

Media Release

For immediate release

17 February 2020

SALGA to participate on the Reply to the Debate of President Cyril Ramaphosa State of the Nation Address

The South African Local Government (SALGA) President Thembi Nkadimeng is scheduled to participate this week on the reply to the debate of President Cyril Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address during a joint sitting of the two houses of Parliament, the National Assembly and National Council of Provinces.

In his speech, President Ramaphosa made several pronouncements pertaining local government, ranging from municipal bulk infrastructure, District Development Model, including putting in place "measures to enable municipalities in good financial standing to procure their power from independent power producers".

SALGA welcomes the announcement by the President as a shift from the current centralized energy options. The SALGA 2018 Energy Summit declaration acknowledges that the electricity supply and distribution industry is no longer viable for local government, national government state-owned institutions and society as a whole. SALGA President Nkadimeng will, among others, unpack how the announcements made in the President Speech will be phased in by the sector.

Following the State of the Nation Address last week, members of Parliament are provided with an opportunity to debate the address over two days to a joint sitting of both Houses. This will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. President Ramaphosa will reply to the debate on Thursday on 20 February.

END

Issued by: South African Local Government Association