



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**REMARKS BY THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT, KWAZULU-NATAL, ON THE OCCASION OF
UNITED NATIONS DAY COMMEMORATION**

Programme Director, Ms. Jacinta Ngobese-Zuma

Founder and Chairman of African Global Networks NPC, Mr. Wiseman Mkhize

Whip of the Community Services Portfolio, eThekweni Municipality, Councillor Cheryl Sisoka

Head of the United Nations Information Centre, Mr. Simba Tafirenyika

Chief Director Business Support Mr T.W. Mkhize leading the delegation from the Department

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, Good evening.

Before I begin, allow me to convey warm greetings and sincere apologies from the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Ms. TP kaMadlopha-Mthethwa, who could not be with us today due to prior official commitments. The MEC has asked me to extend her heartfelt appreciation to the organisers and all partners for hosting this important event, and to reaffirm the Department's full support for the values and objectives of the United Nations. She sends her best wishes for a fruitful and inspiring commemoration.

Today, we gather to celebrate United Nations Day — a day that reminds us of our shared humanity and the collective effort required to build a world anchored in peace, justice, and sustainable development.

Since its founding in 1945, the United Nations has served as a beacon of global cooperation, bringing nations and peoples together to confront the world's most pressing challenges — from conflict and inequality to climate change, hunger, and poverty.

This occasion calls on us to renew our commitment to those timeless principles of multilateralism, solidarity, and compassion that underpin the UN Charter.

As the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in KwaZulu-Natal, we take pride in aligning our programmes with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those

that focus on ending hunger, promoting sustainable agriculture, empowering women and youth, and uplifting rural communities.

Every day, through our work with farmers, cooperatives, and stakeholders, we strive to ensure that no one is left behind in our province's path toward food security and inclusive growth.

We also recognise that progress requires partnership — across sectors, nations, and communities. The challenges confronting agriculture today, including the impacts of climate change, land degradation, and economic inequality, can only be addressed through collective effort. The UN reminds us that lasting solutions are born from collaboration, unity, and a shared vision for humanity.

On this United Nations Day, let us recommit ourselves to advancing a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive agricultural sector — one that not only feeds our people but also protects our environment and strengthens our rural economies.

Together, let us continue to translate the vision of the United Nations into tangible action — building a KwaZulu-Natal, a South Africa, and a world where peace, prosperity, and dignity are shared by all.

Happy United Nations Day, and thank you.













