

MEDIA RELEASE



Viva Water Pure and Clean Viva Forests Rich and Green
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MEDIA STATEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY

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Embargo: None

The Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry today planted a tree in memory of Govan Mbeki at Thabang, near Welkom as part of the Arbor Week Iviki Lezihlahla celebrations.

Six trees were also planted today by Mayor Serame Leeuw and several councillors in memory of Govan Mbeki. Mayor Leeuw named the street to Govan Mbeki Avenue.

Today's event saw the handing over of 600 trees to new home owners in Thabang.

Referring to the Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances, Minister Kasrils said South Africa is governed by the principles contained in the Freedom Charter, and South Africa belonged to all that lived in her.

He said South Africans had found ways to reconcile and to live in peace.

Minister Kasrils urged the Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland, the Greeks and Turks in Cyprus, and the Jews, Muslims and Christians of Palestine and Israel to follow South Africa's example by living in peace and security and recognising the rights of everybody.

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