

**Welcome remarks by Mayor of Kopanong Cllr X.T Matwa on  
Celebration Arbor Week in Xhariep District 2010**

MEC for Agriculture (Mme Mamikie Qabathe)

Executive Mayor

Mayors present

Speaker

Councillors

Ladies and Gentlemen

Molweni

I feel very privileged and honoured to welcome you on this mammoth occasion which is the celebration of Arbor week under a very messagefull theme ***“Plant for the planet – Grow green”***. Firstly let me thank you all for coming you all welcome.

I am very happy to be here and join the community of Edenburg to enjoy and Celebrate the planting of trees and greening this area as part of our launch of Arbor week 2010 in Xhariep.

Programme Director, allow me to say a few words to this important gathering .

Today in South Africa marks the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the national Arbor week(iveki lazihlahla) this week serves to promote awareness

for the need to plant and maintain indigenous trees, throughout South Africa especially for the many disadvantaged communities who often live in barren areas.

If we continue planting trees, our neighbourhood can be greener, healthier and become more beautiful places to live.

Lastly “if we had no trees we’d all be dead, more trees more oxygen and that means more people living”. Once more ladies and gentlemen you are welcome ziveni nisekhaya nalapha

Enkosi !