

**External Communications Unit  
Press / Media Release**

To : All media  
Attention : News Editors & Journalists  
Date : 15 June 2012

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

**Sedibeng commemorates the 20<sup>th</sup> & 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries of the Boipatong Massacre & the June, 16 1976 respectively**

The Sedibeng District Municipality will on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012, be commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boipatong Massacre. The people of Sedibeng and South Africa remember this day on which many innocent people were left maimed and killed and houses and shacks destroyed.

The day will be observed through various events / activities in partnership with the Khulumani Support Group, Bana ba Modimo and other formations representing the families of the victims and the people of Boipatong in particular.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boipatong Massacre coincides with the year in which the ruling party, the African National Congress celebrates its hundredth year of its existence.

On this day, the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. M. S. Mofokeng will deliver a report to the people of Sedibeng and those of Boipatong in particular on the progress made on the service delivery programmes in the area and which includes the Boipatong Monument whose construction is underway.

“It is during the period like this that we take a moment, bow our heads and extend our special messages of support and hope to all the people of Sedibeng and South Africans who suffered gross human rights violations during apartheid oppression. We observe these days in remembrance of these patriots and thousands of others who fell inside the country and beyond its borders, in pursuit of the freedom and human rights for all”, said the Executive Mayor of the Sedibeng District Municipality, Cllr. MS Mofokeng

The Sedibeng District Municipality invites members of the public to join the Executive Mayor, Councillors and the families of the heroes and heroines, victims and survivors in the commemoration of this massacre which shook the world and nearly brought the CODESA negotiations to an end.

The commemoration this year will be held on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012, at 08:00 at the Boipatong Stadium and it will begin with the wreath laying ceremony at the Vuka Cemetery in Sharpeville, taking place under the theme **“Towards a Vaal Metropolitan River City for a seamless service delivery in the Vaal Region”**



This programme comes a day after the nation commemorated and observed another important day, the 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of June 16<sup>th</sup> 1976. In Sedibeng, this day is remembered through various youth programmes intended to afford the Council a platform to interact with all young people in the Region on matters affecting them.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boipatong Massacre this year will be commemorated through various activities throughout June month, such as:

- Youth Parliament on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at the Sedibeng District Council Chambers, Vereeniging;
- Boipatong Family Day on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at CW4 in Vanderbijlpark;
- Wreath laying at Vuka Cemetery, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at 08:00;
- Tour of the Boipatong Memorial Precinct (*Under Construction*)
- Commemorative Rally at the Boipatong Stadium on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012 @ 12:00

People are encouraged to book and make all the transport arrangements to the venue with their Local Ward Councillor and/or Sedibeng District Municipality Office of the Executive Mayor.

**Ends!**

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

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