

**ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF MANGAUNG LOCAL  
MUNICIPALITY, HONOURABLE K. F. MORULE, ON THE  
OCCASION OF SIGNING OF COOPERATION WITH  
CUT AND CENTLEC, 19 AUGUST 2009**

**Honourable Programme Director**

**Honourable of the Free State: Mr. E.S Magashule**

**Honourable Vice Chancellor: CUT, Prof Mthembu**

**Honourable Acting CEO: CENTLEC, Mr. I Poolo**

**Executive Mayor of Motheo**

**Speaker of the MLM**

**Members of the Mayoral Committee**

**Provincial Government and Municipal Officials**

**Academic Staff**

**Distinguished Guests**

**The Media**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

Programme Director,

I am delighted that finally the extensive exchanges amongst the tripartite signatories (MLM; CENTLEC and CUT) are now culminating into this significant milestone. Our encounters would have resulted in an exercise in futility without the signing of this cooperative agreement. We recognize this agreement as the beginning and a means – **not an end**, in addressing scarce and critical skills needed to meet the Accelerated and Shared Initiative – South Africa (ASGISA) e.g. halving unemployment and poverty by 2014. This agreement is also congruent to our *Human Resource Strategy* (2008) which provides for the **development of a retention policy and incentive scheme to attract employees in areas of scarce and critical skills**. To this effect, I wish to inform all of you gathered here today that the Mangaung Local Municipality is currently in the final stage of introducing a scarce skills policy.

Notwithstanding the sovereignty of the state and its institutions thereof, we need to be mindful of the fact that we are living in the era of globalization which is characterized by knowledge explosion generation. This generated knowledge through developmental and constructive role of academic institutions (e.g. CUT) is indispensable in democratic governance. Furthermore, it worth noting that we are not excluded from the world crises (economic recession, natural disasters, political decay, etc.) facing many nation states. In this context we need to join forces in strengthening what social scientists refer to as '*existing corpus of knowledge*' and intelligibly identify scarce and critical skills needed in fulfilling our respective (constitutional) mandates. In this regard our tripartite agreement is ideal.

In his hypothesis of historical materialism, Karl Marx argued that "it is not the consciousness of men which determines their existence; it is on the contrary their social existence which determines consciousness." In this context, our own social existence imposes a serious challenge upon us to jointly agree, in accordance with ASGISA, that "**artisan skills are critical for economic growth as other levels of qualification.**" Paradoxically, artisanship is a scarce skill. Hence artisanship development deserves primacy. Also, this agreement is not an absolute panacea (or solution) to the shortage of the latter skill but a tremendous attempt in developing skills in this field.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Mangaung Local Municipality as one of the primary partners, I now declare our commitment in accordance with the provisions of the agreement on this tripartite partnership.

I thank you all!