

**External Communications Unit  
Press / Media Release**

To : All Media  
Attention : News Editors & Journalists  
Date : 14<sup>th</sup> July 2011

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

**Sedibeng District Municipality hosts a Committee Meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Trade and Industry**

The Sedibeng District Municipality is pleased to announce that it will be hosting the meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Trade and Industry as it is part of their oversight visit to the *Gauteng Province*. This is part of its parliamentary oversight function on the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The main focus of deliberations by the Portfolio Committee on Trade and Industry will be on **access to finance for economic development**. The Committee will be welcomed by the Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng.

The fourth Parliament of the Republic of South Africa took a decision that annually at least two Portfolio Committee meetings should be held at venues outside Parliament. This is to enhance public participation and to fulfil one of its strategic objectives of taking "Parliament to the People". In compliance with this resolution, the Committee has scheduled a parliamentary committee meeting within the Sedibeng District Municipality **on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011 from 09:00, at the Vereeniging Civic Theatre (Sedibeng District Municipality)**. The meeting outside parliament must comply with the Rules of the National Assembly when holding a committee meeting.

While here, the Committee will extend an invitation to the Banking Association of South Africa (BASA) to brief the Committee on access to finance with respect to the Industrial Policy Action Plan and other matters related to economic development.

In addition, the local businesses community will be invited to share their concerns and the challenges it faces in terms of access to finance and their dealings with the Department of Trade and Industry and its entities. The Committee has requested a number of business-related entities to be present, namely:

1. Companies and Intellectual Property Commission;
2. National Consumer Commission;
3. Industrial Development Corporation;
4. Khula Finance Limited;
5. National Empowerment Fund;
6. South African Microfinance Apex Fund; and
7. Small Enterprise Development Agency



These entities will be exhibiting their relevant programmes and other information and will be able to address any challenges that may arise. **Members of the community are welcome to attend this important meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Trade and Industry in Sedibeng.**

**Ends!**

**Issued by the External Communications Department  
Sedibeng District Municipality**

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