

TALKING POINTS: TIBIYO TAKA NGWANE'S CHAIRMAN OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

Members of the Main Committee

Management

Staff

Good afternoon all. It is my heartfelt honour to be in your company this afternoon, on a very special day like this one.

- I know that this is a moment that we have been all looking forward to, a day when we all take time to share and reflect on the year 2018.
- Before I proceed further, I wish to thank God for keeping us safe and together even this year.
- Our staff and management have generally been healthy and safe, and all this was through his mercy and favour.
- I wish to convey our condolences to those colleagues who lost their loved ones during the course of the year.
- This year, the Kingdom of Eswatini commemorated its Golden Jubilee, marking 50 years of independence.
- This is a very important milestone in the country's historical timeline, as it presents our nation with an opportunity to reflect on its past, at the same time re-launch itself in preparation for a better future.
- As an organisation, we are proud to have walked side by side with the nation of Eswatini all these years, supporting and where necessary, initiating programmes and investments that defined our identity as a people, while spearheading our growth.
- This journey has not been easy, and it remains tough. The economy, as the MD has highlighted, is under serious threat from global economic factors.
- We need to be alive to the prevailing situation as a nation, and we must renew our thinking and way of doing business, review our economic and development strategies, and use all resources at our disposal responsibly and sparingly.

- On behalf of the organisation, we wish to thank His Majesty the King and Her Majesty Indovukazi for their wise and passionate leadership through the year. They continued to demonstrate that their hearts are fully in this organisation
- Our work, even this year, confirmed our commitment to our mandate and vision statement, for which we are heartily indebted to our management, staff and partners.
- On the business front, we are all aware that Tibiyo Taka Ngwane has been facing an escalating challenge presented by a stagnated economy and fiscal deficit.
- As a key player in the social and economic life of this nation, we are, understandably concerned by the current state of affairs, because nobody understands the dire implications it brings to our people than our organisation.
- We, however, remain optimistic and encouraged by the steps taken by this Kingdom to rectify these challenges.
- We are encouraged by the renewed vigour shown by the nation, which elected a parliament that it trusts will turn things around.
- We congratulate His Majesty Ingwenyama for this year's Sibaya, which brought together emaSwati to share bright ideas, thoughts and solutions to the challenges facing the country.
- May I, on behalf of the Main Committee, congratulate His Excellency the Right Honourable Prime Minister for winning the hearts of His Majesty Ingwenyama and the entire nation to entrust him with the task of being the nation's head of government.
- We wish him and his cabinet the best, and continue to pledge our support to the government's programme of social and economic development.
- This year's cabinet is extremely special to us as an organisation. We have four members of the Main Committee, who now serve as Honourable Ministers.
- We congratulate Honourable Ministers, His Royal Highness Prince Simelane, Chief Ndaluhlaza Ndwandwe, Mr Manqoba Khumalo and Mr Neal Rijkenberg on their cabinet appointments.

- Their appointment is not only historic, but it also demonstrates His Majesty's confidence in the governance of this organisation.
- I wish to assure the Honourable Prime Minister that this is a broad-minded and hard-working team that boasts immeasurable experience, wisdom, leadership and patriotism.
- The Main Committee appreciates the work and efforts of our management and staff in keeping the organisation in shape, especially as we struggled to recover from the long-term effects of drought, economic hardship and market instability.
- We are encouraged by the resilience shown by this organisation in ensuring that even as we continue to face a tough environment, we still pursued our economic, social and cultural mandate.
- We continued, even this year, to look after the vulnerable populations of our society by sustaining our bursary and scholarship support programmes, which are an important investment in the young people of this country.
- Colleagues, management and staff, this year, one of our longest serving employees and General Manager Winston Lomahoza is retiring.
- On behalf of all of us, I wish to thank him for the many years of service to the organisation.
- We appreciate all your technical expertise and general wisdom that you shared with our organisation during your service, and wish you the best as you turn a new page in your life.
- We believe that you will not be lost to the organisation and the country.
- We will continue to count on your institutional memory and wisdom even as you retire.
- I thank all of you for supporting our traditional ceremonies, Umhlanga, Buganu and Incwala.
- Your vigour and commitment is being recognised, not only by the Main Committee, but also by His Majesty Ingwenyama and Her Majesty Indlovukazi.
- The Main Committee thanks you all for representing the Tibiyo Taka Ngwane brand at all levels of our business.
- We wish to encourage you to work even harder next year.

- As we come to the end of the year, I would like to convey our warm message of goodwill over the festive season, as you take time off to be with your loved ones.
- Please use this time to rest so that you come back re-energised in 2019.
- I would like to encourage all of you to join Ingwenyama and Her Majesty Indlovukazi and the Nation in celebrating our annual Incwala ceremony, which plays a key role in uniting the nation.
- In conclusion, I like to wish all of you a Joyous and safe Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

God bless you all