

**REMARKS BY MEC FOR EDUCATION IN KWAZULU-NATAL, MS  
MBALI FRAZER, DURING THE POETRY COMPETITION PRIZE  
GIVING CEREMONY HELD AT THE KZN LEGISLATURE ON 2  
SEPTEMBER 2022**

Programme Director

Speaker of the KZN Legislature: Honourable NN Boyce

Deputy Speaker, Honourable RT Mthembu

Deputy Chief Whip: Honourable VP Caluza

Reverend Ntshangase

Head of the Department of Education

Provincial government officials

Teachers

Osingaye, our poets

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning,

**1**

I would like to start by congratulating all the 22 schools that participated in the Online Poetry Competition which was organised by the Office of the Speaker. I was among those who were absolutely thrilled by the stunning talent and creativity showcased by all our young poets, so all the entrants deserve a round of applause.

## **2**

Lomcintiswano uphinde waba nesasasa elikhulu ezinkundleni zokuxhumana njengoba sibone nabahlali bakulesiFundazwe bewathakasela kakhulu ama video ezinkondlo ebefakwe ku Facebook.

## **3**

All the poems showed depth and comprehensive understanding of the children's role in protecting the environment. That showed the judges and all of us that all the contestants put in a lot of effort into their poems and perfecting their delivery. I'm sure the judges had a difficult time choosing the winning poems because all of them were nothing short of brilliant. Ngithanda nokugcizelela ukuthi kuyasithokosisa kakhulu thina njengoMnyango wezeMfundo ukubona imincintiswano efana nalona ethuthukisa izilimi zethu njengabantu ebaMnyama esikhathini lapho abantwana bethu sebegxile kakhulu eSingisini nokuyisona abasibona siwulimi okubalulekile.

## **4**

Umlayezo obuqukethwe kuzo zonke izinkondlo usinika ithemba lokuthi nizokhula ningabantwana abawunakekelayo umhlaba nemvelo ukuze nezizukulwane ezizayo ziwufice uyikhaya eliphephile labantu nezilwane. Planet Earth is our only home so we must all do everything in our power to protect it from the threat of global warming. So, we must not litter or do anything that could harm the environment like polluting our rivers and public spaces.

## **5**

I would also like to extend my gratitude to parents and educators who helped our learners finetune their poems and record the videos that were

submitted as entries. We all have a collective responsibility to nurture these young minds because they are indeed our future. The importance of quality education can never be overstated as it remains the only key to remedy inequality and reduces poverty.

Ngiyabonga