

**WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF SENATE,  
SENATOR LINDIWE DLAMINI, AT THE STATE OPENING OF THE  
3<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF THE 12th PARLIAMENT, ON 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY  
2026**

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*Your Majesty, The King and iNgwenyama;*

*Your Majesty, iNdlovukazi, the Queen Mother;*

*Emakhosikati;*

*Your Royal Highnesses, Bantfwabenkosi;*

*Bobabe Tikhulu;*

*Royal Counsellors;*

*My Colleague, The Hon Jabulani Mabuza, Speaker of the House  
of Assembly;*

*Your Excellency, The Right Honourable Prime Minister;*

*Your Lordship, The Chief Justice*

*The Honourable Deputy Prime Minister;*

*Honourable Ministers;*

*Honourable Members of Both Houses Of Parliament;*

*Your Excellences', Members Of The Diplomatic Corps And  
Development Partners;*

*Judges of the Supreme Court,*

***Judges of The High Court, as well as Judges of The Industrial Court;***

***The Learned Attorney General;***

***Regional Administrator - Hhohho Region***

***Your Graces, the Bishops;***

***Parliamentary Service Board;***

***The Clerk to Parliament and Parliamentary Service Staff***

***Distinguished Guests;***

***Members of the Fourth Estate***

***Ladies and Gentlemen***

Your Majesty, our hearts are full of gratitude for the honor to extend a warm welcome to their Majesties at the inauguration of the third Session of the Twelfth Parliament in this historic year. Your Presence has always been a testament to your unwavering commitment to Parliament and the well-being of all Emaswati. *Bayethe, Wena Waphakathi.*

It is with the most profound sense of honor and joy that we welcome *Mhlekezzi*, the Mother of the Nation. Nkhosi.

We are equally delighted to extend a warm and inclusive welcome to our global audience joining us through digital platforms. Though separated by distance, we are united in the spirit of the occasion.

Your Majesty, it is indeed a great privilege for all of us to assemble today in the presence of their Majesties shortly after our sacred national pilgrimage, the *Incwala* which continues to offer us a vital season of reflection and a vibrant celebration of our culture. It was deeply moving to witness *Emabutfo* and the nation gather in such immense numbers. This was a powerful demonstration of how our culture fortifies our unity and defines our common identity as a sovereign people.

***Wena Wekunene***, our spirits are still revived, following the National Opening Prayer Service, where the nation gathered as one to seek the divine counsel of the Almighty. The prayer service was also a deep reminder that our strength as a nation is found only when we rest in God's providence. Therefore, we are truly a

blessed nation, to be led by a King who not only rules with wisdom, but kneels in prayer alongside his people, anchoring our future in the grace of God.

Your Majesty, we are deeply moved by your spiritual stewardship; your exhortation for us to seek Agape Love resonates as a divine mandate for your people. Such unconditional love is the key ingredient for a bright future for the family and the community at large. Without genuine love, life loses its meaning.

*Ngwenyama Ndvuna*, we remain steadfast in our faith that the Almighty God will continue to grant you the wisdom of Solomon in the latter years of your reign for the betterment of your people. We are profusely inspired by your declaration of 40 years of **renewal and transformation** for the nation; indeed, to us it is a catalyst of hope, progress and endurance.

**Your Majesty**, as the Kingdom of *Eswatini* marks this historic milestone of **forty years of peace and unity**, we stand in profound awe of the stability and grace that have defined your illustrious reign. Since the moment of your enthronement in 1986, your wise leadership has been the cornerstone of our national identity, fostering a sanctuary of peace in a turbulent world. Under your judicious leadership, we have witnessed a remarkable transformation of the socio-economic landscape and the lives of the people. From the outstanding modern road infrastructure and international gateways to the expansion of our industrial hubs and

extensive rural electrification, your vision has turned aspirations into a living reality.

We have seen the doors of education swing wider for our youth, the strengthening of our healthcare systems, and a renewed drive toward technological innovation that positions our nation as a competitive force in the region.

Beyond the visible triumphs of economic growth and infrastructure, we give thanks for the intangible spirit of unity that Your Majesty has nurtured. Your commitment to the modernization of our economy has been masterfully balanced with the preservation of our sacred cultural heritage, ensuring that *Eswatini* advances without losing its culture.

*Ngwenyama Ndvuna*, we recognize that the global challenge of climate change is now manifesting in increasingly severe weather conditions; consequently, Parliament remains committed to engage with and adopt international strategies designed to build national resilience against these shifting environmental realities.

Your Majesty, as Parliament we are further steadfast in our support for the country's insightful foreign policy doctrine that maintains that *Asinasitsa*. Your Majesty this astute international position enables the nation to navigate with stability and success in the increasingly turbulent arena of global politics.

In loyal obedience to Your Majesty's visionary call to bring governance closer to the hearts of the people, Parliament has successfully launched the **'Taking Parliament to the People'** pilot programme. Beginning in the Manzini region, we have visited the *Mangcongco Inkundla* and the *Nkamazi* Chiefdom, engaging directly with your people *Wena Wekunene*. We are heartened to report, Your Majesty, that *Emaswati* received this initiative with excitement and fervent participation, proving that the bond between the people and their government remains a necessity in ensuring that the voices of the people resonate within our debates.

Furthermore, in the diligent execution of our legislative mandate, I am pleased to report, Your Majesty, that Parliament has successfully passed **nineteen primary Acts of legislation** and **six instruments of subordinate legislation**. These legal frameworks which involved extensive stakeholder participation are specifically designed to strengthen the pillars of our society, ensuring that our laws evolve to meet the modern needs of our nation while upholding the peace and stability that have defined your forty years of excellence *Wena Wekunene*.

Your Majesty, may I also report that our Parliamentarians continue to participate and excel in regional and international forums, earning key leadership positions in prestigious global bodies and becoming a benchmark of excellence for our peers.

Today, we also mark two important milestones in the life of our Parliament. Under Your Majesty's gracious hand, we will witness the launch of the **Parliament History Book**, a record of our legislative journey and a testament to the resilience and growth of our monarchical democracy. Equally, we celebrate the unveiling of the **Parliament Studio**, a modern facility that will enhance communication, transparency, and engagement between Parliament and the citizens of *Eswatini*.

Your Majesty, the Third Session of the Twelfth Parliament also promises to be a busy one in the spirit of Nkwe!. We are scheduled to host the 60th SADC Parliamentary Forum Plenary Assembly and the 23rd Southern Africa Development Community of Public Accounts Committees (SADCOPAC) Annual General Meeting and 18th Conference.

In conclusion, **Your Majesty**, the Twelfth Parliament stands before you today not merely as a legislative body, but as a devoted guardian of your vision and a humble servant of the people of *Eswatini*. We are emboldened by the achievements of the past forty years, yet we remain hungry for the progress that lies ahead under your steady hand. We pledge our continued loyalty to the Throne and our unwavering dedication to the peace and prosperity of this Great Kingdom.

May the Almighty God, who has sustained this Nation in excellence, continue to pour out His spirit upon you and **iNdlovukazi, Mhlekezi.**

*Iphalamende yakho WenaWaphakathi ingitfume kutfula siphosetinkhomo **letisiphohlango. Letisihlanu Tembube Yemhlaba, letintsatfu TeNdlovu Yemhlaba.***

It is now my highest honor and humble privilege to invite **His Majesty, the iNgwenyama**, to graciously address this Third Session of the Twelfth Parliament and provide us with the royal guidance that will light our path forward.

*Ngekutifoba lokukhulu, Ngwenyama Ndvuna yeMaswati, ngicela Imbube yeMhlaba iphefumulele iPhalamende, iphefumulele Live, nemhlaba kulesicephu sesitsatfu kuyo iPhalamende yelishumi nakubili.*

***Bayethe WenaWaphakathi !***

***Nkhosi Ndlovukazi Mhlekezi!***