

INTERNET ARTICLE

South Africa commits itself to provide clean water and dignified services to its people

24 March 2017

President Jacob Zuma has called world leaders to urgently implement the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 6 which commits to the provision of water and sanitation for all.

He was speaking during his opening address at the World Water Day Summit and Expo that was held at iNkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in Durban from 22-24 March 2017.

President Zuma addressed the Summit in his capacity as a member of the United Nations High Level Panel on Water.

The Summit was attended by representatives from United Nations and its agencies, water experts, civil society organisations, water entities, Ministers from the African continent amongst others.

In the realisation of Agenda 2030, Minister of Water and Sanitation Ms Nomvula Mokonyane said, South Africa need to implement its National Development Plan, especially the issues around water and Sanitation. She added that water and sanitation issues cannot be separated from each other as they are mutually dependent on each other.

Furthermore, Minister Mokonyane said that two months ago South Africa presented the policy on sanitation, the first ever policy to focus on sanitation issues not only from a cleanliness point of views but also an important enabler of restoring ones dignity.

South Africa is also in the process of completing its master plan on water and sanitation, which will assist us to realise Sustainable Development Goals to realize and promote people's human rights as enshrined in the constitution.

"It is our considered view that no one should ever drink dirty and unhealthy water. Here today, we reiterate our commitment of ensuring that every South African has access to clean water and dignified sanitation services," she said.

Mbalenhle Dalmini