



NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Speaking notes: Speaker of the NWPL

Hon NV Motsumi, MPL

Date : 23 September 2026

Time : 10h00

8th Legislature

North West Provincial Legislature

Provincial Speakers Forum Meeting, 23 September 2026

Welcome address and remarks on the purpose of the Forum, delivered by the Speaker, Hon Motsumi, on 23 September 2026, at the Provincial Speakers Forum Meeting, NWPL Chamber.

Programme Director, Angel Face,
Hon MC Maine, Deputy Speaker of the NWPL,
Honourable Speakers of our sister Provincial Legislatures,
Adv. Lutendo Netshitumbu, Secretary to the NWPL,
Hon M. Rosho, Chief Whip,
Hon T. Modise, Chairperson of Committees,
Cllr G Mathe, Mahikeng Local Municipality,
Cllr K. Molefe, SALGA,
Lucky Modiba, Bojanala District Municipality,
Lebo Ndou, Rustenburg Local Municipality,
Stella Mondlana Ngwenya, City of Matlosana Local Municipality,
Nthabiseng Shuping, Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality,
Grace Moipolai, Greater Taung Local Municipality,
Alderman Sarah Nkatlo,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning to you all.

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the North West Provincial Legislature, to welcome you to our Legislature and to this Provincial Speakers Forum.

We are particularly pleased to host you at a time when we are reflecting on a term of public service and looking towards the work that lies ahead.

When I accepted the responsibility of serving as Speaker of this Legislature, I spoke about the importance of remembering that the Chair does not belong to the person who occupies it. It belongs to the institution, and the institution belongs to the people.

That is a principle that I believe speaks to all of us gathered here today.

Each of us occupies an office that existed before us and will continue after us. We are temporary custodians of institutions that belong to our communities.

It is therefore important that we meet not only as Speakers, but as colleagues who share a responsibility for the strength, dignity and credibility of our legislative institutions.

I am grateful that we can gather in this spirit of reflection, openness and collegiality.

To all the Speakers and colleagues who have made time to be with us, welcome to the North West Provincial Legislature.

I trust that our engagement today will be frank, constructive and, above all, rooted in our shared commitment to the people we serve.

PURPOSE OF THE FORUM

Honourable Speakers,

The purpose of this Forum is quite simple: to reflect honestly on our experience as municipal legislative leaders, and to use that experience to strengthen the institutions we will hand over to the next administration.

The concept of cooperative government requires our institutions to work together, and the relationship between the provincial Legislature and municipal councils is an important part of that architecture.

As Speakers, we have a particular responsibility to ensure that our councils function as meaningful democratic institutions: institutions where debate is respected, oversight is taken seriously, communities are heard, and public representatives are held to the standards expected of public office.

Today gives us an opportunity to ask some difficult but necessary questions.

Are our councils functioning as effectively as they should?

Are our oversight and committee systems working?

Are we giving communities meaningful opportunities to participate, and, importantly, are we responding to what they tell us?

And how do we ensure that the Office of the Speaker is positioned to support a council that is accountable, accessible, and responsive?

Our theme of Pilediwa ya Lwelwa speaks directly to this last question. It reminds us that listening must ultimately lead to response, and that the needs raised by our communities cannot simply remain matters recorded in minutes and reports.

This Forum is therefore not intended simply to look backwards.

It is an opportunity to identify what we should keep, what we need to change, and what we need to start.

As we approach a transition between administrations, I hope that we will also think carefully about institutional memory. Those who come after us

should not have to start again. They should inherit our lessons, our experience and the institutional knowledge we have accumulated.

The outcome of this Forum should therefore be practical. We should leave with a shared understanding of the lessons of this administration, the challenges that remain, and the priorities that should inform municipal legislative leadership going forward.

Ultimately, the measure of our work is not the number of meetings we have held or programmes we have conducted.

It is whether we have strengthened the institutions entrusted to us by our people.

That is the purpose of our gathering today.

I look forward to the conversations that will follow.

The Chair does not belong to the person who occupies it. It belongs to the institution — and the institution belongs to the people.

I thank you.

Delivered by:

Hon NV Motsumi

Speaker of the NWPL

North West Provincial Legislature