



**economic development  
& tourism**

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Building Number 4, No. 7 Government Boulevard,  
Riverside Park Extension 2, Nelspruit, 1201  
Private Bag X 11215, Nelspruit, 1200  
Tel. 013 766 4271/4132/4148

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## ***MEDIA STATEMENT***

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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### **KHOLWANE CONGRATULATES FORMER MISS MPUMALANGA FOR SCOOPING THE MISS TOURISM UNIVERSE 2015 CROWN**

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**Mbombela** – Mpumalanga’s MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Mr Sikhumbuzo Eric Kholwane has congratulated former Miss Mpumalanga, Ms Mpumi Lephoko, for being crowned Miss Tourism Universe 2015.

Lephoko, who hails from Pienaar outside Mbombela, was crowned Miss Universe Tourism 2015 on Saturday, 19 September 2015 in Casino Du Liban, Lebanon, after contesting with 36 models from all over the world.

“On behalf of the people of Mpumalanga, I would like to congratulate Ms Lephoko, who is former Miss Mpumalanga, for being crowned Miss Tourism Universe 2015. We are proud of her and we are very excited about her achievement which puts our Province, Mpumalanga – *the Place of the Rising Sun*, high on the international arena. We believe she will be an excellent Tourism Ambassador for South Africa, and in particular, for our Province, Mpumalanga, where she hails from”, said MEC Kholwane.

Ms Lephoko is the former Miss Mpumalanga 2011, and has served as the Ambassador of Responsible Gambling Campaigns being ran by the Mpumalanga Gambling Board, under the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

“As Miss Mpumalanga 2011, Mpumi has represented our Province well as the MGB’s Ambassador of Responsible Gambling Campaigns. We have confidence in her that she will continue to fly the flag of Mpumalanga very high on the international arena. Indeed we are proud of her”, concluded MEC Kholwane.

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Department of Economic Development and Tourism  
For enquiries, contact: Mohau Ramodibe on 082 771 9950/ 013 766 4148***

