

Metolong Expo and co-financiers' conference draws to a close



The Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Dr. Timothy Thahane and the Minister of Natural Resources, Mr. Monyane Moleleki officiated the closing of the three-day Metolong Expo and co-financiers' conference in Maseru on the 25th March 2009.

The objectives of the conference which started on Monday the 23rd March at the 'Manthabiseng National Convention Centre was to review progress of the Metolong Dam and Water Supply Programme as well as the status of the Lowlands Water Supply Scheme and to present updated cost estimates to the Programme's co-financiers.

At the opening ceremony, the Minister of Finance and Development Planning reiterated government's commitment to providing every Mosotho with clean water. The aim of the Lowlands Water Scheme, of which the Metolong Programme is a part, is the provision of potable water to the Lowlands Districts of Lesotho which are Butha-Buthe, Leribe, Berea, Maseru, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek and Quthing. The Metolong Programme will provide water to Maseru, Roma, Mazenod, Morija and Teyateyaneng. The Programme is expected to be completed in 2013.

On the second day of the conference, attendees toured the Metolong Dam, Water Treatment Works and Conveyance sites. The area chief of Boithatelo Ha Seeiso, Chief Mathealiara Seeiso voiced his and the community's delight that a project of such magnitude was occurring in their area. The Metolong Dam will be located on the Phuthiatsana River, between the villages of Ha Seeiso and Ha Makotoko. The chief went on to say that he could only hope that the project would bring the much needed development to their area.



The conference ended on Wednesday 25th March with a meeting attended by top government officials and co-financiers.