



## **Sedibeng District Municipality** **Office of the Executive Mayor** **Media Release**

**To : All media**  
**Attention : News Editors & Journalists**  
**Date : 11 February 2010**

### **For the attention of all media houses**

**The families of the victims & survivors of the Boipatong and Sharpeville Massacres on a Journey of Living History to Cape Town led by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng**

As the nation was commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the release of President Nelson Mandela from prison on the 11 February 1990 and the State of the Nation Address, the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng hosted 80 survivors and victims of the apartheid-era massacres to a successful five-day political and soul-restorative trip to Cape Town as part of celebrating a *"journey of living history"*.

Recognising the milestone anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre, the tour was themed *"The Journey of Living History: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre"*. A similar trip was undertaken with the Sharpeville survivors and victims' families three years ago by the Sedibeng District Municipality.

The itinerary included a visit to Cape Town's leading tourist attractions from the Winelands, Robben Island, Iziko Museum (depicting the use of our people as slaves and the Nelson Mandela History) and as well as attending the official opening of parliament.

"This trip embraces extending a caring hand to the communities of Sedibeng and forms part of a sustained intervention programme to enhance South African democracy through nation building. The campaign is guided by the principle of continuous dialogue and activism of and between the survivors, youth and the victims of violence that may have led to disability or orphanage," Mayor Mofokeng says.

The objectives of this trip were among others to display a gesture of appreciation and recognition to the role played by the victims and survivors in assisting to bring about a new dispensation to our Country; to provide a platform for survivors to share their experiences with communities of similar experiences and in this case we had invited the Langa Massacre Representatives and to promote Sedibeng as a Region.

The Executive Mayor adds that while the reason for the trip was among others to promote Sedibeng as a region, it principally displays “a gesture of appreciation and recognition to roles played by victims and survivors in bringing a new dispensation to South Africa”. It is also a platform for survivors to share their experiences with communities of similar experiences.

The participants were chosen by their representative organisation, Khulumani Support Group and include predominantly elderly citizens from Sharpeville and Boipatong. Alongside Mofokeng, Sedibeng will be represented by Executive Mayor Assistance Mshudulu, Councillor Mululeki Nkosi: Sedibeng MMC responsible for Sports, Recreation, Arts, Culture & Heritage, three ward councillors and mayoral support staff.

Ends

**Issued by the Office of the Executive Mayor  
Sedibeng District Municipality**

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