

# MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: Monday, 17 March 2014

ATTENTION: Assignment Editors / Economic Beat Writers

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MPUMALANGA PREMIER TO HAND OVER A GOVERNMENT-FUNDED STATE OF THE ART WATER BOTTLING PLANT TO A CO-OPERATIVE IN DONKERHOEK**

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**Donkerhoek** – Mpumalanga Premier, Mr David Mabuza, accompanied by Economic Development, Environment and Tourism MEC, Mrs. Pinky Phosa, will officially launch and hand-over the Donkerhoek Water Bottling Plant in the Mkhondo Local Municipality to a co-operative this week, as an economic intervention, community upliftment and to celebrate Human Rights Day. The initiative is aimed at encouraging community members to form co-operatives which have been identified by government as a crucial vehicle towards job creation and to propel economic growth.

The plant was constructed by the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism as a contribution to the Provincial Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) in order to contribute to job creation and poverty alleviation in the municipality. Machinery and equipment for the plant has been funded by the National Development Agency. The Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) has committed to provide a six months mentorship programme, which includes both technical and business management, to the members of the Donkerhoek Water Bottling Co-operative. The Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency (MEGA) has been mandated to operationalise and commercialise the Plant, and ensure its sustainability and profitability.

The event is scheduled to take place as follows:

**Date:** Thursday, 20 March 2014  
**Venue:** Donkerhoek (Donkerhoek Water Bottling Plant)  
**Time:** 10h00

All media is invited.

For confirmations, please contact:

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Issued by the Chief Directorate Communication

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