

**ADDRESS TO THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE ON THE OCCASION  
OF TABLING OF THE 2022/23 SECOND ADJUSTMENT BILL AND  
THE 2023 NORTHERN CAPE MAIN APPROPRIATION BILL, BY  
MR A VOSLOO (MPL), MEC FOR FINANCE, ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

**HONOURABLE SPEAKER & DEPUTY SPEAKER,  
HONOURABLE PREMIER, DR ZAMANI SAUL,  
MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,  
HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE,  
EXECUTIVE MAYORS, MAYORS AND COUNCILLORS,  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL, HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS & MUNICIPAL  
MANAGERS,  
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,  
COMRADES AND FRIENDS,  
MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA,  
OUR LISTENERS AND VIEWERS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

## Goeie middag

### Introduction

**Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members**, as we commemorate human rights month, I am starkly reminded of the sentiments expressed by our late President, Dr. Nelson Mandela during his inaugural State of the Nation Address in 1994: “the time will come when our nation honour the memory of all the sons, the daughters, the mothers, the fathers, the youth and the children who, by their thoughts and deeds, gave us the right to assert with pride that we are South Africans, that we are Africans and that we are citizens of the world”.

Tata Madiba in honour of an Afrikaner woman who transcended a particular experience and became a South African, an African and a citizen of the world, called Ingrid Jonker, a poet an artist and a human being. This was in the aftermath of the massacre at the anti-pass demonstration in Sharpeville where Ingrid Jonker wrote that:

"The child is not dead  
the child lifts his fists against his mother  
who shouts Africa!...

The child is not dead  
Not at Langa nor at Nyanga  
nor at Orlando nor at Sharpeville  
nor at the police post at Philippi  
where he lies with a bullet through his brain...

the child is present at all assemblies and law-giving  
the child peers through the windows of houses  
and into the hearts of mothers

this child who only wanted to play in the sun at Nyanga  
is everywhere

the child grown to a man treks on through all Africa  
the child grown to a giant journeys  
over the whole world  
without a pass!"

Today we table this Provincial Budget in the month that we commemorate human rights with profound significance for so many reasons. In the midst of despair, Ingrid Jonker celebrated hope, confronted with death, and asserted the beauty of life.

**Honourable Speaker**, this is a reminder of how far we have come since the Covid-19 pandemic was declared, and we entered a nationwide lockdown to contain its spread. In the face of adversity and hopelessness, we remained resolute and endeavoured to continue our journey of the liberation of the woman, the emancipation of the man and the liberty of the child.

**Honourable Speaker**, as affirmation of the 6th administration's commitment to an entrenched human rights culture, we must continue to create a people-centred society of liberty that binds us to the pursuit of the goals of freedom from want, freedom from hunger, freedom from deprivation, freedom from ignorance, freedom from suppression and freedom from fear. These freedoms are fundamental to the guarantee of human dignity of all our people.

**Honourable Speaker**, when we crafted this budget, we were inspired by the hope that our people could join together to build better communities towards the provision of a better life for all. We were pleased and

encouraged by the Honourable Premier, Dr Saul's, State of the Province pronouncements that serves as the basis for these proposed allocations in our pursuit of building a modern, growing and successful Northern Cape Province.

Let me also say upfront that we are not tabling an austerity budget here today, albeit having to provide for the projected deficit of **R150 million** in the 2023/24 financial year, which we have now completely managed to offset in a neutral fiscal policy stance. **Honourable Members**, in other words, in balancing the budget, we have not reduced baselines of departments, and furthermore, we have not compromised our liquidity levels as a province. If anything, **Honourable Members**, we are tabling a better fiscal outlook since the end of the pandemic and our fiscal framework now allows us to provide additional resources to some of our emerging priorities on which I will provide more detail later in the proposed allocations.

**Honourable Members**, a lot of work has gone into the review of the provincial equitable share formula and we continue to agitate our position vigorously as a province to advocate for the costs associated with rendering services considering the spatial context of our province. This work has led to additional resources resulting from the sparsity factor which is now included in the health component of the formula. We expect this work to continue given that the review is still ongoing.

**Honourable Speaker**, the departments of Health and Education continue to drive our expenditure as a province and together absorbs 72 percent of the equitable share and own revenue sources allocated to departments during the 2023/24 financial year. This share increases to 80 percent when you account for the remaining social sector departments.

## **Economic Outlook**

**Honourable Speaker**, global output is estimated to have expanded by 3.4 percent in 2022 according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). They further anticipate growth of 2.9 percent in 2023 and 3.1 percent in 2024. Advanced economies grew by an estimated 2.7 percent in 2022, and are projected to grow by 1.2 percent in 2023 and 1.4 percent in 2024. Emerging market and developing economies experienced a 3.9 percent output expansion in 2022 and are expected to grow by 4.0 percent in 2023 and 4.2 percent in 2024. In Sub-Saharan Africa, output expanded by an estimated 3.8 percent in 2022 and is expected to grow by 3.8 percent in 2023 and 4.1 percent in 2024, whilst South Africa's estimated and forecast growth is lower.

**Honourable Speaker**, according to National Treasury, the South African economy is estimated to have grown by 2.5 percent in 2022 and is forecast to grow by only 0.9 percent in 2023, 1.5 percent in 2024 and 1.8 percent in 2025. There are various factors affecting national economic activity at the moment, including increases in the repo rate aimed at combating inflation, accelerated levels of inflation and the negative impact of load shedding. These factors make it difficult for the private sector to grow and makes it more expensive for government to deliver services.

**Honourable Speaker**, in January 2023, the annual inflation rate stood at 6.9 percent, which was 0.3 of a percentage point lower than in December 2022. Such high inflation puts further pressure on the Monetary Policy Committee and the South African Reserve Bank to increase interest rates.

**Honourable Speaker**, in the fourth quarter of 2022, South Africa's unemployment rate was 32.7 percent, which is 0.2 of a percentage point less than a quarter earlier and 2.6 percentage points less than a year

before. It is also a matter of note that at the end of last year, the provincial unemployment rate was just more than ten percentage points lower than the national rate at 22.1 percent. On a quarterly basis, from the third quarter of 2022, the provincial unemployment rate decreased by 4.3 percentage points with the number of employed individuals increasing by 12 000, the number of unemployed individuals decreasing by 21 000 and the number of discouraged work-seekers increasing by 9 000.

**Honourable Members**, this is a clear indication that we are on track with our developmental trajectory and these numbers speak volumes. We must ensure that we sustain these gains and further build on this good work. The Northern Cape has the lowest unemployment rate in the country, which bears testimony to the daily hard work of the ANC led provincial government, under the active leadership of our activist Premier, Dr. Zamani Saul. We are indeed pushing our developmental agenda as a province.

**Honourable Speaker**, the largest employing industry in the province was the community and social services industry, employing 31.6 percent of the total employed individuals, followed by trade, employing 16.4 percent. The smallest employing industries were utilities and manufacturing, employing 0.6 and 3.3 percent respectively of the provincial work force. Compared to a year earlier, employment increased in nearly all industries, with the *trade, transport, agriculture, and construction* industries each employing an additional 10 000 or more people.

## **Financial Governance**

**Honourable Speaker**, in the 2022 budget speech, I announced that provincial government would adopt a differentiated approach towards improving provincial audit outcomes.

**Honourable Members**, I am proud to report that the intervention initiated by the Provincial Government has yielded positive results. The number of clean audit reports increased from three (3) to four (4) and the number of qualified audit reports reduced from three (3) to two (2) in the 2021/22 audit cycle. This is indeed something to celebrate, as these improvements reflect a government that is transparent and accountable to its citizenry. The province will apply this approach until all the provincial departments receive unqualified audits without any matters.

**Honourable Speaker**, despite the improvements realised by the province, we are still marred by a number of challenges relating to weak compliance with financial laws and regulations especially in the discipline of Supply Chain Management. This area requires targeted intervention to reduce the level of unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure. To this end, we are committed to continue with the implementation of relevant financial management capacity building initiatives to equip financial practitioners to implement good financial management practices.

## **Provincial Internal Audit and Audit Committees**

**Honourable Speaker**, the Internal Audit Activity in the Province will continue with their risk-based audits and assistance towards clean administration. It will conduct audits for improvements in governance, internal controls and risk management at departments and entities. This unit has just been awarded the highest quality rating in the professional practice of Internal Auditing by the independent quality assurance, which is undertaken every 5 years. The Northern Cape is one of the few provinces to receive this accolade.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Provincial Audit Committees will continue with their oversight and advice function. An additional oversight meeting has been added in September for a specific review of the audit action plans as part of efforts towards achieving clean audits. The Audit Committees contribute positively by elevating their oversight reports to accounting officers and members of the Executive Council on a quarterly basis.

## **Fight Against Corruption**

Fighting fraud, corruption and other financial crimes remains central to our work. With the encouragement and active support of the Premier on the institutionalisation of this fight, we will continue to implement various measures such as the following:

- Deploy officials from Provincial Treasury to attend and observe proceedings in all three-bid committees in all the departments;
- Publish critical bid information in the Treasury portal for the public to access during the bid processes in all tender bids in the provincial government;

- Coordination of risk management activities across departments, which include areas susceptible to the risk of fraud;
- Use of the independent Internal Audit Activity, reporting functionally to the Independent Audit Committee, dominated by independent members outside the public service;
- Conducting advocacy workshops and seminars to create awareness on the reporting obligations on fraud and corruption; and
- Sharing information and supporting the law enforcement agencies.

We believe the previously mentioned efforts have a deterrent effect in the fight against corrupt practices and other financial crimes.

### **Municipal Finance**

**Honourable Speaker**, the department is in the final stages of restructuring the municipal programme that is meant to enhance hands-on and results-driven support to municipalities within the province.

**Honourable Speaker**, we will continue to support municipalities in areas that will ensure the timely submission of credible and reliable financial statements. We have noted that municipalities are not submitting financial statements on time due to different reasons, however, as Provincial Treasury, it is crucial that we enforce compliance and assist municipalities to submit financial statements at the legislated timeframes.

**Honourable Speaker**, in order to address this challenge and the many others that municipalities may be faced with, Provincial Treasury will be looking for a panel of experts that will be readily available to provide assistance to municipalities as soon as we discover that there is a need for assistance.

**Honourable Speaker**, we note that our municipalities continue to table unfunded budgets that are in contravention of Section 18 of the Municipal Finance Management Act, stipulating that a municipality's annual budget must be 'funded', and identifies three possible funding sources.

**Honourable Speaker**, as part of our role, we will enhance our monitoring in supporting municipalities to draft credible funded budgets.

**Honourable Speaker**, allow me to indicate that Municipal Councils need to play a role in ensuring that they approve budgets that are funded, as this will assist them in fulfilling their constitutional role of delivering sustainable services to their communities.

As Provincial Treasury, we will continue to do budget assessments and provide feedback and guidance to municipalities in the quest of tabling funded and credible budgets.

## **Provincial Fiscal Framework: 2023 MTEF**

### **Infrastructure**

**Honourable Speaker**, the importance of infrastructure investment has become paramount to the economic recovery of our province. There is an even greater need to develop an integrated infrastructure growth path, as it will provide us with a clear direction in terms of the developmental nodes in the province and the impact thereof on our economy. This will allow us to better plan and source the necessary funding to realise our objectives in terms of the value proposition of infrastructure and the effective delivery and management thereof.

## **Frontloading and other innovative funding solutions**

**Honourable Speaker**, The President of the Republic of South Africa and the Minister of Finance announced frontloading and other innovative funding solutions for infrastructure development in their respective 2022 State of the Nation Address (SONA) and budget speech. The President and Finance Minister specifically cited the Northern Cape and Eastern Cape Provinces as pilot sites for the implementation of the aforementioned policy announcements, for later replication to other provinces. Extensive work was undertaken in this regard. We established a Northern Cape Front Loading Team consisting of key affected Heads of Department and technical staff, chaired by the Treasury Head Official to coordinate the different phases of frontloading.

- We are busy with the first phase of frontloading (involving the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (COGHSTA)) which has been approved by the two investment committees of the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA), still to be presented to the final Committee. It will then be presented to the National Treasury's coordinating committee chaired by the Minister of Finance and consisting of all 9 MECs of Finance.
- The second phase involving key departments such as the Departments of Roads and Public Works, Health and Education will follow as soon as the first phase is completed.

## **Procurement**

**Honourable Speaker, Members** will recall that the Constitutional Court declared in February 2022 that the Minister of Finance's 2017 regulations in relation to the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (PPPFA) are illegal and invalid. The invalidity of the regulations were suspended for 12 months to provide the Minister with adequate time to proclaim new regulations.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Minister has released the revised Preferential Procurement Regulations 2022 on 4 November 2022, which came into effect on 16 January 2023. In order to ensure that various organs of state are aware of the provisions of these regulations and for smooth implementation and updating of supply chain management policies, National Treasury in conjunction with Provincial Treasury have already conducted induction sessions during November 2022 with all the departments, entities and municipalities in the province.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Constitution of South Africa provides for the protection and advancement of persons or categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination. Accounting officers and accounting authorities of provincial departments, public entities and municipalities must ensure that procurement opportunities are advanced to people of the Northern Cape that were historically disadvantaged; excluded from opportunities and discriminated against on the basis of race, gender and disability. The vulnerable groups in the Northern Cape Province, namely women, youth and people living with disabilities must be afforded opportunities to participate in the procurement processes of the State in order to achieve the objectives of economic growth, eradication of poverty and the creation of jobs.

**Honourable Speaker**, the provincial government is the province's largest single buyer of goods, services and construction works and this has the potential, through procurement activities, to redress the economic imbalances of the past and to stimulate and promote local economic development especially amongst women, youth, people living with disabilities and small and medium size business.

**Honourable Speaker**, during the 2022/23 financial year, the Northern Cape Provincial Government has thus far spent an amount of **R3.5 billion** on public procurement of goods and services. A total number of 3 385 suppliers were used in the procurement process.

The top three (3) commodities that were procured during the said period were infrastructure, safety and security and medicine inventory.

**Honourable Speaker**, of the **R3.5 billion**, 17.9 percent was spent on women owned companies, 5.2 percent on youth owned companies and 0.2 percent on companies owned by people living with disabilities. 53.2 percent was spent on companies that are owned by black people.

At the end of quarter two of 2022/23, 42.9 percent of procurement funds were spent in the province, followed by Gauteng with 37.3 percent and Free State with 10 percent. Some of our challenges that inhibits us from gravitating towards the provincial target of 60 percent include the lack of capacity of provincial Small Medium and Micro Enterprises to participate in procurement opportunities in a sustainable manner, failure by our SMMEs to meet requirements in particular to the bidding process in relation to pricing and technical aspects of the process. **Honourable Members**, we have committed to a strategy to develop SMMEs to become more competitive in the bidding processes. To this end, Provincial Treasury will also embark on a market analysis to identify a

supplier base comprising of women, youth and people living with disabilities. This we will do in conjunction with the new ministry in the Office of the Premier. We are doing everything in our power to ensure that we reach our target of 60 percent.

### **Health Intervention System Clean-up**

**Honourable Speaker**, data integrity is a crucial element of sound financial management. In order to ensure that credible financial information is used in the financial management related processes, Provincial Treasury has employed unemployed accounting graduates, using the Office of the Premier databases as a source of supply, to embark on a data clean-up process on the transversal systems namely BAS, LOGIS and PERSAL at the Department of Health. This process will bring about improved credibility and reliance on system information, which is currently a shortcoming in the said department.

### **Budget Aggregate Estimates**

**Honourable Speaker**, let me re-iterate government's priorities in the medium term, which entail:

- Promoting economic recovery while returning public finances to a sustainable path;
- Investment in job creation with specific focus on designated groups;
- Supporting economic growth by continuing with the cost-effective fiscal stance;
- Progressively reducing the province's debt obligations;
- Shifting resources towards infrastructure; and

- Fighting corruption and other financial crimes.

**Honourable Speaker**, the total budget of the province over the next three years amounts to **R64.2 billion**, with an average growth rate of 2.7 percent. The total national transfers for this period accounts for 97.2 percent of the provincial budget, or **R62.4 billion**. Of this amount, **R47.3 billion** is in the form of equitable share and **R15.1 billion** is in the form of conditional grants. Equitable share thus remains the largest driving force behind the budget of the Northern Cape as it accounts for 73.7 percent of the total budget, with conditional grants accounting for 23.5 percent. As an important funding mechanism for provincial priorities, provincial own revenue augments the provincial budget with **R1.6 billion** over the 2023 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), contributing 2.5 percent to the budget. The remaining 0.4 percent or **R225 million** came from provincial own funding and ensured that specific and targeted programmes, aimed mainly at youth, women and people living with disabilities, got additional funding.

**Honourable Speaker**, there is a net increase of **R451.4 million** in the budget of the province due to adjustments to the baseline because of new data updates in the provincial equitable share formula. A further addition of **R2 billion** is made to the equitable share of the province to fund various policy interventions in the social sector and to provide for the carry-through of the improvement of condition of service over the 2023 MTEF.

**Honourable Speaker**, the average growth of the provincial equitable share is 4.2 percent over the 2023 MTEF. Conditional grants have a low average growth of 0.2 percent, as there is a reduction in conditional grants allocated to the province in the second year of the MTEF, which is

followed by a larger increase in the last year. The own revenue of the province is set to grow on average by 4 percent.

**Honourable Speaker**, as I alluded to earlier, own revenue plays an important part in augmenting national transfers and supporting provincial priorities. Own revenue collection has been a challenge in the past for some of the provincial departments, with the economic hardship brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic and high unemployment rates also affecting people's ability to pay for services rendered by government. It is for this reason that Provincial Treasury has, in consultation with the other departments, developed a Revenue Enhancement Strategy for the Northern Cape in order to assist in accelerating and optimising own revenue collection in the province. The strategy can however only be successful if all the departments are committed to supporting and implementing it to increase the own revenue base of the province.

**Honourable Speaker**, through the commitment of the provincial government to invest in infrastructure development, an amount of **R8.7 billion** has been spent on infrastructure from the 2019/20 until 2022/23 financial years, with a revised estimate of **R3 billion** in the 2022/23 financial year. The aggregated projected infrastructure spending over the MTEF amounts to **R9.6 billion**, with **R3.3 billion** to be spent in the 2023/24 financial year, **R3.1 billion** in the 2024/25 financial year and **R 3.2 billion** in the 2025/26 financial year.

## **Summary of Departmental Allocations**

**Honourable Speaker**, I will now provide a summary of spending allocations included in this budget framework for the next three years.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) continues to be one of government's essential ways to address the social welfare gap, thereby lessening the levels of poverty and unemployment in the province. For the 2023/24 financial year, the programme has been allocated **R31.7 million** to create work opportunities.

## **Governance and Administration Sector**

The Governance and Administration Sector is allocated **R3.7 billion** over the MTEF, which includes earmarked funding of **R16.5 million** to the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison towards the revenue enhancement strategy.

**Honourable Speaker**, the ultimate goal of government is to ensure that there is equality between groups, especially those that were neglected by the system, and this is directly in line with the Millennium Development Goals. As such, the Honourable Premier announced the establishment of the new ministry that will be responsible for women, youth, people living with disabilities, communications and e-government. The necessary resources have been made available to the Office of the Premier over the MTEF to establish the new ministry.

## Social Sector

**Honourable Speaker**, 74.7 percent of the 2023/24 financial year's allocations inclusive of conditional grants are directed to the social sector. This government remains committed to prioritising the social sector in order to address poverty and inequality. As such, the sector is allocated **R47.4 billion** over the MTEF, of which:

- **R626.5 million** is added over MTEF for ART and TB backlogs, compensation of employees, healthcare services backlogs, laboratory services, medicine and other goods and medical supplies. This funding is allocated to the Department of Health.
- This includes **R200.7 million** in the next financial year for Health to deal with the service backlogs in respect of ART and TB and baseline adjustments for goods and services including medicine.
- An amount of **R88.1 million** has been allocated over the MTEF for Early Childhood Development to ensure the expansion of early childhood development services, provide pre-registration support to early childhood development centres, and pilot a nutrition support programme and a results-based service delivery model
- An additional amount of **R532.6 million** over the MTEF is added to the Department of Education to address various budget pressures. These include compensation of employees, with an amount of **R292.8 million**, **R142.9 million** to address the sectoral norms and standards shortfall, **R49.6 million** is related to the adjustments to hostel subsidies and **R100 million** for the Education Turnaround Strategy which is part of the Grade 12 intervention programme.

**Honourable Speaker**, in the 2022/23 financial year, the Department of Education was allocated an additional **R138 million** in order to address

personnel challenges. Out of this additional allocation, the department filled approximately 219 school based educator posts. In addition to this, over 200 school based support posts (clerks and cleaners) and office based educator posts were filled. In the 2023/24 financial year, an additional **R75 million** has been appropriated. This will be utilised to fill over 150 district and province based critical vacancies to support schools effectively.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Department of Health's total Compensation of Employees allocation for the 2023/24 financial year amounts to **R3.6 billion** including an additional amount of **R97 million**. This additional allocation will assist the department to make more than 142 appointments in administrative, medical, nursing, allied and emergency care professions.

**Honourable Speaker**, tourism and sports are interconnected and complementary; they are influential powers for development, investment stimulation in restaurant projects and infrastructure projects. These projects can also benefit local citizens while enjoyed by tourists who come to our province and make use of them. As a response to this, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture will receive **R1.5 million** towards sport tourism development.

## **Economic Sector**

**Honourable Speaker**, government continues to focus on promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth with the aim of addressing unemployment and poverty together with inequality. As a response to that, the economic sector has been allocated **R11.8 billion** over the MTEF.

This allocation supports economic growth through public infrastructure investment. **R4.9 billion** is in respect of infrastructure related conditional grants which aim to promote sustained economic growth in line with government's economic recovery plan.

The Department of Roads and Public Works continues to drive the growth in this sector through the Provincial Road Maintenance Grant amounting to **R3.7 billion** over the MTEF for the maintenance of the provincial road network.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Constitution obliges every municipality to endeavour, within its administrative and financial capacity to attain the goals of local government, which is service provision. A substantial portion of municipal revenue, which is also used for service provision, is derived from rates and service charges. An amount of **R70 million** has been allocated as a part-payment towards the settlement of rates and taxes with Sol Plaatje Municipality.

**Honourable Speaker**, we continue to strive for the setting up of viable, socially and economically integrated communities, which are placed in areas that allow convenient access to economic opportunities. This we do through the upgrading of informal settlements and ensuring that residential areas are gradually developed. As such, an amount of **R1.2 billion** over the next three years is made available in respect of the Informal Settlement Upgrading and Development Grant and the Human Settlement Development Grant.

## **Second Adjustment Appropriation Bill – 2022/23 Financial Year**

**Honourable Speaker**, the following additions have been added on the conditional grants. The Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs has been allocated an additional amount of **R100 million** and **R94.7 million** for the Human Settlements Development Grant and the Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant respectively, following revised allocations by the national Department of Human Settlements.

The national Department of Health has stopped the transfer of **R4.0 million** to the Department of Health, which is in respect of the National Health Insurance Grant, due to a formula error made by the health sector.

An amount of **R5 million** has been allocated to the Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison to cater for the improvement of conditions of services.

### **Conclusion**

**Honourable Speaker**, as I conclude, let me once more succinctly reflect on the key milestones this administration have achieved under the leadership of the Honourable Premier Dr Zamani Saul:

- We have inculcated a culture of allocative efficiencies across the provincial administration;
- The Provincial Revenue Fund is healthy and we have not paid a single cent towards interest payments;
- We have put measures in place to deal with the cumulative amounts of irregular expenditure;

- We will pay off our rates and taxes debt in the coming two years and ensure that provincial government pay for rates and taxes;
- We have a revenue enhancement strategy in place;
- The fiscal outlook is positive; and
- The budget process remains credible.

**Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members**, I now table the following documents for consideration by this House:

- *The Northern Cape Main Appropriation Bill, 2023;*
- *The Northern Cape Second Adjustment Appropriation Bill, 2022/2023;*
- *The Northern Cape Estimates of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure (EPRE) 2023 MTEF;*
- *The Northern Cape Capital Estimates of Provincial Expenditure for the 2023 MTEF; and*
- *Northern Cape Socio-Economic Review 2023.*

I thank you.