

Speech by Ms MP Chueu, MMC for Economic Development, Tourism and Marketing, at the Economic Growth and Development Summit

Theme: Working together for shared growth and prosperity

Comrade Speaker,
Colleagues in the Mayoral Committee,
Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature,
Members of National Parliament present today,
Mayors and Councillors from various municipalities,
Your Excellencies, Ambassadors and High Commissioners,
Heads of Departments and Government Officials,
Leaders of Political Parties,
Leaders of the Business Community,
Leaders of Civil Society,
Distinguished Guests,
The People of Tshwane,
Comrades and Friends

Welcome. Comrade Speaker, Friends of the City of Tshwane, today it is a great pleasure for me to welcome you to the Tshwane Growth and Development Summit.

Our vision is: For Tshwane to be the leading international African capital city of excellence that empowers the community to prosper in a safe and healthy environment.

Our mission is: To enhance the quality of life of all people in the City of Tshwane through a developmental system of local government and the rendering of efficient, effective and affordable services.

I think it is proper to have a theme like today's – as is presented to you on the walls of this summit venue – since we are committing ourselves to working together (as government, business and civil society) for accelerated and shared growth and prosperity.

In the Preamble to the Constitution, it says that the Constitution is adopted to "improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person".

For all of us to ensure that this constitutional obligation is implemented in practice, we should develop a joint action plan to assist the citizens living in this beautiful African capital city of Tshwane so that they can have a good quality of life.

The importance of the Tshwane Growth and Development Summit is that it is dealing with the developmental challenges of a growing economy that is unable to curb the growing gap between the very rich and the very poor.

Our objectives are:

- To develop a common strategy for achieving shared and accelerated economic growth
- To determine the city's contribution to the provincial economic growth of 8% and to reducing poverty and unemployment by 50% by 2014
- To ensure a more balanced sharing of the benefits of economic growth between the First and Second Economies
- To mainstream gender equality
- To create an environment for the more equitable sharing of benefits
- To establish a platform for joint action to coordinate, monitor and evaluate progress

Scope and purpose of the TGDS

The TGDS does not replace the five-year programme or any other policy of the city, but it is "zooming in" on the second strategic objective of the five-year programme which was adopted by the Council in its new term in office.

The TGDS will have limited fast-impacting interventions that are catalysts for accelerated and shared growth. This compels us to do things differently. The purpose of the TGDS is to address matters in the short, medium and long term (ie develop strategies for SMME growth, for combating HIV and Aids, for HRD, etc).

Benefits of the TGDS

Shared economic growth will improve the quality of life of Tshwane residents; most people will have money to spend and will also pay their rates and pay for services provided by the Municipality (this will eradicate the indigence register).

There will be sustainable jobs created, and we will reduce poverty and crime.

The city will be able to do more with capital budget projects.

Accelerated and shared growth will boost business confidence.

Global context

Cities globally driven are engines of the national economy.

National context

There are five large-city contributors to our national economy (Jhb, eThekweni, Ekurhuleni, Cape Town and the City of Tshwane). AsgiSA was developed by Cabinet out of a concern for inequitable economic growth. It identified six interventions: macroeconomic issues, infrastructure programmes, sector investment strategies, education and skills initiatives, interventions in the Second Economy, and public administration issues.

Provincial context

The City of Tshwane has taken into account the economic and spatial strategies and goals of the Gauteng Province. The Gauteng Development Strategy has identified six areas: smart industries, trade and services, tourism, manufacturing, agriculture, and infrastructure expansion and investment.

Local context

The City Development Strategy of Tshwane is based on the National Spatial Development Framework, which has a long-term purpose.

And then we have the five-year strategic programme with its special focus on:

- 1) Providing access to quality basic services and infrastructure throughout the city
- 2) Promoting accelerated and shared economic growth and development
- 3) Fighting poverty and building clean, healthy, safe and sustainable communities
- 4) Promoting participatory democracy and applying the Batho Pele principles through caring, accessible and accountable service
- 5) Ensuring good governance, financial viability and optimal institutional transformation, and giving the institution capacity to execute its mandate

In conclusion I would like to wish you good and constructive deliberation throughout the summit. Thank you.