

**Department of Human Settlements Budget Debate Vote 38 in the National Assembly by
Hon. V. Bam-Mugwanyana**

7 May 2015

Hon Speaker

Chairperson

Hon Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa Mr Cyril Ramaphosa

Minister of Human Settlements - Hon. Lindiwe Sisulu

Deputy Minister of Human Settlements - Hon Zoe Kota-Fredericks

Honourable Members

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Afternoon

Apha ndizokuxhasa uBudget 38 we Human Settlements. Ndizokungqina, ndisekezelela ke lengxoxo xa ndizakulanda ngentsusa yoqulo loqulunqo lwezigqibo nomnqophiso owenziwa mhlanikezweni kwaqingqiswa iFreedom Charter eKliptown ngo 1955.

Ngokwezigqibo nomnqophiso we Freedom Charter kwavunyelwana ngokuba kwezomeko zocinezelo lwabaNtsundu koobakho nesisiqinisekiso esithi "kulilungelo ukuba abantu bayokuba nezindlu, ukhuseleko nobuntofo-ntofo".

Kungoko ke U ANC akungena ezintanjeni ngo 1994 waseka iSebe lezezindlu nemithetho elawula oko. uANC uthe gqolo ke ukuncothula neengcambu ubandlululo ngokwendawo zokuhlala olwalusenziwa ziRulumente zamandulo.

Kungoko ke ndizakutyatyadula ngalemitsi uKhongolose ayithathayo minyaka le ukuqinisekisa ukuba abantu bakhelwe izindlu zodidi oluncomekayo kwesisigaba esithile apha eMzantsi, ndigxininisa kulo mba wokuqinisekisa ukuthi nabo abasematyotyombeni bayaphuculelwa yabe baneziqinisekiso zobuniniMzi.

Ewe ayanyevulelwa engcikovwa amatyotyombe nentlalo yawo kodwa uluntu lunga lungaqaphela lukhumbule ukuba nentlalo matyoyombeni le, nayo iyimiphumela yengcinezelo yangaphambili ngakumbi eka 1913 yolohlutho mihlaba, eyenziwa yintlupheko, naxakuzingelwa amathuba engqesho ngabantu ababaleka indlala emaphandleni abharhileyo. Azindidi ngendidi ke nawo, ngxatsho ke kungelula ukukuwabandakanya ngentambo enye.

Informal Settlements are highly differentiated in terms of location, levels, vulnerability and social structures. The generalisation of their solutions is not viable as it would be most cost intensive.

The ANC asserted in its 2014 January 8th statement that "Bold Programmes will be implemented to promote better located mixed income housing projects, improving housing conditions for the poor in all informal settlements for unlocking well located land especially state land, for affordable housing. Amongst these are provisions of One million(1m) housing opportunities for qualifying household over the next five years promoting integrated public transport and accelerating the roll out of infrastructure in rural areas and informal settlements. This will be accompanied by further provision of basic services and infrastructure in existing informal settlements and connecting additional homes to the electricity grid".

The ANC further committed to "accelerate the provision of basic services and infrastructure in all existing informal settlements" to fulfill the 2014 Elections Manifesto of "A Better Life For All And Together We Move South Africa Forward".

Chairperson

The legacy of separate development, division and exclusion in which resources past governments of the apartheid regime enforced have to be defeated and obliterated. The legacy of apartheid spatial patterns and the changes of rapid urbanisation must be dealt with through integrated urban development. The ANC over the years since the democratic breakthrough has built free houses for the poor. ANC has undertaken to improve living conditions through its programs of the Department

of Human Settlements. In this regard, informal settlements must be formalised, upgraded and that basic services be provided to them.

However, eradication of informal settlements and the bucket system remain critical for the improvement of lives of some South Africans. In the next five (5) years the ANC will continue to expand access to housing and integrated Human Settlements, expansion of access to water, sanitation and electricity through the "Informal Settlements Upgrading Program". There are no quick fixes for spatial transformations but careful consideration of how and where we build infrastructure and housing could change the trajectories of spatial development and considerable gains for ordinary citizens and the national economy.

The ANC led government, despite all the challenges it was confronted with since its assumption of power, has made considerable strides in the development of holistic human settlements. Examples of this holistic human settlement provision include the Projects like the N2 Gateway, the Vulindlela Settlement, Cosmo City, etc. to mention but a few. What a good story!!

Chairperson

Also, according to Census 2011 data, there is vivid indication that the number of households living in shacks has stabilized Nationally through the Provinces. On average those shack dwellers registered in Census 2011 are recorded to have upgraded from 2001 into better dwellings. By far, the most significant improvement has been the access to electricity. In 2001 Census data reveals that, 37% of households in shacks had electricity. This percentage had increased to 43% in 2011 although a significant number had upgraded from shacks to improved housing- free housing at that. What a Manna from the ANC!!

Outcome 8 recognises that Informal Settlements provide land and urban opportunities for the poor, but implementation remains slow. In terms of the progress report the MTSF 2014 -2019 it has been noted that one of the key challenges when it came to sustainable human settlement is "the weak performance in upgrading informal settlements.

It has been proposed that the "National Upgrading Support Program (NUSP) must integrate its support with the Extended Peoples Housing Project (PHP) and the metros informal settlement upgrading (Using The Settlements Development Program- USDP) to accelerate delivery and correct the slow delivery.

The National Development Plan (NDP) notes that "the informal settlement upgrading program will be scaled up and a more coherent multi-segmented social rental housing program which includes backyard rentals, be put in place.

TITLE DEEDS

Honourable Chairperson

The elimination of Title Deeds Backlog remains a colossal challenge and contributes to informal sales and undermining of the integrity of the entire Deeds Registry system. The relevant government spheres will eliminate the backlog of Title Deeds. New home owners in the subsidy market will be issued with the title deeds on legal occupation per genuine and approved Lists.

One of the goals that are set out in order to achieve the vision of sustainable Human Settlements and improve quality of life with the medium term 2014-2019 is that the Title Deeds for all 563,000 new subsidy units as well as the backlog of 900 000 title deeds in the integrated residential housing program will be transferred over within this period.

Chairperson

Also the ANC government has made some advances in ensuring the secondary property market as suggest by the Breaking New Ground (BNG) policy. Research by the Urban Land Market (2011) suggests that about 1,44 million housing beneficiaries have Title Deeds to their properties by now.

In conclusion, Chairperson, the NEC Lekgotla of June 2014 provided an analysis that notes that there is poor performance with the subsidy housing title deed transfer as well as slow progress defining the implementation plan to outstanding title Deeds.

Kubantu abakule ngxuba ka xaka sithi mabanyamezele, ukuba nomonde kunomvuzo. Ngxee. Lo Rulumente we ANC uzokuzixazulula zonke ezingxakana. Siyaqhuba

Enkosi.

I support the Budget Vote 38.