



the premier

Department of
the Premier
FREE STATE PROVINCE

MEDIA STATEMENT

PREMIER MAGASHULE HOSTS CHINESE DELEGATION

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Free State premier Ace Magashule will today host a delegation from the Jiangsu Province in China to a Dinner Reception at Free State House. The delegation is visiting the Free State Province for two days as a result of bilateral relations that exist between the Free State Provincial Government and China.

The main purpose of the visit is to meet with Premier Magashule to discuss continued co-operation between the Free State and the Jiangsu Province, and the announcement of the scholarships for two Free State students for advanced studies in Agriculture at Universities in China.

The two Free State students are:

1. Mr Pule Samuel Tau (he holds a National Diploma in Agricultural Management)
2. Ms Motshewa Leburu (she holds a B Tech in Agricultural Management)

The Chinese delegation will also meet with the officials from the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs including Head of Department, Mr Ozzie Osman, and the CEO of Free State Tourism Authority (FSTA). The parties will discuss economic co-operation, Investment and Tourism opportunities as part of a follow-up to the discussions initiated by Premier Magashule during his visit to China two years ago.

The Free State Province has already developed strong economic ties with China. A Chinese business consortium is currently developing a R45 million fish hatchery at Gariiep Dam. The project will create much needed jobs in the province. An additional R15 million is to be given each year for three years. The hatchery will also be used to advance research, providing a facility for agricultural scientists, technicians and farmers to test new farming methodologies.

The Free State government has signed Letter of Intent on Friendly Exchanges and Cooperation and a Joint Communiqué with Jiangsu Province. In April 2010, Premier Magashule led a high-powered delegation comprising Members of the Executive Council and local business people on a working visit to the People's Republic of China. Premier Magashule visited various provinces in China: Gaung Dong, Jiangsu, Anhui, Shaanxi and Jiangxi from 28 April to 11 May 2010.

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