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Office of the Executive Mayor

SPEECH BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR CLLR MALEKE MOKGANYETJI DURING THE TAKE A GIRL CHILD TO WORK EVENT AT BAKOPA PRIMARY SCHOOL, TAFELKOP, ELIAS MOTSOALEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY ON THE 8th JUNE 2023.

Programme Director, MMC Responsible for Women, Children, and People with Disabilities, Honorable Cllr Samson Nkosi.

Kgoshi Rammupudu,

The Mayor of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, Honorable Cllr David magetle Tladi.

The SGB Chairperson and SGB members of Bakopa Primary School.

The Principal of Bakopa Primary School Ms Mashego and the Staff.

Ward Councillor Sephatsi Morare and the Ward Committee members.

Sekhukhune District Municipality Fire and Rescue Emergency Management Services staff.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Dumelang...

Programme Director,

Take a girl child to work event is an important activity in the social calendar of our country. Historically women were seriously excluded in all decision-making structures in the country. Their place was in the kitchen, were hewers of wood and drawers of water. Girls were raised to emulate their mothers. This is the historic injustice that must be condemned at all costs. Sekhukhune District Municipality takes seriously this event as it offers an opportunity to correct the injustices of the past. We are all born equal and must be treated the same.

Programme director,

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, is the supreme law of the land. It is based on democratic values which include human dignity, the achievement of equality and the advancement of human rights and freedoms, non-racialism and non-sexism. Equality in our country is a Constitutional imperative as such nobody should treat anybody in degrading manner because of their sexual orientation.

Programme director,

Today, we are celebrating this event under the theme "WORKING BETTER TOGETHER". The theme is calling on all of us to roll up our sleeves in creating a safe and better world to all. As much as we consciously as mankind elected to discriminate our girl children, we must in the same vein create conducive environment for our girl children to prosper in jobs, business, sport, socially and economically. There is nothing impossible for our girl children. We decided to use our Fire and Rescue Emergency Services for the event today to deal with stereotypes on the employment of women in this

field. Women have got the capacity to perform maximally everywhere and anywhere. Working better together means that we must all contribute to the gender free country. We must all treat each other with respect in line with the Constitution.

Programme director,

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" and "Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mine worker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farm workers can become the President of a great nation. It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another" President Nelson Mandela in quotes. We are here at Bakopa Primary School today to support the articulation by President Madiba on education. Girls were denied opportunities to study for the professions of their choices in the past. Working better together, we are here to encourage you to follow the careers of your choices. Sekhukhune District has got about 28 mines

that are mainly located at Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality. We are currently at the last stages of getting the license of Fetakgomo-Tubatse Special Economic Zone. The FT-SEZ is going to open number of Career and Business Opportunities for the people of Sekhukhune. We need people with SKILLS to take our economy forward. I encourage our girl children to take their studies very much seriously especially on engineering and entrepreneurship fields.

Programme director,

In conclusion, the world is in your hands my girls. You are far much better than us. We grew up under difficult situations but managed to achieve our goals. In South Africa, we are no longer talking about gender equality because the Constitution is behind you. Refrain from engaging in wrong things that will derail your dreams. Refrain from going to places that will ruin your future. IT IS IN YOUR HANDS.

I thank you.