

**CLOSING REMARKS BY CLR MPHO PARKS TAU, EXECUTIVE
MAYOR OF JOHANNESBURG, AT THE UBUNTU LECCTURE AND
PEACE 7 DIALOGUE AWARDS CEREMONY, FOURWAYS, 9
SEPTEMBER, 09 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Her Excellency, the Honourable Chairperson of the African Union
Commission Dr Nkosazana-Dlamini-Zuma,
Her Excellency, Minister Susan Shabangu
Her Excellency, Minister Nomvula Mokonyane
Judge Jody Kollapen
Executive Director of Turquoise Harmony Institute, Mr Ayhan Cetin
Vice- Chancellor and Principal of Wits University, Professor Adam Habib
Senior Government Officials
Ladies and gentlemen

As the Executive Mayor of Johannesburg I would like to thank the
Turquoise Harmony Institute for organizing this annual Ubuntu Lecture
and the Peace & Dialogue Awards Ceremony. As we all know it is aimed
at recognizing individuals, organizations and entities contributing to
peace building, tolerance, education, dialogue and social cohesion in our
beloved country. As they say in Xhosa, *ningadinwa nangomso*: your
inspiring efforts should be continued far into the future.

Programme Director, we would like to congratulate the BUSKAID Soweto
String Project, for being chosen as this year's Ubuntu Awards winner.
Speaking of this inspiring project directly to you, Ms Rosemary Nalden:
the Project's help for up and coming black musicians has certainly not
gone unnoticed. This award will go a long way towards encouraging
communities and individuals to roll their sleeves and involve themselves

in community work, from peace building to education and other projects related to nation building. We sincerely congratulate you on your achievements and on your efforts to impart musical skills to township youth. We wish you and the BUSKAID Soweto String Project well in its future endeavors.

Professor Adam Habib, Vice-Chancellor of Wits University: we want to thank you for your inspiring lecture on Ubuntu. Indeed, as you emphasize, friendship and dialogue are real ingredients of Ubuntu without which dialogue can be stifled. And, as you went on to say, as a country and as part of Africa we do most certainly require a social pact which will enable all of us, collectively, to reconstruct and build this great continent, freeing our people from the doldrums of poverty, inequality and unemployment. By working together as Africans in the spirit of Ubuntu, we will certainly be making a meaningful contribution to ensuring that the work of our government and indeed that of the African Union Commission, led by Her Excellency Dr Nkosazana Zuma, here with us today, achieves its objectives. We thank you for your perceptive and incisive lecture.

Again, we would like to thank the Turquoise Harmony Institute for bringing all of us under one roof. Most importantly, ladies and gentlemen, we would like to thank the Institute for awarding the prestigious Gulen Peace Award to our struggle icon, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, who served the South African government with distinction and is currently the first female Chairperson of the African Union Commission. This outstanding leader, who has served in so many roles as an emancipator of our people, truly deserves this award.

Your Excellency, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, on behalf of the City of Johannesburg I congratulate you on receiving the prestigious Gulen Peace Award. You are an outstanding leader, a model to whom we, especially the younger generation in the African National Congress, the country and the African continent as a whole, look up to for guidance and leadership. May you be blessed with many more years in which to continue your exceptional work.

Thank you