



MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday 14 June 2006

Visit by the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom to Potchefstroom – His Excellency Paul Boateng

ANGLICAN CHURCH, IKAGENG – The High Commissioner of the United Kingdom to South Africa, Mr Paul Boateng and his wife Jane – paid a special visit to the Anglican Church in Ikageng on Sunday 04 June 2006. The church, which is the first Cathedral in a black township, was filled to its capacity by congregants and other well-wishers.

The Anglican Church, which falls within the Diocese of Matlosana – is a sanctuary to many of the cream of leadership within the Potchefstroom City Council. For example, the former Executive Mayor Councillor Raymond Mampe and his predecessor Councillor Andrew Maphetle are members of this church. The Council Whip, Councillor Barei Segotso and Acting Municipal Manager [Mr Badirwang Moumakwe] are also counted among the members of this house of worship.

In his speech – Mr Boateng highlighted the importance and role that a church can play within a community. He also informed the church about his early meetings with the Tambo family when they were in exile in Ghana – and further emphasized the commitment of Britain and its people in the development of Africa. When given an opportunity to address the congregation – Jane Boateng spoke more on the protection of children and respect of their rights. She shared her experiences with the people of Potchefstroom – and appealed for their full commitment and concentration on raising children in a secured environment.

The Boatengs were on their first visit to Potchefstroom and promised more visits in the future.



Executive Mayor Andrew Maphetle addressing the congregation during the visit of High Commissioner Paul Boateng and his wife Jane.



High Commissioner of United Kingdom to South Africa, Mr Paul Boateng and wife Jane at the Anglican Church



The Boatengs with Councillor Rainy Martins – Member of the Mayoral Committee from the southern District Municipality



Executive Mayor Maphetle and Councillor Segotso sharing gifts with the Boatengs.