



## GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

### LAUNCH OF CURRENCY MUSEUM

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VENUE: CENTRAL BANK OF ESWATINI, MBABANE

DATE: 10 NOVEMBER 2021

#### SALUTATIONS

- The Representative of His Majesty the King, Your Excellency The Right Honorable Prime Minister
- Your Royal Highnesses
- Deputy Prime Minister
- Cabinet Ministers
- Regional Administrator of the Hhohho Region
- Former Ministers of Finance
- Former Governor of the Central Bank of Eswatini
- Central Bank Board of Directors
- Central Bank Management and Staff
- Captains of industry
- Mlandvo and your family
- Invited Guests
- Media houses represented here
- Ladies and gentlemen

I greet you all.

#### INTRODUCTION

- We are indeed honored and privileged as a Bank to have His Majesty The King's blessing to host this event. We are equally excited that he delegated you, Your Excellency to represent him. The exciting part is that you, Your Excellency, are not new to the Central Bank. Before joining the PSPF you were an employee of this Bank. So welcome back home Your Excellency.
- We also feel honored by the presence of the former Ministers of Finance who have come to witness the attainment of this milestone of the Bank. In my other previous national assignment I consulted and many times got guidance from them. They would all



agree with me that the ministry is a continuously high pressure ministry, often making you unpopular amongst your cabinet colleagues. Support from the Prime Minister's Office goes a long way, and I have no doubt Minister Neal can count on your Excellency support.

- It is a pleasure to also welcome my Governor and Minister, Senator Martin Dlamini. For many years we worked together to guide the country's financial sector, and when we swapped positions, it was easy continuity for us.
- Mntfwanenkhosi RA, I have served with you during difficult and at times not so difficult a time at cabinet. Your open and frank advise that you never stopped giving me lingers in my heart, and I am excited that you are here to welcome us to your region.
- It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the Central Bank of Eswatini for the official opening of the Currency Museum.
- The Currency Museum is an initiative by the Central Bank of Eswatini that was commissioned by the Board of Directors to preserve the historical legacy of the country's currency for the benefit of present and future generations.

## **BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT**

- The Currency Museum project was started in October 2019, having been preceded by benchmarking visits both locally and regionally. Unfortunately, delays were experienced in the project implementation timelines as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic which impacted the free flow of required goods and services.
- Some of the work entailed in gathering data for the Museum involved digging through the Bank's archives including consultations with the National Archives, King Sobhuza II Memorial Park and Umsamo. Various individuals also assisted with information and even some of the pictures displayed in the Museum and we are extremely grateful for their positive contribution.



- We cannot claim to have got all that was used as a means of money since the formation of this nation. For this reason if anybody has any information, no matter how far back it dates, that will enrich the museum, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will come to you. **Uma wati kutsi kusengakafiki indilinga kwakutsengiselwana ngani. Uma ute tinkhomo wawulobola ngani? Siyaludzinga lololwati naloko kwakusentjentswa. Ngumlandvo weMaswati lowo.**
- A number of the artifacts in the Museum were sourced from the Minters that the Bank has utilized over the years in the minting of the Kingdom's coins, namely: Royal Mint and South African Mint.
- The work that has gone into this project has culminated in today's occasion.

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

- Going forward, we have taken a conscious decision as a Bank to preserve a proper record of currency and other bank related events and milestones, so as to make it easier to build up on this base that has been started.
- As an example, we have in our midst Mlandvo Motsa, the winner of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Coin Design Competition. This competition was targeted at encouraging school going children aged 6 -16 years to research about the history of economic development in the country, and depict a graphic representation for the reverse side of a coin.
- Mlandvo's concept was about 50 years of urban and rural development; integration of science and technology and producing enough food through agriculture to feed the nation. Out of 132 children from all over the country who joined the competition, Mlandvo scooped the overall price, placing him in the history books of currency in the country. You will find his own corner in the museum, where we acknowledge his brainchild.
- May we all appreciate the young man and encourage all parents to support their children in their interests, especially those that will improve their understanding of the rich culture and where we come from as a country, even beyond currency matters.



- The Currency Museum will be open to the public, by appointment, and we encourage that interested parties and school children tour this heritage area free of charge.
- Appointments can be made via the Bank's Communication Office at 2408 2280.
- A video of a virtual tour of the Museum will be made available on the Bank's website and online platforms for those who may wish to see what the Currency Museum has to offer.
- Finally Your Excellency, it would be remiss of me if I do not appeal to you as head of cabinet to assist the Bank get traction to its so many bills sitting in government waiting to find its way to parliament. We are in a fast changing sector, thus the proposed laws are meant for us to stay ahead.

## CONCLUSION

- In conclusion,
- As a Central Bank family would like to convey our sincere gratitude to their Majesties for blessing this event.
- The Board, management and staff of the Bank have tasked me to present to their Majesties three beasts (Ematfokati Lamatsatfu) two of these are being presented to *Imbube Yemhlaba* His Majesty the King whilst one is being presented to *Siba Lubovu* Her Majesty the Queen as a token of our immense appreciation.

*BAYETHE WENA WAPHAKATHI, NKHOSI, NDLOVUKAZI MHLEKAZI*

- Your Excellency, nawe wena wekunene I bhodi ingitfume kutsi ngibonge kusukumela etulu utokwenta lomsebenti lomkhulu kangaka eBhange ngesipho. Your Excellency this is a gift box of Independence Anniversary Commemorative Coins which we believe will be of sentimental value to you and your family.



- We also have tokens of appreciation to our Minister of Finance, Regional Administrator, and former Ministers of Finance.
- Ndvunankhulu welive sicela usibulalele emabhodlela kuye Shaka Lomnyama ngekusibusisela lomsebenti longaka. Libhange litsi **Bayethe**.
- Ladies and gentleman, I thank you all for your kind attention.

**Bayethe! Wena Wakaphakathi!**