



**WELCOMING ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF MOGALE CITY
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, CLLR DANNY THUPANE AT THE PROVINCIAL FOOD
SAFETY BLITZ HELD IN PANGOVILLE, MUNSIEVILLE ON THE 21st MAY 2023**

Thank you so much, Programme Director,

MEC For Health and Wellness, Ms Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko,

Speaker of Mogale City Local Municipality, Cllr Lucky Sele,

Chief Whip of Mogale City, Cllr Tsholofelo Ramaisa,

Honourable councillors here present,

Leaders of government departments and your teams,

Stakeholders from various sectors,

People of Mogale City:

The Government of Local Unity is privileged to have been invited to this activity that raises awareness about the safety of food in our province. We are particularly pleased to have you here, MEC, as the country reacts to the news that no less than fourteen lives have been lost to cholera just recently.

This follows a warning from the Health Minister last week that the country was dealing with a mumps outbreak. So many health warnings have come from the Health Department recently and all of that indicates that, as citizens, we have to raise our guards against airborne and waterborne diseases.

We have to watch what we eat and the things we use as well as the surroundings we reside in. Your visit comes at an opportune time for our city. We have just conducted *Operation O Kae Molao* with the MEC for Community Safety last week. We have been informed by the SAPS that more than eighty-six arrests were made in that operation. Various illegal items including a stolen vehicle, drugs and counterfeit goods were confiscated. This means that we have to step up the fight against criminality across the city.

We support the efforts of the provincial government to fight the peddling of fake food that is sold to unsuspecting consumers. Nothing speaks of cruelty, disrespect, lack of sympathy or concern for the lives of others as a person who sells fake food to others. The fact that a person has to use their last hard-earned money to purchase a product that has the potential to condemn them to a hospital bed or, at worst, to the fate of death is more than saddening. It is annoying and evokes the worst in us.



We are therefore fully geared to tackle this scourge with you. We agree that it has to be uprooted and should not end here. We need to kill it from the source, so that our lives are not compromised. We have to find and close the suppliers, lock them up and throw away the key. By starving the suppliers then we can go a long way in securing citizens from these heartless operators.

MEC, it is mostly little children who get targeted by these unscrupulous operators. We all know that fake sweets, beverages, and other supposed-to-be niceties are sold to little children, and we have read and heard many sad stories about it. Some these operators were bold enough to target children at schools and as a result some children have died from it. How cruel can a person be? How disrespectful can these people be? How desperate for money can these people be?

Let us show them that this is a country of laws. We should not give them an inch to wiggle nor wriggle.
Mabavalwe! Mababoshwe!

Let us make space for real and well-meaning entrepreneurs who have the well-being of their customers at heart.

With these few words, the Government of Local Unity wishes to welcome you to the City of Human Origin!