



Refilwe Mokgosi: AMEU President

Closing Speech at AMEU Convention Date: 10 October 2018

The Honourable Minister of COGTA, Dr Zweli Mkhize

The Executive Mayor of City of Tshwane, Clr Solly Msimanga

MMC Clr Darryl Moss and all other MMCs present here,

Councillors,

City Manager of City of Tshwane, Mr. Moeketsi Mosola and all other City Managers present here,

Immediate past President of the AMEU, Mr Moferefere Tshabalala,

All AMEU **past** Presidents,

AMEU Executive Council,

ALL Executives, Affiliates, Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen

All protocol observed

On Monday the 8th of October, at the commencement of the Convention, in my Maiden or Inaugural Speech as the President of AMEU, I must confess, I had that

strange feeling of what I think Heads of States must be going through when they present their State of the Nation Addresses (SONAs).

The creator must be smiling on us, here at the southern-most tip of our beloved Mother Africa, in a country, proudly referred to as 'Mzansi' as we convened to tackle varied issues facing us in this industry under the theme "The Impact of the Energy Revolution on Power Utilities in Africa"

All said and done, I must attest that we have had a successful Convention, without any doubt.

But closer, Mr Programme Director, zooming into this podium, here where I stand, I still have in fact to pinch myself to believe it isn't a dream. A girl who grew up in Winterveld, just about 70 kilometers north-west to where we are now, has just been inaugurated as the President of AMEU, occupying the helm of a body that wields technological power to ensure effective supply of electricity in the industry, through relevant municipal electricity distributors in Southern Africa. It gives me goose-bumps ... and I am immensely humbled by the trust put in me. I shall not disappoint! I excitedly look forward to a fruitful term in office.

I trust that the City of Jacaranda, with its beautiful purple flowers, afforded you a warm and pleasant stay.

As many of you would know, the colour "purple" represents, among other things, but not limited thereto:

Royalty

Power

Ambition

Wisdom Dignity

Peace

On that note, please allow me to adjourn this convention as you go back to your respective home bases **empowered as kings and Queens.**

Filled with insurmountable **ambition** – to go and do innovative activities, so that in the near future we may witness, emerging out from amongst us *Graham Bells, Orville and Wilbur – the Wright brothers, Thomas Edisons, John Vincent Atanasoffs,*

ect. ... of our time; so that the lives of our people may improve for the better, leaving a lasting legacy for generations to come.

More **wiser**, in emulation of the Biblical King Solomon, so as to positively influence our communities as we boldly discharge our mandate.

Dignified, as we have always been – lifting high the banner of AMEU wherever we are.

United in **peace**, let's hold hands and move forward. *Forward ever, backwards never!*

Undoubtedly, an overwhelming task lies ahead of us. We are humbled as we assume the seat of Presidency for the next two (2) years, and do so with comfort that we are surrounded by a unique, winning team of colleagues to serve with, in advancement of AMEU's noble ideals, and ensure we leave a remarkable legacy for generations to come.

I am indebted to the immediate past President and all past presidents for their steadfast support leading up to this event. Thank you, comrades! I know you will still avail yourselves for consultations, as I occupy this seat.

Friends, once more, thank you for contributing to the success of this Convention.

Go well. Drive safely. *Bon voyage!*