

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**To** : *All media*  
**Attention** : *News Editors & Journalists*  
**Date** : *14 February 2016*



### **uMDM STATEMENT ON SONA 2016**

uMgungundlovu District Municipality (uMDM) commends President Jacob Zuma for his wide-ranging speech during the 2016 State of the Nation Address on the evening of Thursday 11 February 2016, including the reinforcement of the Government's Nine-Point Turnaround Strategy to revitalize the economy.

"We feel that these measures will go a long way in assisting our ailing economy and put the country on a growth trajectory," said uMDM Mayor, Mr Yusuf Bhamjee.

#### **COST CUTTING MEASURES**

"We particularly welcomed President Zuma's announcement of Government's plan to cut down on wasteful and unnecessary expenditures and cutting or limiting of such expenses as overseas travels, lunches and dinners. We noted that he also called on Ministers, Premiers and Mayors to help in curtailing wasteful expenditures.

"We take to heart what the President has said and we will continue on this difficult journey to strike a balance between clean audits and sustainable service delivery". Mr Bhamjee added.

#### **EFFORTS TO MITIGATE DROUGHTS**

Mr Bhamjee said the uMDM has also noted with satisfaction that the President addressed the ongoing drought. "In the KZN Midlands, we are feeling the full impact of the drought. It was heartening to learn that the President is just as concerned about this unfolding natural disaster. Therefore we welcome his interventions in this regard, including efforts such as putting more resources to drought relief measures, including water tankers to distressed communities."

