



**Address by the Honourable Deputy Minister of Transport,
Ms Sindisiwe Chikunga (MP) on the Occasion of the “Shova Kalula”
Bicycle Handover Programme and Career Expo at Dondotha Sports
Grounds, Umfolozi, Richards Bay Tuesday 23 January 2017**



Programme Director

Minister of Arts and Culture, Honourable Nathi Mthethwa

Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Honourable Willies Mchunu

MEC for Transport, Honourable Mr Mxolisi Kaunda

MEC for Basic Education, Honourable Mr Mthandeni Dlungwana

District Executive Mayor, His Majesty, Cllr Thembeke Mncunu

Executive Mayor for Local Government, His Majesty Cllr Smangaliso
Mngenge

Traditional Leaders Present

ANC NEC Member Nocawe Mafu

Other ANC Leadership Present

Chairpersons of Transport Entities Present

CEOs of Transport Entities Present

DDGs and other Senior Members of the Department of Transport

Senior Members of Provincial Government Present

Senior Members of District and Local Municipalities Present

Representative of SANTACO, Mr Bafana Magagula

Representative from National Youth in Roads and Transport: Mr Sam Masango

Members of the Faith and Religious Bodies Represented

Members of the Community

Learners

Introduction

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are assembled here today in this year of former President Nelson Mandela's 100th birthday, because this year he would have turned a hundred years old was he still alive

It is a year in which the youth must excel in all fronts of possibility, because President Mandela excelled in all fronts in his youth.

He excelled as a sports man, a boxer mostly, but also a long distance runner and ballroom dancer among others.

He also excelled as a learner and later a student in law.

Politically, Nelson Mandela was instrumental in the formation of the ANC Youth League and in changing the direction and approach of the ANC and its leadership.

Fellow South Africans,

Disturbed by the slow pace of change in the country and attributing this to the passive approach in which the ANC thrived on supporters instead of participants, the youth within the ANC opted for a more participative and more radical ANC in the 1940s.

Most of these young people were teachers, lawyers and students, including notables such as Anton Lembede, Walter Sisulu, Oliver Tambo, Nelson Mandela, Ashby Mda, Duma Nokwe, James Njongweni, Dan Tloome, Ida Mtwla, Lillian Ngoyi, William Nkomo and B. Masekela.

These young ANC members soon started canvassing the idea of forming a youth league of the ANC.

At the 1942 Annual Conference a resolution was passed calling for the formation of the ANC Youth League.

This was re-affirmed at the 1943 annual conference and the National Executive was mandated to facilitate the formation of both the Youth and Women`s Leagues. And the ANC Youth League was formally launched on the 2nd April 1944.

Soon after its formation, it moved from merely criticising the ineffectiveness of the ANC in challenging the white regime, and started proposing ways of transforming the ANC into a mass-based liberation movement.

Programme Director, 1949 became one of the most historic moments in the life of the ANC Youth League, when the ANC Conference in Bloemfontein adopted its more radical programme of action.

The Programme proposed the use of new tactics such as boycotts, strikes and civil disobedience, and formed the basis for the Defiance Campaign and the Congress of the People.

The Youth League was also influential in changing the leadership of the ANC.

In addition to being at the forefront in the formation of the Youth League, Nelson Mandela was also the first Commander in Chief of the ANC's uMkhonto we Sizwe (MK).

Nelson Mandela had continued to grow smarter as a young person and influenced thousands of youth. His influence led young people like Solomon Mahlangu to join MK as combatants against apartheid colonialism.

Unfortunately young Solomon Mahlangu on re-entry into South Africa was arrested, jailed, tortured and finally hanged by apartheid authorities in 1979 for his beliefs in freedom.

It is this same spirit of no surrender as that of Nelson Mandela that defined the young Solomon Mahlangu,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Pricilla Jana who had represented Solomon Mahlangu says this about him:

“He had, been brought up in abject poverty by his domestic worker mother, and abandoned by his father. He had sold apples and other goods on the streets to help support his family.

He had been picked up by police on the streets many times and arrested and beaten.

He was bright and sensitive, an intelligent youth who was conscious of the disparity and discrimination he and fellow black people were suffering”.

Many Heads of State and Governments - including several from the Western countries - as well as numerous organizations around the world appealed to the South African regime to spare the life of Solomon Mahlangu.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations made three appeals, and the Security Council of the United Nations held an unprecedented meeting to address a unanimous appeal to the Pretoria regime.

Yet, the South African regime went ahead with the execution in defiance of the world. On 6 April 1979, aged 23, Solomon Kalushi Mahlangu was executed.

On his way to the hangman's noose, his spirit unbroken by the long trial and the waiting thereafter, he had uttered these now historic words of continued defiance and I quote:

“My blood will nourish the tree that will bear the fruits of freedom. Tell my people that I love them and that they must continue the struggle. *Aluta continua* (the struggle continues)” unquote.

He was buried as pauper in Atteridgeville (west of Pretoria) instead of Mamelodi (east of Pretoria) where he grew up. The day of burial coincided with the celebration of the 327th year of the arrival of Jan Van Riebeeck in South Africa in 1652.

But why are we raising the matter of these two outstanding human beings who were a generation apart?

It is not only to raise the same consciousness among young people gathered here, but also to show the extent to which as youth you have a role to play both in your individual advancement as persons and also in advancing ideas and actions for progressive change.

Nelson Mandela and Solomon Mahlangu as a young men had dreams for the freedom of all their people, one of which was education.

Today we have been asked by the people of South Africa to nourish that dream of an educated youth.

But the road to that prosperity must be made relatively easy for all our youth by us as government, by parents, communities and above all by teachers.

This is especially important to us as government of the ANC which continues to effect important changes in South Africa in respect of leaders such as Nelson Mandela, Solomon Mahlangu and mama Albertina Sisulu, who would also be turning a hundred years old this year and thousands of others that fought apartheid.

Shova Kalula

Today we say many of our learners gathered here shall finally be able to cut their travel to and from school through the use of the bicycles we are here to receive. Let me briefly explain where “Shova Kalula” comes from.

The Shova Kalula National Bicycle programme was introduced as a pilot programme in 2001

The bicycle programme is an intervention to:

- Improve mobility and access to basic needs as well as social and economic opportunities for people especially in rural, remote and poorly resourced areas including learners.
- The initial target was 1 million bicycles by 2010.
- In support of the programme a number of bicycle maintenance shops were established in provinces to deal with issues of maintenance and job creation/SMME development.
- Shova Kalula is also part of a road safety initiative that promotes non-motorised transport, which is essential if we want to reduce traffic congestion on our roads.
- It must also be mentioned that the Programme comes with a road safety awareness and education programme for safety of our bicycle rides

Beneficiaries eligible for free bicycles:

- Prioritization of rural schools and schools in farm lands
- Learners who walk more than 3 km to schools but not more than 5km
- Youth (secondary and high schools)

Skills Development

Ladies and gentlemen,

Apart from easing travel for learners between home and school, we must also prioritise a future that shall allow the youth to develop and advance our country and thus secure their future.

We are however asked to pick an additional spear, that of economic progress, but also reminded of the skills needed.

The world demands more sophisticated products and services and there is therefore a great need for skilled people to produce these sophisticated services and products.

The newly elected President of the African National Congress, President Cyril Ramaphosa who is also the Deputy President of our country has made calls to ensure that we create jobs for our youth especially women youth.

To be specific the President of the ANC has made a call for the creation of one million jobs (in a three year cycle) for our youth.

Parents,

Like President Jacob Zuma, President Cyril Ramaphosa has also echoed the call for the following:

- Implementation of free higher education for the poor and middle class
- That the youth should feature centrally in all our work as government

- The strengthening of South Africa's manufacturing capacity by stimulating demand for locally produced products
- Industrialisation
- Building tourism and revitalising agriculture and mining among others

And because the population of the youth is beginning to overtake the number of older people, it means all services and goods we consume will have to be produced by young people.

Given this reality, parents and learners, it has become important for government of the ANC to prepare the means to enable the youth to find and develop skills.

But what are these skills that we need to develop and what are the avenues for training and employment that the Department of Transport is enabling?

The different modes of transport offer various opportunities for the advancement of our people especially the youth.

Roads and Road Transport

Agencies:

Road Traffic Infringement Agency

Road Traffic Management Corporation

Cross Border Road Traffic Agency

Road Accident Fund

South African National Road Agency Limited

South Africa's Road Network in km (2017):

Authority	Paved	Gravel	Total
SANRAL	22 203	0	21 946
Provinces – 9	46 548	226 273	272 821
Metros – 8	51 682	14 461	66 143
Municipalities	37 691	219 223	256 914
Proclaimed Total	158 124	459 957	618 081
Unproclaimed Total Estimate		131 919	131 919
Total	158 124	591 876	750 000

South Africa has the tenth largest road network in the world and ranks number 18 in the world for paved road network.

It is without question that roads carry vehicles bearing people and goods. The RTMC mentions:

- The total number of registered vehicles on the 31st of March 2017 stood at **12 047 404** compared to **11 818 124** in the same period in 2016.
- The number of registered drivers had increased by **507 002** presenting a new total of **12 283 777**.

- And it is an accepted fact that these roads also need to be made safe for all users, drivers, passengers and people, thus demanding an increase in traffic officials

Careers and skills in roads:

- Surveyors,
- Civil engineers, and
- Other skills include road traffic management skills

Road Traffic Management

Parents and teachers, the Department of Transport is fast growing a cohort of state of the art traffic police academies that shall endeavour to train and educate highly professional traffic management officials.

One such college has already been launched in Mpumalanga Province and training is ongoing.

Maritime Transport

Learners,

South Africa's coastline is about 3000kms long and its biggest out of the 8 ports we own, Durban handles South Africa's largest share of sea traffic. **Durban is visited by about 4,500 vessels yearly and about 8, 3000 containers per month.**

The Port of Durban conducts trade worth over \$45billion. According to the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa, it handled about 44.8 million tonnes of cargo in 2013-2014.

This is just one port. Our coastline carries vast potential, which has been identified for rapid results economic development through **Operation Phakisa, the oceans economy.**

While Durban is Africa's busiest port and the largest container facility in southern Africa, Richard's Bay is the world's largest bulk coal terminal.

Major shipping lanes pass along the South African coastline in the south Atlantic and Indian oceans. Approximately 96% of the country's exports are conveyed by sea.

The eight commercial ports are the conduits for trade between South Africa and its southern African partners as well as hubs for traffic to and from Europe, Asia, the Americas and the east and west coasts of Africa.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As the Department of Transport we believe maritime career guidance must be incorporated into the schools and tertiary levels with possibilities for absorption of interns by industry.

We are also to develop a flagship project branded:

“Youth in the Maritime Sector”, which must be pursued as part of developing a long term maritime industry-driven succession plan.

Specific programmes supporting the development of maritime entrepreneurship must be developed targeting the youth.

Towards this end and other ends we have entered into international and domestic agreements for training maritime transport skills such as with:

The World Maritime University in Sweden

International Maritime Law Institute in Malta

Plymouth University

Locally: Cape Peninsular University of Technology, and the Durban University of Technology as well as the Nelson Mandela University

Maritime Transport Careers and Skills

- Hydrography,
- Meteorology,
- Naval Architecture,
- Maritime Economics, and
- Many more enticing careers and skills in that sector, including different engineers and technicians.

Rail

Agencies:

Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa

Rail Safety Regulator

The South African rail network is the 11th largest in the world at 22 298 route kilometres and a track distance of 30 400 kms.

There is ongoing large scale overhaul of passenger rail with a fleet renewal programme of 7200 new trains managed by PRASA. This will involve the revitalisation of this industry through local manufacturing and supply of components.

This will also involve upgrades to the rail network to allow for new coaches with upgraded features.

Skills in Rail:

- Train drivers,
- Train control officers,
- Rail engineers,
- Artisans, and rail technicians among others.

The Transnet School of Rail offers these courses.

The PRASA new training centre in Dunnator in Ekurhuleni will contribute to the skills development in rail.

Aviation Agencies:

South African Civil Aviation Authority

Airports Company South Africa

Air Traffic Navigation Services

The Economic Importance of Air Travel

In South Africa air transportation supports **490 000 jobs and US\$12bn and an equivalent of 170 billion rands a year** towards our Gross domestic product (GDP), which is civil aviation's contribution to the value of all economic activity in South Africa.

ACSA an entity of the Department of Transport is responsible for managing the country's airports.

Recognition by global institutions through audits of South Africa's aviation safety and security has proven our capability and commitment to produce the highest standards

A look at OR Tambo Airport gives partly a real window into air traffic in South Africa.

In the 2016/2017 financial year this has seen the following passenger numbers

International departures and arrivals: **8 974 372**

Regional departures and arrivals: **931 594**

Domestic departures and arrivals: **10 703 205**

This gives a grand total of **20 692 780** passengers in that financial year alone

This will require a sustained development of skills and support for aviation academies. We will require more:

Pilots,

- **Aeronautical engineers,**
- **Air traffic controllers,**
- **Air traffic navigators, and other aviation professionals.**

Careers in Transport and Admission Requirements

The following are some examples of other careers that exist within the transport sector.

- Road, Rail, Aviation and Maritime Technical Expertise
- Maritime Search and Rescue
- Transport Planning
- Transport Economics
- Specialisations in Land and Public Transport
- Freight Logistics

- Transport Management

These specialised options in transport careers demand the following school subjects:

- Mathematics (Pure) for technical areas
- Physical science
- Geography
- English
- Economics

Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with Institutions of Learning

The higher learning institutions that directly share our skills development goals include the following:

- University of Johannesburg (UJ)
- Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)
- North West University (NWU)
- University of South Africa (UNISA)
- Cape Peninsular University of Technology (CPTU)
- University of Cape Town (UCT)
- University of Stellenbosch (SU)
- University of Fort Hare (UFH)

- Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University of Technology (NMMU)
- Durban University of Technology (DUT)
- University of Zululand (UNIZULU)

And we should be reminded that by skills we do not mean only how you produce for someone. It could also mean the business skills that you use to provide people with a service or a product.

Financial Assistance and Enrolment

Programme Director,

We believe that resources should always be in place to assist those who want to better their chances in the economy.

Between 2015 and 2016 we funded 803 students; while between 2016 and today we have funded 800 more students and even greater numbers will be funded in the near future.

Some students have already completed their studies at the end of the previous academic year in some of these fields and others:

- **National Diploma in Transport Management**
- **BCom Transport Economics**
- **BTech Transport Economics BCom Logistics**
- **BCom Hon Logistics**

- **National Diploma in Transport Logistics**
- **Diploma in Transport Management**
- **National Diploma in civil Engineering**
- **Masters in Engineering**
- **PhD in Engineering**
- **Masters in Engineering (Transport) and**
- **Others.**

These are offered at the partner institutions I have mentioned.

There are however critically important skills required with greater urgency and therefore immediate. These include:

Transport Engineers (Rail, Road Maritime and aviation)	Aircraft Maintenance Engineers
Freight Managers	Avionics Engineers
Technical Projects & contract managers	Supply and distribution managers
Transport Managers	Marine designers
Transport operations	Aeronautical Engineers

Air Transport Professionals (e.g. pilots, air traffic controllers)	Corporate General Managers (including very senior managers)
Marine Transport professionals (e.g. ship masters, ship engineers)	Corporate Service Managers (Admin and Business),

Other Partnerships

Equally important is that we have also gotten into partnerships with Technical Schools, TVET Colleges and the Transport Education and Training Authority TETA in order to expand our options beyond universities.

The TETA has gotten into further agreements with institutions such as the WITS Business School and the Pi Company for the International Leadership Development Programme based in South Africa and the Netherlands.

In addition, the TETA has partnered with the Belgian Technical Agency for Integrated Logistics and Ports Management.

In the 2016 and 2017 academic years 22 engineers were receiving training in Ahlstrom in Europe and Brazil and 14 post-graduate students have been sent to World Maritime University (WMU) in Sweden.

Learners,

The South African Maritime Authority (SAMSA) an entity of the Department of transport has entered into partnerships with the Department of Basic Education for the development of maritime oriented vocational studies. This is offered at assumption of grade nine or grade ten.

Other opportunities are in the form of internships and placement's in environments of actual work.

Internship Placement

In the 2017/18 financial year 38 interns have been employed by the Department of Transport and 12 in municipalities.

For the 2018/19 Financial year 69 interns have been recruited, 40 of which into the National Department of Transport and 20 in municipalities.

Skills remain key to making South Africa a dynamic country that will be able to compete with other countries on a level footing.

We have already shown the world what we are really made of.

Achievements

Programme Director, please allow me to mention a few of our achievements as a department and as country.

- The CEO of ACSA, Mr Bongani Maseko was on the 23rd October 2017 elected as **Chair of Airports Council**

International (ACI) at the 27th ACI World Annual General Assembly. Airports Council International (ACI) is the only global trade representative of the world's airports.

- The CEO of the Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS), Mr Thabani Mthiyani serves as Chairperson of Civil Air Navigation Services Organization (CANSO) Africa Region and an Executive Committee member of CANSO Global.
- The Director of the South African Civil Aviation Authority, Ms Poppy Khoza served as Chairperson of the ICAO Aviation Security Panel
- We have recently been audited by ICAO on matters of aviation security in south Africa and passed that with flying colours achieving 86.71% preliminarily from 83.83%
- The 86, 71% is significantly higher than the world average of 60%. This puts South Africa at position **Number 1** in Africa, and 33 globally out of 195 countries.
- Our 3 international airports, OR Tambo, Durban and Cape Town featuring in the top 40 of all airports globally with the Cape Town International Airport rated 19th in the world
- In the Maritime transport sector, South Africa has been re-elected into the International Maritime Organization's (IMO's) Council under category "C"

These show the extent to which we are not only respected in matters of political governance, including a globally enviable constitution, but also in how we run the business of government.

It is such leadership and governance that we wish to reproduce from among our youth.

We hope that learners will take these home and think hard about the future and commitment required in your learning.

Thank you