



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **The heat is on and dam levels continue to decline**

11 September 2017

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) would like to encourage the public to intensify water conservation initiatives and use the available water sparingly and wisely as the dam levels continue to decline.

Dam levels in the country are decreasing on a daily basis and the Mpumalanga Province is one of those affected by the decrease in the available water. The DWS weekly state of reservoirs report of 11 September 2017 shows that the average level of storage of dams in the Mpumalanga Province decreased from last week's 73.9% to 73.1% as recorded on Monday, 11 September. The report also shows that the water levels in the Olifants and Inkomati-Usuthu Water Management Areas (WMA) also decreased, with the Olifants WMA standing at 69.5% from last week's 70.8% and the Inkomati-Usuthu standing at 71.6% from 72.3% last week.

The Mpumalanga dam levels report shows some major declines, with some dams showing decreases of more than 5%. The most affected dams by the declines is the Primkop Dam which decreased by about 5.1% from 80.9% to 75.8% followed by the Vygeboom Dam which decreased by 4% from 91.1% to 87.1%.

Although most dams are currently in a satisfactory position, with most ranging between 64% and 99%, there are still some dams with the least amount of water which require extra caution in terms of water use. These dams include the Driekoppies Dam which decreased from 44.9% to 44.4%, the Morgenstond Dam which decreased from 48.9% to 48.2% and the Rhenosterkop Dam which decreased from 16.2% to 15.8%.

Due to the lack of rain and the extreme heat being experienced, the water levels in our dams and rivers will continue with their decline and this calls for all citizens to play their role and arrest the



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rollercoaster depletion of our water resources. Let us all work together to use water sparingly and wisely by eliminating water wastage in our areas.

Secure sustainable water supply for the current and future generations by using the available water wisely as water has no substitute.

**END**

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

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