



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA ADVISORY

#### Minister Mokonyane to Launch National Water Week

10 March 2016

The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms. Nomvula Mokonyane, will on 13 March 2016, officially launch 'National Water Week, 14 - 22 March 2016, under the theme **'Water for People, Water by People.'**

Water Week serves as a campaign mechanism of the Department of Water and Sanitation aimed at re-emphasizing the importance of water, the scarcity of this resource and the need to manage this resource in a sustainable way that appreciates its role in eradicating poverty and under-development.

**'Water Week 2016'** takes place as the country faces the most severe drought which has affected parts of our country, leaving many households without access to water and causing devastation for crop producers and livestock farmers, in particular.

As a result of the drought, many South Africans have come forth with various drought mitigation proposals and have begun to engage government on the need to partner in programmes aimed at conserving water and managing this scarce resource efficiently.

As a response to many such proposals, the launch of the 'National Water Week' will be held in the form of a national prayer for rain. Various religious faiths have been invited along with communities to dedicate a moment in prayer for rain, rehabilitation of our natural water sources and protection of water streams and rivers.

The department in partnership with the Umhlobo Wenene FM (an SABC radio station) will thus be hosting a National Prayer Service - **Imvuselelo** - aimed at mobilizing society behind the call for rain and creating awareness on the need to care for natural resources such as water for the benefit of future generations.



## **water & sanitation**

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Members of the media are invited as follows:

Venue: Dan Qeqe Stadium, Zwide; Port Elizabeth

Date: 13 March 2016

Time: 16:00

All media are invited.

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

**For more information contact: Mandilakhe Zenzile on 082 883 5293.**

**For media enquiries, contact Mlimandlela Ndamase, Ministerial Spokesperson on 083 480 0014.**

**For media releases, speeches and news visit the Water & Sanitation portal at:**

**[www.dwa.gov.za](http://www.dwa.gov.za)**