

# Vuk'uzenzele



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## Local government holds transformative power

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC** transformation is at the top of government's agenda yet the power to bring about change does not rest solely in its hands. The drivers of change should be located at national, provincial and local government level, making a visible difference in the lives of the citizens government serves.

Albert Pule

**M**unicipalities should become centres of radical socio-economic transformation to have a positive effect on the lives of citizens.

"We need to see radical socio-economic transformation in local government," said President Jacob Zuma, addressing the Third Presidential Local Government Summit held in Midrand on 6 April 2017.

"We mean the fundamental change in the structure, systems, institutions and patterns of ownership, management and control of the economy in favour of all South Africans, especially the poor, the majority of whom are African and female," explained the President.

President Zuma said municipalities must play a role in developing small businesses and entrepreneurs.

"They must revitalise and mainstream township economies by supporting the development of township enterprises, cooperatives



President Jacob Zuma addressing the 3rd Presidential Local Government Summit in Midrand

and SMMEs that will produce goods and services that meet the needs of township residents.

"Township entrepreneurs must be used to produce food, such as bread for school nutrition and hospitals, school uniforms and police uniforms, and furniture for government offices."

The President also urged municipalities to work hard to raise the living standards and quality of life of all the

people in their areas and highlighted the importance of the delivery of crucial services, such as roads, human settlements and sanitation.

"They must include effective public transport infrastructure development, as well as new integrated and sustainable human settlements and post-apartheid cities that are more connected, liveable, smart and green.

"The renewal of old towns, inner-city regeneration as

well as township renewal must be key focus areas of our municipalities."

President Zuma also highlighted that it is important that the three spheres of government work together to deliver services.

"All spheres must work together to ensure that all township roads and streets are tarred, that the bucket system is eradicated and that all hostels are turned into family units.

"If we do this, we will bring millions of township residents into the mainstream economy, hence the need to revamp economic infrastructure and improve these areas."

Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Des van Rooyen said local government plays an important role in delivering services to the people.

"Critical to local government's mandate is the requirement that they work to improve the lives of all the citizens in their municipality.

"The improvement of the peoples' lives can be achieved through the provision of basic services, development and growth of the economy, recognising and harnessing the skills potential of people living in the municipality, job creation, and mobilising the people to make their own contribution to improve their living conditions," said Min



**Educators are teaching the business of business**

Page 6

**UNITE TO END TB & HIV**

SOUTH AFRICAN LEADERS TAKING ACTION

Page 8



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*In all our localities, wherever they may be, we must rise now and destroy apartheid organs of government that are used to hold us in bondage. We make this call to all Black people – African, Indian and so-called Coloureds.*

- Oliver Tambo.



Image: <http://www.youthvillage.co.za>

● **Cont. page 2**

# Lisu Lendlalalisu Lavelonkhe lekubukana ne-HIV, i-TB kanye netifo letitsatselana ngekwemacansi

**LELISU LELISHA LENDLELALISU LAVELONKHE (I-NSP)** simemetelo semphi yekulwa sandvulelangculazi (i-HIV), sifo sesifuba (i-TB) kanye netifo letitsatselana ngekwemacansi (ema-STI). Lelisu lichaza imetamo yahulumende yekunciphisa kakhulu linani labaneti tifo, kucedza kwendluliseka kwe-HIV kumntfwana ngunina kanye nekuvimba kungenwa lufu lolusha kwemantfombatana nabomake labasasebancane.

**Noluthando Motswai**

I-NSP lesa lemacondzana ne-HIV, i-TB kanye nema-STI kulindzeleke kutsi yehlise linani lebantfu labane-TB nga-30% kanye nekunciphisa nga-60% linani lebantfu labatseleleka kwekucala yi-HIV.

Lisekelamengameli Cyril Ramaphosa wakumemetela loku ngesikhatsi kwetfulwa Lelisu Lendlalalisu Lavelonkhe langa-2017-2011 lapha eBloemfontein esikhatsini lesisandza kwendlula.

Lelisu ngalokwetayelekile lisungulelwa sikhatsi seminyaka lesihlanu. Lisu lekugcina liphelele ekupheleni kwenyanga yeNdlovulenkulu 2017.

Lisekelamengameli Ramaphosa utsite i-NSP ihambisana kakhulu neLuhlelo Lwekutfutukisa Lwavelonkhe (i-NDP), lokho kwente kutsi imphi yekulwa ne-HIV, i-TB kanye nema-STI ibeyincenye yomzabalazo lobanti wentfutuko yetemnotfo netenhlo.

“Ngekusebenta ngekubambisana, sihlose kunciphisa linani

lebantfu labane-TB ngema-30%, kusukela ku-450 000 kuya ku-315 000. Kufanele kutsi sinciphise kakhulu linani lebantfu labasha labatseleleka kwekucala yi-HIV ngema-60% kusukela ku-270 000 nga-2016 kuya ngephasi kwe-100 000 nga-2022.”

Wengeta ngekutsi hulumente bekafuna kucedza kwendluliseka kwesandvulelangculazi kumntfwana ngunina kanye nekwehlisa linani lemantfombatana lasasemancane kanye nakubomake labancane labatseleleka kwekucala yi-HIV kusukela kulabati-2000 ngeliviki kuya kulabangaphasi kwe-800.

Kulomnyaka lophelile Lisekelamengameli letfulele umkhankhaso wekuvikela HIV kubomake labancane kanye nasemantfombataneni lamancane.

Cishe ngabantfu labati-2000 labatseleleka kwekucala yi-HIV ngeliviki kubomake labancane kanye nakumantfombatana lamancane laneminyaka yebudzala lesemkhatsini kule-15 nalenge-24 lapha eNingizimu Afrika.

Umkhankhaso lowatiwa ngekutsi yi-*She Conquers* sewuyacala kusebenta njengencenye yemita-

mo yekunciphisa kwendluliseka kwe-HIV kanye nelifutse layo.

“*I-She Conquers* igcile ekunciphiseni linani lebantfu labatselelekele, kunciphisa kukhulelwa kwemantfombatana lamancane, kugcina bantfu labasha basetikolweni, kucedza budlova betemacansi nebulili kanye nekudala ematfuba etemnotfo ebantfu labasha.”

**I-NSP inetinjongo letibonakalako**

Lisekelamengameli Ramaphosa utsite i-NSP itawugcila etinjongweni tendlelalisu letisiphohlongo tekulwa i-HIV, i-TB kanye nema-STI.

- Injongo yekucala kusheshisa kuvikela kute kunciphise linani lebantfu labatseleleka kwekucala yi-HIV, i-TB nema-STI.
- Injongo yesibili kunciphisa kugula nekufa ngekuniketa lunakekelo kanye nemakhambi ekwelapha i-HIV, i-TB kanye ne-STI kanye nekucikisekisa kutsi bonkhe bantfu basebentisa imitsi ngalokufanele.
- Injongo yesitsatfu kut-

**ASIHLANGANENI KUTE SICIPHE I-HIV NE-TB**

BAHOLI BASENINGIZIMU AFRIKA BATSATSA SINYATSELO

si sifinyelele kubo bonkhe ebantfu labahlaseleka lula tifo ngekusebentisa tinyatselelo tekungenelela letifanele nalenhloso.

- Injongo yesine kulungisa tikhutsati tetenhloso netetikolweni, kucedza budlova betemacansi nebulili kanye nekudala ematfuba etemnotfo ebantfu labasha.”
- Injongo yesihlanu kugcila emasu ekulwa ne-HIV, i-TB nema-STI kutincho nemi-tsetfomgomo yemalungelo elutfu.
- Injongo yesitfupha kugcugcutela buholi kanye nekutilandza ngendlela yekwabelana kute kube nekuphendvula lokusimeme macondzana ne-HIV, i-TB nema-STI.
- Injongo yesikhombisa kuhlanganisa ndzawonye imitfombolusito kute kusekelwe kuphumelela kwetinjongo te-NSP kanye nekucinisekisa kuphendvula lokusimeme.
- Injongo yesiphohlongo kucinisa lwatiso lwendlalalisu kugcugcutela kufeze-kiswa kwetinjongo te-NSP.

**Kudzingeka ingucuko ekutiphatseni**

“Silapha kutewucinisekisa kutsi liphupho lesitukulwane lesite Ingculazi sekusedvute kutsi lifezeke. Silapha kutewukhombisa kutimisela kwetfu ekwakheni umhlaba lokhululekile ekubhujisweni tifo letivikelekako naletilaphekako njenge-TB.”

“Siyati kutsi kubane-HIV kanye ne-TB akusho kutsi utawufa. Siyati kutsi litfuba letfu lelihle lekuncoba lufu lwe-HIV ne-TB lisekutseni sigucula kutiphatsa kwetfu siyekele kubhehetsekisa lolufu.”

Kwetfulwa kwe-NSP yanga-2017-2022 kubalulekile kulemphi leyeNingizimu Afrika yekulwa ne-HIV, i-TB kanye nema-STI.

Sicubulo se-NSP sithi: “Tento Tetfu Ativakale” lokusimemetelo sekutsi bonkhe bantfu baseNingizimu Afrika abente lokutsite mayelana nekudlala indzima ekufezeni tinjongo talelisu.

Kulomnyaka, hulumente ugicile kakhulu kubaholi besive njengemalunga ephalamende, emalunga etishayamtsetfo tetifundza, baholi bemabhizinisi, baholi betenkholo kanye nebaholi bemimango kutsi batinikele ekulweni nalolubhubhane kanye nekukhulumisana nemimango yabo. **V**

# Vaccinations save lives

**DON'T WAIT ... VACCINATE**

**BABY & CHILDHOOD VACCINATIONS**

<b>BIRTH</b>	Oral Polio and BCG
<b>6 TO 8 WEEKS</b>	Oral Polio and BCG
<b>10 TO 12 WEEKS</b>	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis Haemophilus influenzae type B and Inactivated Polio Hepatitis B Rotavirus Pneumococcal Conjugated
<b>14 TO 16 WEEKS</b>	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis Haemophilus influenzae type B and Inactivated Polio Hepatitis B Rotavirus Pneumococcal Conjugated
<b>9 MONTHS</b>	Measles
<b>12 MONTHS</b>	Hepatitis A, Pneumococcal Conjugated
<b>15 TO 18 MONTHS</b>	Measles, Mumps, Rubella
<b>18 MONTHS</b>	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis Haemophilus influenzae type B and Inactivated Polio Hepatitis A (booster)
<b>6 YEARS</b>	Measles, Mumps, Rubella Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis and Inactivated Polio
<b>12 YEARS</b>	Measles, Mumps, Rubella (if missed at 6 years) Diphtheria, Tetanus, Acellular Pertussis and Inactivated Polio (if missed at 6 years)

**V**accinating children is the best way to prevent serious illnesses, such as polio, diphtheria, mumps, measles and tetanus,” says Dr Vuyo Gqola, Government Employees Medical Scheme Executive: Healthcare Management.

“When people get vaccinated against a particular disease, they are not only protecting themselves, but are also helping to protect their communities. This is because the more people who are immune to a disease, the slower it spreads.”

**Vaccinations make sense**

Dr Gqola says the medical progress that has been made in the prevention of diseases through vaccinations is truly remarkable. Measles and polio are now

relatively uncommon thanks to vaccination programmes.

Smallpox is a highly infectious viral disease. It was deadly for a large proportion of the people who contracted it. It killed as many as 500 million people in Europe alone last century.

“Through global vaccination efforts, naturally-occurring smallpox was eliminated in 1977 with the last case having been diagnosed in Somalia,” says Dr Gqola.

In 2014, the South African Department of Health rolled out a school-based Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination campaign for the prevention of cervical cancer, aimed at all girls aged nine years and older in grade four.

“There is an established link between certain strains of HPV and cervical cancer, which is

a leading cause of death for women in South Africa. The girls who have received the HPV vaccine will have a considerably reduced risk of developing cervical cancer and several other types of cancer.”

“We are likely to start seeing the positive impact of this campaign in the next 15 to 20 years, when the first generation of girls to have received the HPV vaccination will reach the age where these types of cancer are more likely to develop.

“The risks associated with vaccinations are extremely rare, and are hugely outweighed by the risks of developing the disease itself if one is not vaccinated,” Dr Gqola says. **V**

**Source: Government Employees Medical Scheme**

# Umklamo Lomkhulukati Wetindlu Nyalo Sewucalile

**UMKLAMO WETINDLU LOMKHULU WALELIVE,** loseWestgate, KwaZulu-Natal, unetindlu letinge-952 tekucashisa.



■ Mngameli Jacob Zuma kanye neNdvuna Yekuhlaliswa Kwebantfu Lindiwe Sisulu betfule umklamo wetindlu lomkhulukati kulelive ePietermaritzburg.

## Thandeka Ngobese

**N**gesikhatsi Mengameli Jacob Zuma anika Caroline Carstens indlu lensha, lone-minyaka yebudzala lenge-20, lesakhamuti saseWestgate sehluleka kutibamba ngenca yenjabulo satsi hulumente ulifezekisile liphupho lakhe lekukhulisela bantfwabakhe endlini lenesitfunti.

“Bekuliphupho lami kutsi ngibe nendlu letsini mine kodvwa bengingacabangi kutsi liphupho lami litawufezeka masinyane kangaka. Ngiyabonga kuhulumente ngekusakhelela tindlu letinesitfunti,” kwasho yena njalo.

Carstens ungomunye walabo laba-3 000 labatfole tindlu letinsha ngesikhatsi Mengameli Zuma avula Umklamo lomkhulukati wetindlu lapha eWestgate, ePietermaritzburg KwaZulu-Natal mhla ti-01 Mabasa 2017. Lomklamo kulindzeleke kutsi ubite tigidzi le-R4, lokufaka ekhatsi kusekelwa ngetimali letivela kumkhakha lotimele.

Lomunye lotfole indlu nguNomkhosi Msimang lone-minyaka lenge-30 budzala, losebenta njengemhlangikati longumfundzi Esibhedlela eGrace. Utsite manje ngesikhatsi atfole umlayeto wamakhalekhini umhalalisela kutsi sicelo sakhe semukelwe, akazange akholwe.

“Nkhosi yami! Lamuhla ngiphetse tikhiya tendlu yami. Impela lohulumente wenta ncono timphilo tebantfu base-Ningizimu Afrika. Ngivile ngalomklamo emhlanganweni

wemmango ngatitjela kutsi asengimane nje ngilahlele ngifake sicelo sami. Bengingacabangi kutsi umuntfu uyayitfole indlu kuhulumente nangabe kungekho latana nabo, kodvwa naku mine ngiyitfole. Angikakhokhi ngisho nasenti kute ngitfole lendlu lenhle ngalendlela. Badzinge kuphela siliphi sekufakazela umholo kanye nencwadzi yekufakazela kutsi ngihlala kuphi. Ngibonga hulumente ngekuntjintja imphilo yami,” kwasho yena.

## I-Westgate yetfuliwe

Ngesikhatsi akhuluma nakwefulwa umklamo wetindlu eWestgate Mengameli Zuma utsite nasiphotfole lomklamo sitawunika bantfu labalinganiselwa ku-4 000 tindlu tekuhlala letilinganiselwa ku-1 000.

“ENkhulumeni yami Yebunjala Belive nga-2010 kanye nanga-2012, ngakhuluma ngetisebenti letihola miholo lesemkhatsini letinebelukhuni kutsi titfole indzawo yekuhlala lenesitfunti kanye nemindeni yato ngobe atifaneleki kutsi titfole tindlu tesibonelelo tahulumende kantsi futsi atikhoni nekutfole tindlu temabhondi.

“Kusungulwa Kwemklamo Wetindlu waseWestgate kuphendvula ngo kuleto tinsayeya. Unika lusha lwakitsi lolusebentayo litfuba lekutsi luhlale etindlini letinesitfunti futsi letakhiwe endzaweni lekahle, ngakulolunye luhlangotsi loku kuphindze futsi kugcucutele kuhlangana ngekwetehlalo kanye nekubhidlita lisulelubandlululo lwekuhlalisa

bantfu ngekwebuhlanga.

“Tonkhe tindlu talomklamo tetekucashisa, futsi ulungiselelwe bantfu labahola umholo losemkhatsini kwe-R1 500 na-R7 500. Indlu inemakamelo ekulala lamabili, kanye nelikhishi nekamelo lokuphumula (*i-lounge*) letihlanganisiwe.

“Singuhulumente longeke aphumule kudzimate kutsi leso naleso sakhamuti saseNingizimu Afrika sibe sihlale endlini lenesitfunti. Kutimisela kwetfu kutsi sibuyisele futsi sitfunti sebantfu bakitsi ngekusebentisa kuhlaliswa kwebantfu,” kwasho yena njalo Mengameli Zuma.

## Emalokishi lamasha kuyo yonkhe iNingizimu Afrika

UMngameli Zuma utsite hulumente utawuchubeka ebeke embili kwakhelwa kwebantfu labaphuyile tindlu. Loku kufaka ekhatsi emakhaya laphetfwe bantfwana, labakhubatekile

kanye netakhamuti lesetikhulile.

“Ngiphindze futsi ngatsintseka emoyeni ngesikhatsi Umnu Maphulo lonekukhubateka kodvwa lonasibindzi wase-Vulindlela, ngesikhatsi angeniswa endlini yakhe lensha. Kuba nendlu yekuhlala lenesitfunti kunetinzuzo letinengi kutehlalo nakutemnotfo. Loku kufaka ekhatsi lizinga lemphilolelincono, indzawo yakho yangasese lokuyintfo longakhoni kubanayo emkhukhwini welikamelo linye, indzawo lephephile nelilungelo lekubandzawo yekuhlala lengeyakhoko.

“Hulumende wesifundza saKwaZulu-Natal sakhe tindlu letilinganiselwa etindlini letinge-500 000 kusukela ngemnyaka wa-1994. Loku kusho kutsi kunebantfu labatfole tindlu labalinganiselwa etigidzini letimbili timphilo tabo letentiwe ncono ngulohulumente. Umklamo wekwakhela bantfu tindlu kusukela ngemnyaka wa-1994 uholele ekutseni kube nemalokishi lamasha lamanengi kulo lonkhe lelive. Loku kufaka ekhatsi tindzawo letifanana nabos-Cosmo City eGauteng, Klarinet eMpumalanga, Cornubia KwaZulu-Natal, Zanemvula Mphumalanga Kapa kanye ne-N2 Gateway eNshonalanga Kapa. Kwengeta kuloku, linani lelikhulu lemimango yasetindzaweni tasemaphandleni lebeyibandlululiwe phambilini izuze kakhulu kuloku. Leminye yemiklamo yetindlu lemcola lentjintje imimango yasetindzaweni tasemaphandleni ngekwenhlalo kanye nange-

kwemnotfo yiVulindlela lelapha ePietermaritzburg, lokulindleleke kutsi yakhe tindlu leti-20 000 nawuphotfulwa, kunika takhamuti letingetulu kwe-100 000 tindlu letinesitfunti. Nanome kunjalo, kusasenyenti lekumele kutsi kwentiwe,” kwasho yena njalo Mengameli Zuma.

**“Hulumende wesifundza saKwaZulu-Natal sakhe tindlu letilinganiselwa etindlini letinge-500 000 kusukela ngemnyaka wa-1994. Loku kusho kutsi kunebantfu labatfole tindlu labalinganiselwa etigidzini letimbili timphilo tabo letentiwe ncono ngulohulumente.”**

Mngameli ukhutsata labo labatfole tindlu kutsi batiphatse kahle letindlu futsi batatise letindlu tabo.

“Letindlu tenu. Ngicela kutsi ningatitsengisi. Sekukhona imikhuba lengasiphatsi kahle lesesiyibonile lapho labanetindlu tahulumende bayatitsetngisa letindlu bese sebayaphuya futsi. Kufanele kutsi wati kutsi umuntfu unikwa litfuba linye lekutsi abe nendlu. Nangabe uyitsengisa, ngeke uphindze futsi utfole litfuba lesibili lekuphindza futsi ufake sicelo salenye,” kwasho yena njalo. ■



■ Umklamo wetindlu waseWestgate kulindzeleke kutsi wakhe tindlu leticishe tifinyelele etindlini le-1000 letitawuhlalisa bantfu labacishe bafinyelele kubantfu laba-4000 nasewuphotfuliwe.

# Lihhovisi leliko letasekhaya lelivusetelwe kabusha letsiwe ngaTutu



■ Mengameli Jacob Zuma akanye neNdvuna yeLitiko Letasekhaya yaphambilini Malusi Gigaba babingelela bakhoseli ngesikhatsi baseluhambeni lwabo lwekuvakashela lihhovisi letasekhaya leselivusetelwe.

Allison Cooper

**M**engameli Jacob Zuma usandza kwetfula futsi lihhovisi letasekhaya lase-Marabastad waphindze futsi waletsa ligama le-Desmond Tutu Refugee Reception.

Ngesikhatsi kubanjwe tingcoco emsakatweni na-Mengameli Jacob Zuma, kusetjentiswa luchumano lweLuphiko Lwahulumende Lwetekuchumana

Nekwatisa (i-GCIS) esikhatsini lesisandza kundlula, Mengameli utsite usandza nje kuvakashela eMarabastad, lesenkhabeni yePitoli, ngenhloso yekwetfula futsi kanye nekwetsa ligama futsi lihhovisi letasekhaya.

“Siyajabula kutsi lesikhungo setsiwe ngeligama lemuntfu waseNingizimu Afrika lowatiwako lolwe ngekutikhandla kutsi kube nebulungiswa, kulingana, emalungelo eluntfu kanye nenkhululeko.

“Hulumende uyakubonga

kuvuma kanye nekweseke-lwa yi-Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation kutsi leSikhungo saseMarabastad setsiwe ligama le-Desmond Tutu Refugee Reception Centre,” kwasho yena njalo Mengameli.

Ngemnyaka wa-2015 Mengameli wakashela eMarabastad njengencye yeluhlelo lwaMengameli, i-*Presidential Siyahlola Monitoring*.

“Ngesikhatsi ngiya ehhovisi letasekhaya bekunesicuku sebantfu ngephandle ngase

ngibanika litfuba lekutsi bakhulumisane nami. Baphakamisa tintfo letinengi nami futsi ngatibonela ngekwami kutsi lesimo asisisihle nani. Ngangena ngekhatshi ngayowuhlola ngabona kutsi letintfo letishiwo ngulabantfu kudzinga kutsi tilandzelelwe tibikwe kulabaphatse,” kwasho yena njalo Mengameli acinisekisa.

Tinsayeya letiseMarabastad tifaka ekhatshi tinkinga tekutsi bete tisebenti letenele, sakhiwonchanti selwatiso lwethetknoloji lesihamba ngelunyawo lwelunwabu, luhlelo lwekufayela tintfo lolungakaneli, tindlela tekulawula letingekho ezingeni kanye nesimo sekusebenta lesingekho esimeni lesifanele sekusita labo bafuna lusito kanye nekusebenta kwetisebenti. Lesikhungo futsi sibe netihibe tetinsolo tenkhohlakalo, imigca lemidze, kugcwala kakhulu kanye nekubakhona kwemacembu etebugebengu.

Tinzawo tawonkhewonkhe nyalo setivusetelwe talungiswa kabusha, lokufaka ekhatshi timphawu, emadesiki eku-sebentela kanye nekufakelwa gezi kutsi kukhanye, kanye neluhlelo lwetekuphepha lolusha kwaphindze futsi kwabiyelwa ngefenisilenagezi. Letinye tinyatselo

tekungenelela tifaka ekhatshi tinhlelo netinchubo letinsha, letifanana neluhlelo lwekubhuka lolutentekelako kanye neticelo letentiwa ngekwe-elekthroniki, kubhalisa losekwenziwe ncono kanye nekufayela tintfo kanye nekuchubeka njalo nekukhulumisana nalabatsintsekako.

**“Siyajabula kutsi lesikhungo setsiwe ngeligama lemuntfu waseNingizimu Afrika lowatiwako lolwe ngekutikhandla kutsi kube nebulungiswa, kulingana, emalungelo eluntfu kanye nenkhululeko.”**

Inhloso yahlumende kuvimba bugebengu nenkhohlakalo kulelitiko kanye nekuvikela kutsi kungabinemacembu ebugebengu ku-tsi angasebentisi labo labacela kukhoseliswa kwenta imali ngekubadizisa nabafuna timvume, lokuyintfo lefaka lelive ebungotini lobukhulu betekuphepha. ■

## Government takes higher education seriously

Allison Cooper

**D**uring a radio interview with President Jacob Zuma, via a GCIS link-up, he engaged listeners of different community radio stations across South Africa simultaneously.

An issue raised was that of financial assistance for higher education students.

The President said that he initially called a meeting with student and university leaders and the Department of Higher Education to discuss the issues around high tuition fees and the fact that those from disadvantaged backgrounds cannot afford to pay them.

“It was clear to me at the time that the issues at hand couldn’t be resolved in the meeting due to their complex-

**“No student whose combined family income is below R600 000 per annum will face fee increases at universities and TVET colleges for 2017.”**

ity. Work needed to be done and I therefore appointed the Heher Commission of Inquiry into Higher Education and

Training to look into the matter,” he said.

The commission will complete its work by June this year. The Inter-Ministerial Committee on Higher Education, led by Minister Radebe, is engaging all stakeholders to discuss the issues. Civil society initiatives involving business, churches and other organisations have created space for a diversity of options to be considered.

The President has invited stakeholders to participate in processes that are underway so that all views are heard.

Government recognises the needs articulated by the students, said Finance former Minister Pravin Gordahn in

his recent Budget Speech.

“As the economy grows, we will be able to do more to finance an expansion in tertiary education opportunities and improvements in student funding,” he confirmed.

Government increased its higher education budget allocations by R32 billion in last year’s budget and the 2016 Medium Term Budget Policy Statement, and has now added another R5 billion.

“No student whose combined family income is below R600 000 per annum will face fee increases at universities and technical and vocational education and training (TVET) colleges for 2017.

“All poor students who

applied and qualified for National Student Financial Aid Scheme awards, and who have been accepted by a university or a TVET college, will be supported,” Minister Gordahn said.

Given the magnitude of student funding requirements, it is imperative that government develops a clear roadmap towards a better higher education and training system.

The President assured the radio audience that the commission’s report will indicate how society will achieve access, opportunity, financing and support for students in the university and further education sectors. ■