

MEC Nomusa Dube-Ncube's Remarks during the Post-Budget Business Breakfast 2022 in Greyville Convention Centre, Durban.

Tuesday, 15 March 2022.

Programme Director

Honourable Deputy Minister of Finance, Dr David Masondo

Presidents and CEOs of Business Chambers

Our Reputable Panelists

Honoured Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Colleagues

This day marks an important occasion in our work as government. It is a day for us to engage with you as our guests on the Provincial Budget 2022/2023 that I tabled on Wednesday last week.

This is a day to critique and dissect the Provincial Budget. Among you as our guests, are specialists in various fields and the budget I tabled impacts each and every sphere of profession. It will therefore be interesting to hear your views and analysis on how you think it will impact on your professional spaces and lives.

Most importantly, we are a government that believes in a two-way communication. As our esteemed stakeholders, we value your input. Our task today as government is mostly to listen and engage. It is this engagement that will give rise to a symbiotic relationship between government and yourselves.

Government and business as well as civil society stakeholders need to build and maintain partnerships. It is these partnerships that will yield better and more sustainable results for communities.

Quite honestly, these are partnerships that will help us in government do things that we would not be able to do on our own. In a nutshell, our partnership helps us to combine our skills and resources to deliver better results for our province.

I must also say that the Provincial Budget I presented seeks to give practical expression to the pronouncements of the Premier, Honourable Mr Sihle Zikalala during his State of the Province Address.

We want this budget to help the Province pursue multiple purposes and these include investment in public infrastructure in order to speed up economic recovery, create jobs and fight poverty. Most importantly, we want to ensure that the government policy of Radical Economic Transformation translates into tangible benefits for the majority of our business-minded black communities. We want to see Co-Operatives grow and make a difference in fighting joblessness and also contributing to growing the economy of KwaZulu-Natal.

As KZN Treasury, we want to make a pledge and that is to continue to mobilise funds and allocate them equitably in order to make an indelible mark in the financial management space in the public sector. But most importantly, we want to effect positive changes in the lives of the citizens of KwaZulu-Natal.

We have made an undertaking that the R140b that I tabled last week, translates into positive change for the youth, women, disabled, elderly and the marginalised communities in our Province. We will not rest until this change is seen, felt and enjoyed.

Our slogan in the province is “Growing KwaZulu-Natal Together”. That is the reason why this morning, we are gathered in this fashion- government and business. Here, we must be honest with each other. We would like you to tell us what it is that we are doing wrong or doing right or need to improve on. We also want you to engage with us in an objective fashion on how we both need to hold hands and improve the economy and the lives of the communities in KwaZulu-Natal.

With those words, I would like to declare that today and in future, our government is accessible and always open for discussion.

My other task this morning is to introduce our honoured guest, a fellow comrade and an advocate of good governance.

DR DAVID MASONDO BIO

Dr David Masondo holds a PhD from New York University (USA). His PhD thesis focused on Post-Apartheid State Industrial Policy and Investment in the South African Automotive Industry. He obtained his BA (Hons) and MA from the University of the Witwatersrand.

He currently is serving as the Deputy Minister of Finance, Board Chairperson of the Public Investment Corporate (PIC) and Principal of the OR Tambo School of Leadership (ORTSoL).

Dr David Masondo is an ANC National Executive Committee member, and is serving in the Political Education and Economic Transformation Sub-Committees. Dr Masondo has been a political activist over a period of 30 years.

Dr Masondo has held different political and managerial positions in government, including serving as the MEC of Finance, and as Director in the Local Government Department in Limpopo. He also was the Chief Director for Economic Sectors and Industry with the Department of Trade and Industry; and as well served as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Automotive Industry Development Centre (AIDC); an entity of the Gauteng Provincial Government. He was also the principal member of the Financial Sector Charter Council where he was a Community Representative.

Dr Masondo is passionate about education and community development, and has lectured at the University of the Witwatersrand where he lectured the undergraduate courses, including the States and Markets module, and Political Economy of Modern South Africa for post-graduate students.

His passion for education extends to community development. To this end, he is a founding chairperson of the Topisa Trust, which provides ongoing support to youth to promote education, sport and cultural excellence in villages in Limpopo

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