



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **Deputy Minister Tshwete attends AMCOW General Assembly and Africa Water Week in Gabon**

27 October 2018

Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms Pamela Tshwete is set to lead South Africa's delegation to the 11<sup>th</sup> African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) General Assembly and 7<sup>th</sup> Africa Water Week that will be held in Libreville, Gabon from 29 – 31 October 2018.

Deputy Minister Tshwete will use AMCOW General Assembly's platform to highlight issues that affect South Africa and the continent which could be a stumbling block in effectively providing water and sanitation services to the people of the region.

The AMCOW General Assembly serves as a platform for Ministers of Water and Sanitation to discuss issues affecting the continent and take key decisions.

The Assembly will also focus on issues such as climate change, water supply, sanitation; Senegal Blue Fund, Africa Sanitation Policy Guidelines amongst others and South Africa is expected to lead discussions on sanitation while member states will share their experiences.

South Africa is one of the few countries in the continent that has an approved Sanitation Policy (2016) and Deputy Minister Tshwete is expected to share with member states South Africa's milestones in its resolve to address historic sanitation challenges and also highlight plans to tackle outstanding backlogs.

Parallel to the 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, Deputy Minister Tshwete will participate in the 7<sup>th</sup> Africa Water Week activities convened by AMCOW and African Union Commission under the theme ***"Toward Achieving Water Security and Safely Managed Sanitation for Africa"***.

Furthermore, the 7<sup>th</sup> Africa Water Week is set to build momentum on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to water security and sanitation by 2030, the 2025 Africa Water Vision as well as bringing to the fore the Africa's Agenda 2063.

Over 1 000 representatives from governments, regional institutions, international partners, the private sector, the scientific community and civil society from all over the continent will converge to discuss and collectively seek solutions to Africa's water and sanitation challenges.

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

**For more information contact: Sputnik Ratau at 082 874 2942**

**For media releases, speeches and news visit the Water & Sanitation portal at:**  
[www.dwa.gov.za](http://www.dwa.gov.za)