

# The Weekly

## ANC ENDORSES MAGASHULE'S CABINET RESHUFFLING

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Hailed for reshuffling ... The ANC in the Free State said Premier Ace Magashule consulted party structures before making his decision to change his cabinet

**The current MEC for agriculture, Msebenzi Zwane, will swap portfolios with the MEC for economic development, tourism and environmental affairs, Mamiki Qabathe**

The ANC in the Free State has endorsed the appointment of two new MECs by Premier Ace Magashule and affirmed that the reshuffling will bolster service delivery in the province.

The ruling party believes the appointment of former director general, Elsabe Rockman as MEC for finance, and former Bloemwater CEO, Dr. Benjamin Malakoane as MEC for health, will strengthen service delivery in the province.

ANC provincial secretary, Oupa Khoabane, said the ruling party is fully behind the reshuffling.

“We are confident that the two comrades will strengthen the provincial government in their respective portfolio and improve service delivery. We are happy that the premier consulted extensively with ANC structures before making his decision.”

Khoabane's comments follow Magashule's third cabinet reshuffle since his appointment as head of the province in 2009.

Magashule appointed Rockman, as the new MEC for finance and replaced the late MEC for health Fundiswa “Fezi” Ngubentombi with Malakoane. Both cabinet appointments are with immediate effect and the two MEC's resumed their respective offices on Monday this week.

Rockman was the head of monitoring and evaluation in the department of the premier in 2009; prior to becoming the province' director-general in 2010. She is also the former secretary of the Free State legislature.

She has replaced the former MEC for finance, Seiso Mohai, who will move to the national assembly to become a member of parliament.

Mohai was appointed as the MEC responsible for finance following the 2009 general elections. He was also the chairperson of the governance and human settlement cluster of the Free State provincial government.

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Magashule thanked Mohai for his contribution to the executive council, as well as Rockman for her contribution to the public service and wished them well in their future endeavours. He said he is confident that Mohai's redeployment will strengthen the provincial representation in Parliament.

Malakoane returns to the Free State provincial cabinet for the second time. His first stint was as MEC for economic development, tourism and environmental affairs, before he was relieved of his duties.

Two years later, he became the municipal manager of the Matjhabeng Local Municipality. In 2009, he was appointed as the chairperson of the board of Bloemwater and a year later he became the CEO.

The current MEC for agriculture, Msebenzi Zwane, will swap portfolios with the MEC for economic development, tourism and environmental affairs, Mamiki Qabathe.

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