

In view of the elite and specialised nature of the services rendered at the FSSSI we are glad to have managed to secure the appointment of Morten Ridgardt as an Elite Sport Scientist at the FSSSI. We are also proud of the efforts of personnel at the Institute to continuously upgrade their qualifications and expertise in this field of sport science. Several personnel members at the Institute obtained diplomas, certificates and degrees in various fields which include, amongst others: Education and Training Academy (ETA) personal training; Sport Management and Sport Science. Degrees obtained include Masters and PHD in Sport Science.

Five staff members of the FSSSI were also invited to attend the “Day of the Trainer” in Belgium where they presented papers of various sport science issues from 13 to 21 December 2010. This invitation shows that our staff at the FSSSI is highly trained and deserves international recognition for their expertise and knowledge

In the last two financial years we started in earnest to make sport science and rehabilitation services more accessible across the Province. On 17 March 2009 the Department opened its 1st of 5 District High Performance Satellite in Thabo Mofutsanyane District and added other 2 this past financial year, being the one in Lejweleputswa (Welkom) and the other one in Fezile Dabi (Sasolburg).

Between April 2010 and February 2011 a total number of 831 and 81 athletes, were assisted with sport science and rehabilitation services respectively at the three already established District High Performance Satellites. The Department also did well by completing upgrading of the FSSSI Capacity Building Facility, FSSSI Façade, Sport and Recreation offices building and Golf Club House at the FSSSI.

Honourable Speaker, supporting the National Minister’s sport transformation drive, FSSSI has already embarked on collaboration with the Free State Sport Confederation to develop the first provincial 2-year residential “High Performance Talent Development Support Programme”. To support this programme the Provincial High Performance Training Center for Boxing was constructed where athletes will train full-time under supervision to prepare them for elite competition and tournaments.

Other sport codes that will benefit from this programme will be rugby, netball, badminton, boxing and table tennis during this financial year. For this financial year R3 million is earmarked for the provincial “High Performance Talent Development Support Programme”. The FSSSI will render all necessary high performance sport and exercise science services to the identified athletes on the programme, while the Free State Sport Confederation and specific Federation will assist with nutrition, attire, transport, etc.

Honourable Speaker, for this financial year the Provincial Talent Development Centre for Netball, Table Tennis and Badminton will be constructed to an amount of R5, 8 million and R7 million respectively.

Other FSSSI infrastructure project for this financial year will be:

- Upgrading of the restaurant at to the total tune of R2,9 million
- Upgrading of sport fields, fencing, roads, water, sewerage, landscaping and electricity facilities to the total amount of R4 million. These upgrades are necessitated by the expansion of the facility that is taking place.

An amount to R1,2 million is allocated to the FSSSI to render sport and rehabilitation services on provincial and district level, while R1,5 million will be spend to render high performance capacity building programmes to coaches and athletes.

Lastly an amount of R3 million is earmarked to execute a very important research project with the theme “An analysis of Schools Sport to establishment an effective and efficient Youth Sport and Talent Development Strategy for the Free State”. The information will be utilised to re-engineer and upgrade school sport service delivery strategy.

Phakisa:

Honourable Speaker, for the period under review, Phakisa Major Sport Events and Development Corporation had a successful year during which 23 weekends of Biking Academies where staged by different Motorcycle Clubs. Four National Motor Car Racing and four Regional Motorcycle Championships were staged. Other major social and sporting events include: 2010 World Cup Public Viewing Area; Hlasela ka Bolo Schools Tournament; Big Conferences and Meetings; Go-Karting; 80's Music Extravaganza; Beach on the Track and International Motor Car Testing and World Cup Awareness session for 1 200 matric pupils.

Upcoming events in the new financial at Phakisa include Bolton Wanderers Schools Soccer Academy where 5 boys from eight semi-finalists of Hlasela ka Bolo Tournament will have an opportunity to trial with this English Premier League side in October. International Stock Cars racing will also be staged at Phakisa. Advance Driving Courses for different Department of the Free State Provincial Governments will be conducted as well. Other sporting codes of National Powerboat Championships, Swimming and Cycling Events will be promoted and staged by the Corporation. Big year-of-the-end events such as Jazz on the Wheels, Beach on the Track and 80's Music Extravaganza will again be staged.

Conclusion:

Honourable Speaker, let me in conclusion outline the budget allocations per programme as follows:

- Administration: R46.567 million
- Cultural Affairs: R177.523 million
- Library and Archival Services: R95.642 million
- Sport and Recreation: R159.568 million

Total: R479.3 million

The road ahead is still long and steep. We are not oblivious to the fact that much more still needs to be done to ensure that the objective of service delivery to all our people is realised. We draw strength from the progress we have made so far. Undoubtedly, much has happened since the onset of democracy in our land.

This fact we should not and cannot ignore as well. With the necessary and sufficient resources we will certainly ensure that sport, arts, culture and recreation becomes the daily feature of the lives of our people.

May I join the honourable Premier in reminding our people about Census 2011. Let all of us stand up and be counted for we need the credible statistical information in delivering services to all our people across the land.

May I also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who continue to rally behind us in this challenging task of quality service delivery. Without your support this task will be impossible. As we said as the ruling party, together we can do more.

I thank you.