

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 8 September 2023

SALGA Western Cape to Host a Women's Commission Lekgotla

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) in the Western Cape will host the SALGA Women's Commission (SWC) Lekgotla, scheduled to convene on the 12th and 13th of September 2023 in Milnerton, Western Cape.

This highly anticipated event will bring together esteemed speakers who will address the assembly on a spectrum of pressing issues related to women within the local government sphere. Notable among these distinguished speakers is Ms. NomaFrench Mbombo, the MEC for Health and Wellness in the Western Cape, who will delve into the provincial health and wellness priorities for women, highlighting the critical role of health and wellness in women's lives.

Furthermore, Mr. Nelson Muffuh, the UN Resident Coordinator, will share insights on the imperative leadership styles necessary to cultivate an enabling environment that facilitates the acceleration of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Under the leadership of Cllr. Helen Coetzee, this year's SWC Lekgotla will be convened under the theme "**Accelerating Equality and Empowerment**". With this theme, the Lekgotla will serve as a platform for examining the challenges and barriers that women in local government face and devising innovative solutions to overcome them. It will also explore the role of local government in driving gender equality, not only as a fundamental human right but also as a catalyst for sustainable development and social progress.

Cllr. Helen Coetzee articulated her vision for the Lekgotla, emphasising its role in sparking impactful conversations, innovative strategies, and dynamic initiatives to advance the cause of gender equality and women's empowerment swiftly. She added that she is confident that this Lekgotla will provide a vital platform for deep reflection on the urgency of implementing tangible measures to cultivate a more equitable society.

The SWC was established to coordinate, promote, and advocate for gender-appropriate strategies and practices within the Western Cape member municipalities, incorporating councillors, officials and guests and feeding into national, regional and global agendas and processes. The strategic objective of the Women's Commission is to increase the representation and participation of women in local government to parity.

Members of the media are invited as follows:

Date: 12 – 13 September 2023

Time: 09h00

Venue: Lagoon Beach Hotel, Milnerton, Western Cape

End

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For further media enquiries, please contact:

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