



OPENING REMARKS AT THE ANWL PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT OF THE CHINESE VICE PREMIER

Delivered by Cllr Zandile Gumede, Mayor of eThekweni Municipality (Cllr Lindiwe Mthembu)

- Programme Director – Sisi Ntombela, Deputy President of the ANCWL
- Vice Chancellor and Rector of DUT- Professor Mthembu,
- President of the ANCWL – Minister Bathabile Dlamini,
- ANCWL Treasury General and Minister of International Relations- Mama Maite Nkoane-Mashabane,
- Vice President – Zhang Xiaolan,
- Former AU Chairperson – Dr Nkosazane Dlamini Zuma,
- Minister and Deputy Ministers,
- Members of the Executive Council present,
- Honoured Guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

Alibongwe igama lamakhosikazi!!!

Sanibonani, siyabonga ukuba nani kulendawo ikakhulukazi izihambeli zethu ezivela ezweni lamaShayina.

It is a great honour and a privilege to welcome you all.

Honoured guests.

South Africa and China enjoy strong relations and we believe that this programme will add to the already existing strategic relations between our two countries.

We believe that this project will create opportunities for the ANCWL and other entities such as academia, business and civil society to interact more frequently.

Programme Director,

We would like to thank the ANC-WL for holding progressive discussions with the All Chinese Women Federation organization (ACWF) in trying to find an intervention mechanism to address the issue of poverty confronted by women of South Africa.

In South Africa women are the majority and there is a need to accelerate the socio-economic transformation to liberate women from the bondage of inequality, unemployment and poverty. Women should be in the forefront in the new struggle for economic emancipation. In the past our women actively participated in the struggle against apartheid, the ANC attained political freedom in 1994, however economic freedom is still lacking behind. The struggle for gender equality and women empowerment is central to our radical economic transformation.

We of the view that women, holding senior position can be able to lead us to economic freedom. Women are capable of leading in every struggle. We have an ability to lead both in government and in politics. It is for this reason we support the proposal by ANCWL to have a woman president. We must all support this call by ANCWL as women. We need a woman of character with international profile. A leader that will be able to link us with Africa and the World. A leader that will be able to strengthen our relations with the BRICS country.

Programme Director,

With those few words, I would like to congratulate the ANC-WL for attaining a rock solid partnership with the Republic of China, particularly the All Chinese Women Federation organization. It is rare to find a country which understands the importance of a well maintained and mutually beneficial country-to-country relations, and one which strives for political and economic influence. Once again we thank you for reaffirming our relations.

Thank you.