Igalelo

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Official Newsletter of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport

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Human dignity restored as Cele launches R27 million projects

"In addition to the construction of the Sqandulweni Pedestrian Bridge and other projects during the last financial year, the lives of the residents of this area will be improved through other road infrastructural projects to the value of nearly R27 million," MEC Cele

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R10 million bridge construction to start at Ulundi

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Cele leads the **fight against** crime

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"Today's bridge opening does not only seek to pave the way for linking communities to social, cultural and economic amenities, but this project also ensures our commitment to create a better life for all, as well as defend the weak and protect the vulnerable - MEC Cele

Department supports school education

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TOP: *Community members led by Cele cross the new bridge.* **BELOW:** *MEC Cele with Sisonke District Mayor Patrick Khoza and Councillors and traditional leadership cut the ribbon on the new pedestrian bridge.*

R10 million bridge to help rural community

MEC Cele is flanked by (right) Nkosi Lucky Mbatha of Mhlabathini, Nkonjeni area and (left)Mayor of Ulundi, Lazarus Buthelezi.
Inset: *Community members crossing the Black Umfolozi River.*

The KZN Department of Transport continues to be a shoulder to cry on for communities, especially in rural areas where people cannot cross rivers because some areas do not have river bridges.

RURAL communities who cried on the shoulders of the KZN Department of Transport about the challenge of crossing rivers without bridges have been heard.

R10 million has been set aside by the Department and the South African National Road agency for the construction of a pedestrian bridge in the KwaNxasane community. Pupils from the Thombothi Primary school in the area have now joined other communities in the province who are able to cross rivers in safety.

The bridge will link those living in KwaNxasane, Isizinda and other villages separated by the Black Mfolozi River where children going to school every day, some as young as six years old, have been crossing the often swollen river on their own, will now have safe passage.

Addressing residents who came to witness the sod-turning, MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Bheki Cele said he had no doubt that as 2010 approached, the Department would achieve its aim of changing people's lives for the better.

"I'm happy that being here in this place is in line with what our democratic government stands for, which is to expedite the goal of a better life for all. For us in the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport, a better life starts by having access," he said.

Cele said the construction of the bridge would impact positively on the Thombothi Primary School learners and community members as many lives had been lost while trying to cross the river.

The construction of the 103 metre long bridge will cost about R10 million and is expected to take four months to complete. It will allow the passage of pedestrian and vehicles simultaneously, with the latter restricted to one direction movement at a time.

The construction of the bridge, undertaken by local contractors and residents in the community, would also create job opportunities for the local people.

"An important aspect of the construction of the bridge is that its cost remains an economic benefit to the communities it will serve. The prospective contractors will be compelled to source all materials from the Ulundi/ Mahlabathini area and employ the artisans and labour from the nearby communities. It is intended the construction on the whole bridge will be done with manual labour," said Cele.

DEVELOPMENT

Human dignity restored as Cele launches R27 million projects

"In addition to the construction of the Squandulweni Pedestrian Bridge and other projects during the last financial year, the lives of the residents of this area will be improved through other road infrastructural projects to the value of nearly R27 million," said MEC Cele

MEC Cele with Sisonke District Mayor Patrick Khoza, Vishavisha Inkosi Mkhize and Councillors cut the ribbon on the new pedestrian bridge.
Inset: *Community members led by Cele across the new bridge.*

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety & Liaison Bheki Cele launched the Sqandulwini foot bridge that cost over R3 million at the Sisonke District Municipality's Vishavisha rural community recently.

The bridge is the first pre-stressed concrete ribbon bridge built in the country and its clear span of 150 meters equals the world record for this type of footbridge.

Sisonke Mayor Patrick Khoza thanked MEC Cele for ensuring that his Department enables rural communities to have access to schools, clinics, and other social services.

MEC Cele said the launch was a celebration of an end to humiliation suffered by female teachers who had to take off their clothes in front of their male pupils in order to be able to cross Umkhomazi River.

Cele said: "My Department will prioritise the provision of an access road to your multi-purpose community centre in this district. Any school or clinic that does not have a road that goes to it must get it."

He added: "Since we have finished the bridge and the jobs we provided were temporary, we are committed to support subsistence agricultural initiatives that will enable people to put food on the table."

The construction of Sqandulwini Bridge started in November 2005 and was completed in April 2007 at the tune of R3,53 million. The contractor made extensive use of local labour, with the exception of a foreman, two semi-skilled laborers and two specialist sub-contractors. In identifying laborers, the Department uses its people-orientated structures like the Rural Road Transport Forums (RRTF's), Community Road Safety Councils (CRSC's), the local municipality and other civil society structures.

The roads that have been built in the Sisonke area during the last financial year include Zweliyabuya Road to the value of R667 000; Ncakubane Road to the value of R580 000;

Siphephelengweni Road to the value of R467 290; AmaNyuswa Road to the value of R875 710. This is due to be completed this month of July; and Ncakubane Causeway to the value of R422 894 and the total thereof was over R3 million.

The projects for the 2007/08 financial year include a new phase of Ncakubane Road to the value of R580 000; Nhlewukeni Road to the value of R805, 530; Mahlubini Road to the value of R536, 250; Nomabhunga causeway to the value of R402, 500; replacement of damaged causeway on D483 to the value of R500, 000; replacement of damaged causeway on D2156 to the value of R500, 000; Umzimkhulu Pedestrian Bridge to the value of R4, 700, 000; reseal and rehabilitation of P68-1 to the value of R3 907, 709.

The total cost for this is close to R12 million. In addition, this area will also benefit in respect of the following: Safety Maintenance to the value of R1 102 064; Routine Maintenance to the value of R2 775 761; Zibambele contracts to the value of R6 392 912; and Re-gravelling to the value of R4 751 091. A total of over R15 million has been earmarked to complete this task.

MEC Cele said: "In addition to the construction of the Sqandulweni Pedestrian Bridge and other above-mentioned projects during the last financial year, the lives of the residents of this area will be improved through other road infrastructural projects to the value of nearly R27 million."

He added: "So today's bridge opening does not only seek to pave the way for linking communities to social, cultural and economic amenities, but this project also ensures our commitment to *create a better life for all*, as well as *defend the weak* and protect the vulnerable".

Cele leads the **fight against** crime

***Above:** Premier Ndebele looks on as MEC for Transport, Community Safety & Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele greets a delegate at the provincial Crime Prevention Summit held in Durban recently. **Below:** Delegates at the Conference.*

COMMUNITY Safety and Liaison MEC in KwaZulu-Natal, Bheki Cele has set up a provincial structure made up of various stakeholders and role players to fight crime in the province.

The Justice, Crime Prevention, Safety and Security (JCPS) structure which was formed during an anti-crime summit held in Durban earlier this year is now fully operational following the formation of an interim committee of representatives from the SAPS, DPP, Justice and Community Safety and Liaison.

The JCPS cluster will meet four times a year and was officially launched on June 23 when a working committees was established.

The JCPS is expected to back up the work of Community Policing Forums (CPFs) and come up with a programme to launch and drive the "Stolen Goods Campaign".

Cele's JCPS has been tasked to do the following:

- Approach the Department of Economic Development to finalise the Liquor Bill, taking all entrusted parties on board;
- To encourage business and tourism structures to work closer with policing agencies and justice in order to strengthen partnership between business and law enforcement agencies. Advanced planning for all upcoming provincial activities would form one of their tasks;
- Departments of Social Welfare, Justice, Education, Home Affairs, Sports and Recreation and Community Safety and Liaison must co-ordinate efforts between them to relocate children on the street by identifying places of safety and potential new places of safety, give the children a proper identity such as ID documents etc. They should also trace parents or relatives of the children and establish educational and recreational facilities for children;
- Promote moral regeneration by preventing crime in all communities. The focus will be on building family units, the family value system and community structures. The Traditional and Religious structures have to join in the fight against crime and providing crime prevention training to these structures which will anchor communities in dialogue to promote peace and nation building;
- Crime can also be prevented through environmental design by having Municipalities contributing to improve the environment by dealing with dilapidated buildings especially in major cities and all Mayors will brought on board to support this project;

The MEC expects formal progress reports to be tabled to the JCPS cluster quarterly and a review meeting to be held in exactly a year's time. The HOD and the Managers in the department will continue to engage stakeholders after the Summit and provide the MEC with regular feedback on these engagements.

The summit comes in the wake of the call by Premier S'bu Ndebele during the State of the Province Address earlier this year, that the government should have a summit to strategise the fight against crime.

Transport Department invests millions in Msinga upgrade

Concerned community members address questions directly to MEC Cele at Msinga recently.

THE KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has promised to invest over R23 million to improve roads and build bridges while providing jobs to fight poverty in the Msinga area near Greytown.

MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Bheki Cele said people's lives in the area would never be the same as his department aimed to intensify the application of labour intensive methods to address road network backlogs.

Cele, who was addressing Msinga residents during the KwaZulu-Natal legislature's Government Going to the People community out-reach provincial initiative, said labour intensive methods rather than using aids such as vehicle driven cement mixers would create more jobs for the people.

"We will be working closely with community-based structures like Rural Road Transport Forums (RRTs) and Community Road Safety Councils (CRSCs) and I will be installing an R8 million pedestrian bridge in this place because, as in many rural areas, people do not have bridges to cross rivers to get to social institutions like schools and clinics."

The Department's Implementation acting general manager, Simphiwe Nkosi, said 7.5km of Msinga's P1268 road was to be re-graveled to the tune of R1,5 million. A sum of R480 000 would be spent on fixing the Hlanzeni causeway which was destroyed during the floods.

A routine maintenance programme would begin on roads like Nadi and Ngubevu. A sum of R56 million was earmarked for surfacing the rest of the 42.8 km that needed to be covered on P16. Traffic calming measures would also be installed in a road at Kopi.

At Shelembe, R950 000 would go towards access roads, prioritising areas where there was some economic activity and social institutions including schools like Ncikida, Ntabende, Mfunze, Mpolwane and Nxamalala.

MEC Cele assured Msinga residents that the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Community Policing Forums (CPFs) were positioning themselves to fight crime more effectively in the area, which included stock theft, burglary, rape, murder, illegal dagga plantations, the so-called anti-crime vigilante group that was taking the law in its own hands at S'kebheni and other crimes.

Provincial Commissioner Ngidi said an increased police force, coupled with a temporary police station at KwaNocomboshe were among the short-term measures the SAPS and the Department of Community Safety & Liaison were working on to address safety requirements at Msinga.

"We encourage members of the community to work closely with CPFs to give police access to reliable information in their fight against crime," said Ngidi.

MEC Cele said: "I will be coming back here with the police to ask for all the illegal weapons that are still here and no one will be arrested for surrendering their weapons on that day."

EMPOWERMENT

ABET programme changes lives as it enters its third year

Left: *MEC Cele is flanked by Acting HOD Mr. Chris Hlabisa, Corporate Services General Manager Ms. Vicky Cunliffe, Acting General Manager: Implementation Mr. Simpiwe Nkosi and DOT officials with ABET Educators at the recent Graduation ceremony.*
Above: *ABET learners recieve their graduation trophies from MEC Bheki Cele.*

The Department's Adult Basic Education Programme (ABET) is presently dominated by male employees and so our women employees must also be encouraged to take part in this programme.

This was noted by our MEC Bheki Cele when the KZN Department of Transport hosted the third ABET Annual Graduation Ceremony at the Lay Ecumenical Centre in Edendale recently.

Cele referred to the shortage of women as a "serious weakness that needs to be corrected." He highlighted the importance of education and recalled that adult learning was taboo during the apartheid era as the previous education system was designed to discourage Africans attending school and that the content of the syllabus was useless information.

A former school teacher himself, Cele advised educators: "When you teach, teach them critical thinking, not just to write words and letters. Teach them to shape the world by discussing critical issues such as petrol price increase and global warming."

ABET is coordinated by the Department's Human Resources' Skills Development section and its broad objectives include "promoting employability and sustainable livelihoods through skills development" that has seen general assistants become clerical staff.

The government introduced ABET in order to address the problem of illiteracy among employees of the Department who are important human resources as well as citizens of the country.

The programme was specifically developed to provide general education as the basic foundation to enable learners to develop their mental capacity and allows them the opportunity of further or higher education.

According to Human Resources senior manager, Ms Cindy Zwane, the programme is proving to be extremely successful as there is a yearly improvement in the pass rates as well as distinction rates.

This year alone 421 learners passed and 100 of them achieved distinctions. The learners are from the Ladysmith, Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Empangeni regions. However, the number of students participating in the programme has decreased in the past two years from 1350 to 1250 students.

Zwane praised government for allowing its employees to take time off to upgrade themselves and also attend graduation ceremonies during working hours as this proves its commitment to adult learner education.

Skills Development Facilitator, Mabuza Ngubane stated that the programme starts educating its students from an elementary level 1 (including mathematical, technical, practical and critical skills) to level 4, equivalent to a grade 9 pass, enabling them to complete their education at a high school level. He added that an educated workforce is efficient and effective, and that human resources equip them with the skills to progress in their jobs. This can be described as a "return on investment," Ngubane added.

ABET learner Bhekokwakhe Madondo used to be a truck driver and is now a Zibambele administrative assistant who fills in trip sheets and other documentation. He praised his educators for "being patient and very good."

Kenneth Msomi of Newcastle, another ABET learner highlighted his joy by demonstrating his newly acquired writing skills. Never having written before, he proudly wrote his name and phone number.

Denton Mayaba, an educator of the Ladysmith region (Mnambithi) with the highest pass rate said: "Commitment of the educators through regular meetings is very important."

The audience were entertained by the very talented local singing sensations, Loc'tion Jams who performed with dazzling energy.

The ABET programme aims to engage with a syllabus that will equip learners with the knowledge, attitudes, skills and capacity to partake in every aspect of society. In addition the programme seeks to develop literacy, language and communication skills in one or more languages.

DOT empowers contractors with relevant skills

KwaZulu-Natal Department of Transport has made its mark in the development of the emerging contractor sector with 88 Vukuzakhe Contractors having undergone Construction Contractor Learnerships.

The Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Constrution Education and Training Authority (CETA) to facilitate Construction Contractor Learnerships (NQF Level 2), the duration of which is 24 months.

This learnership is geared towards developing contractors' managerial skills and targets mainly women and youth within the construction industry. Through this programme, learners now have a full accredited qualifications; skills and competencies to be utilized and applied within their relevant companies.

The learners also have an opportunity to undergo training for NQF Level 2 in EPWP qualifications which will help them to bid for EPWP projects.

Speaking at the graduation ceremony held in Pietermaritzburg recently, MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Bheki Cele said that his Department continues to embark on other training programmes some of which will be implemented this financial year 2007/08.

"My Department has set aside more than R10 million for learnerships during this financial year. This includes learnerships for EPWP, a programme my Department is coordinating for the province," he said.

Apart from these learnerships, Cele said that his Department is awarding bursaries to Technikon and University students who have agree that once they complete their studies, they will work for the Department for a minimum of years equivalent to the years they were funded.

The ceremony was blessed by the presence of the District Mayor, Bongi Sithole who also emphasised the importance of education, saying that "it empowers you and also empowers your community and others around you".

CETA representative and KZN Regional manager, Vusi Sibeko, congratulated the enthusiastic graduates and commended the Department of Transport for its Vukuzakhe programme and dedicated staff. He also challenged other government departments to follow suit on what Transport has done and to form partnerships of this kind.

Graduates Musa Petros Ngubane and Wendy Zamisa said that they are very happy and thankful to the Department of Transport for the opportunity.

MEC Cele congratulates a Graduate at the Graduation Ceremony at the Rpyal Show in Pietermaritzburg recently .

Thanking on behalf of all the graduates, Lucia Mtshali wished that the Department would continue with its good work in the form of Vukuzakhe Contractors. "We want to create the wealth of our nation especially we as women. Knowledge is our food," she added.

ROAD SAFETY

A non-motorized transport supporter gets donation

FREIGHTING company employee Bheki Ntshangase has taken delivery of a spanking new bicycle, thanks to KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Bheki Cele.

Cele, who is driving the non-motorised transport campaign in the province saw Ntshangase, a Cato Manor resident, riding his old bicycle with was not roadworthy and immediately promised to replace it with a new one.

True to his promise, the department's Deputy Manager for Road Safety, Bongani Nxumalo delivered the bicycle to the delighted father of three who said he preferred riding a bicycle to driving a car.

"The bicycle saves me R12.50 a day on transport costs and although it's not quicker, at least getting stuck in traffic is not a problem, and the exercise is good for my heart. I also don't break the speed limit and I can ride on tarred and gravel roads."

Nxumalo said at the handover that the MEC was making a gift of the bicycle because it supported the main objective of the non-motorised transport campaign which was to promote a safe, user friendly, affordable and environmentally friendly mode of transport.

Now Ntshangase, a certified freight handler at Greystones Cargo Systems, arrives at work ahead of schedule. "Bheki was always late for work but there has been a drastic change since he received his new bicycle. We would like to thank the Department of Transport and the emphasis it is placing on non-motorised transport," said Jackie Bidenhorst, Training Officer at Greystones Cargo Systems.

Launched in October last year, the non-motorised transport campaign aims to reduce traffic during peak hours and promote a healthy lifestyle. According to Cele the project would also provide a sustainable and affordable transport mode for rural communities, particularly school children. Also dedicated lanes for bicycles were being established in the province's major cities.

Deputy Manager: Road Safety, Mr Bongani Nxumalo presenting a bicycle to an ecstatic Bheki Ntshangase at his working place, Greystone Cargo Systems in Durban recently.

Learners awarded for taking part in road safety

Durban Regional Manager: Mr. S Majola seen here handing over a computer and printer to the Principal and Educators of Ukusa High School. Inset: Pupils of Gamule High School.

A PROJECT to promote road safety in schools has reaped monetary awards for three schools in KwaZulu-Natal.

Developed by the Department of Transport, the project, aimed at changing the attitudes of learners towards road safety issues within their communities, encourages pupils to become involved in identifying problems within their communities and to find solutions for those issues.

In 2006 50 schools in the Durban Region participated in the project. The schools were requested to identify problems that affected their communities and find possible solutions. They were given the month of October and November to research their project after which they participated in a competition where they had to present and display their findings.

After a series of elimination round four schools remained, namely Trenance Park Secondary and Burnwood Secondary, both represented Durban in the urban category, Mbuyiselo High School and Ukusa High School represented the rural group.

Out of four schools that won the Provincial Competition was Mbuyiselo and Ukusa which was placed first and second in the rural category and Trenance Park was placed first in the urban category. All three schools were awarded a prize valued at R10 000,00.

Bonga Mpofu, Deputy Manager of Road Safety said, "This is an excellent course because learners need to be constantly encouraged to obey road safety rules to reduce fatalities on our roads by not drinking and driving".

The principal of Ukusa, Innocent Xaba said, "We are prepared to work hard to receive help and are thankful to the Department of Transport for the opportunity and the wonderful prize which will help us as teachers and our learners as well".

Mpumalanga Ward Manager, Nhlanhla Sokhela, said, "I am deeply moved by the prize. Thank you to the learners for all their hard work as it has put the school on the KwaZulu Natal map. We are all very excited".

One of the learners, Rodell Dora from Trenance Park Secondary who was the team leader said, "It was a good experience and we are thankful to the Department of Transport for the opportunity and the prize. We are thankful to our teachers who were very supportive as it was difficult working during the weekends as well."

Project manager, Misscr Scham from Trenance Park who is also an educator said the competition was a real experience and learners gained insight and collected skills they would keep with them for life, even though it required hard work during holidays and weekends.

Siphiwe Majola, Regional Director who officially handed over the prizes, encouraged the children of Ukusa High School to take up mathematics and science and also explained the aims of the Department of Transport when it came to the recapitalisation process to ensure growth in South Africa. Majola mentioned that it was vital to bring the safety rules of the road to schools as children were the leaders of tomorrow.

'The bereaved are road safety ambassadors'

"ALTHOUGH deaths caused by road accidents are not natural, bereaved families are road safety ambassadors because society can learn something about road safety from their tragedies."

This was said by KZN MEC for Education, Ina Cronje during the memorial service of seven young people aged between 15 to 26 years – including school children - who died in a road accident on May 28 in Vryheid.

"Learn a road safety lesson from this because this was an accident that could have been prevented – we did not have to be here today," she said.

Apparently, a driver of a van that was pulling a trailer lost control and slammed into two oncoming vehicles. The second vehicle tried to avoid the accident but ended up hitting the rail on the side of the road. The dead were from all the affected vehicles.

Cronje supported her colleague, MEC for Transport, Community Safety & Liaison Bheki Cele, saying road accidents were destroying the future generation of this country. They agreed South African drivers had no regard for human life.

Cele said human error such as bad driving caused by tiredness could have been the reason for the accident. "Passengers have an equal responsibility to refuse to be transported by unlicensed or drunken drivers. The majority of people are killed by human error.

"The main cause of road accidents are linked issues such as drunk driving, unroadworthy vehicles, poor road conditions or bad weather."

According to Cele drivers in the country had an unhealthy mentality because they were disrespectful and arrogant. "Public transport operators have a responsibility to ensure their employees changed their bad attitude and intolerance. We know of cases where passengers have been both ill-treated and threatened."

Cele said this was the reason his department spends a considerable sum of money to educate public transport operators and their employees about good customer care and safety on the road.

'road crashes are destroying the future generation of this country'- MEC Cele

Above from left: *MEC Ina Cronjé, MEC Cele and Abaqulusi Municipality Mayor George Dlamini comforting the Masondo family from Nduleni in Vryheid recently.*

Below from left: *Zululand District Mayor Zanele Magwaza-Msibi, Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi, MEC Cele, Acting HOD for Transport: Chris Hlabisa comfort the Buthelezi family in Ulundi recently.*

Transport supports school education

MEC Bheki Cele and Acting HOD Mr. Chris Hlabisa donated sports uniforms to Mkhobosi Primary School recently.

MEC Bheki Cele with acting HOD: Mr. Chris Hlabisa took Nokthula Njapha to Cape Town National Assembly as part of 'Take a Girl Child to Work Day'

MEC Bheki Cele hosted girl school kids at the Department of Transport as part of an education exercise recently.

Highly accomplished Hlabisa now heads the renowned Department

Former Transport Head Dr. Kwazi Mbanjwa is now Director-General for the KZN Province at the office of the Premier. He has been with the Department for over thirty years.

"For me it is an additional task as I boast good understanding and experience which I gained from Implementation and I clearly know the workings of each and every directorate within the Department. All I need now is the full support of my managers and everyone who works in this Department"

Bhekumusa Christopher Hlabisa; "Chris" or "Bab' Hlabisa"; as he is affectionately known to colleagues and friends, has recently been appointed by our MEC Bheki Cele as the administrative acting head at the KZN Department of Transport.

Hlabisa was born and bred in KwaZulu Natal. He is a civil engineer and a professional technologist registered with the ECSA and SAICE. He is alumni to many different tertiary institutions in KwaZulu Natal and various public and private organizations.

Commenting on his new appointment Hlabisa said: "For me it is an additional task as I boast good understanding and experience which I gained from Implementation and I clearly know the workings of every directorate within the Department. All I need now is the full support of my managers and everyone who works in this Department."

"My short-term goal is to fill in senior management vacant positions in line with gender equity. There is an urgent need to encourage and motivate staff members to perform at the best of their ability as they are presently demoralized".

As Acting Head of Department he faces critical challenges. One of them is to maintain the Department's reputable status as an efficient and effective service delivery provider of roads and bridges as well as a safe road environment for the public in the interest of socio-economic stability and growth.

"The 2010 World Cup will also be hosted by our province and this requires us to ensure that an appropriate transport system is in place. This includes roads leading to and from different soccer venues, safe and road worthy public transport and airports. To achieve this one cannot work single- handedly, but we need to work together as a team", said Hlabisa.

The Acting HOD said that he is proud of this province and to this end he was central to the amalgamation of the estwhile Government Departments and establishment of a unified KZN Department of Transport. He played a key role to facilitate the end of divisions in government before the demise of the old apartheid order. His input led to the establishment of the KZN Department of Transport which came into being in 1995.

"I started at the KZN Department of Transport as a Resident Engineer specializing in road and bridge construction for three years. During those days of apartheid I attained a professional registration for myself in order to be able to approve roads and bridge project plans", reported Hlabisa.

In 2002 he registered with the Engineering Council of Southern Africa (ECSA) as a professional engineering technologist. He became the first vice president of the South African Roads Federation (SARF) in 2004, and is now the current president of SARF.

He adds: "This was after I had worked from 1989 to 1994 for a nationally and internationally recognized company called BKS and TBI Consulting Engineers which gave me the much-needed mentorship and recognition when I was promoted three times to higher roles in one year. I started as Chief Industrial Technician, then to Control Industrial Technician, and finally as Deputy Director: Technical Services".

In 1995 he was appointed as a regional engineer and five years later became promoted regional director. He then became general manager of Implementation in 2002. Most recently, he found himself occupying the driver's seat of the administrative aspect of the Department's work.

As a proud family man, Hlabisa owes his success to his "beautiful wife and children for the constant guidance and unconditional support".

Hlabisa attributes all his promotions to hard work and dedication. "Time management is critical in all of these positions, but I still manage to get quality time to spend with my family," he concludes.

ABOUT IGALELO

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