Message of appreciation from the past governor

The Eastern Cape province held its annual conference from 19–20 September 2024 at East London International Convention Centre, coinciding with Heritage Month, and I was fortunate to have been invited by the regional committee to attend.

Heritage plays a vital role in South Africa, reflecting the country's rich cultural diversity, complex history, and transformation. It helps preserve cultural identities, fosters understanding, and promotes unity in our multi-ethnic society. The conference’s agenda, which aligned with Heritage Month, included a tribute to former regional governors, recognizing their contributions. This resonated with me as serving on the committee requires immense dedication and selflessness.

Among the speakers were esteemed individuals such as Prof. S. Fikeni, Ms. A. Mayataza, as well as the CEO and Board Chairperson of the Institute of Internal Auditors South Africa, who shared their experiences and insights. Their contributions made a lasting impression.

As the saying goes, "A person who does not know their roots is like a person who is doomed." Understanding and honoring one's heritage is essential, as it grounds us in our identity, history, and culture, providing a foundation from which we can grow and thrive. Knowing where we come from helps us navigate where we are going.

In the messages of support from former governors, it was emphasized that those who wish to serve on the committee must be driven by their professional commitment rather than any expectation of financial compensation, as these roles are voluntary and unpaid. They stressed that the primary requirement for committee members is a strong sense of duty and dedication to advancing the objectives of the region.

Additionally, succession planning was highlighted as a critical component for ensuring the ongoing success and continuity of the committee's work. By grooming future leaders and encouraging younger members to step into leadership roles, the region can maintain its stability and progress well into the future. The focus on cultivating new talent and fostering leadership development within the committee is essential for long-term sustainability.

As I reflect on the experience, it becomes evident that the Border Kei region's success in winning the national award for best performance in 2021 and 2023 is no coincidence.

This recognition is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and strategic vision of the committee. I am confident that the current cohort of committee members will continue to champion the internal audit profession, further enhancing its influence and success in the region. Their commitment to excellence and fostering growth will undoubtedly drive even greater achievements in the future.

A heartfelt thank you to the Eastern Cape region (IIASA Border Kei and Gqeberha) for your outstanding efforts. I wish you continued success and nothing but the very best in your future endeavors!

Kind regards,

Moses Mbedhli

Past Governor

IIASA Border Kei Region

The Institute of Internal Auditors South Africa