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PROGRAM NAME: WOMANITY –WOMEN IN UNITY

GUEST NAME: MINISTER LINDIWE ZULU

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPTION
DR. MALKA (INTRODUCTION)	Hello, I'm Dr. Amaleya Goneos-Malka, welcome to 'Womanity – Women in unity'. The show that celebrates prominent and ordinary African women's milestone achievements in their struggles for liberation, self-emancipation, human rights, democracy, racism, socio-economic class division and gender based violence.
DR. MALKA (GUEST SYNOPSIS)	Joining us today is South Africa's Minister of Small Business Development, Lindiwe Zulu, who I will briefly introduce. She became a member of the Gauteng Legislature in 1994. In 1995 she was appointed Deputy Speaker of the Gauteng Legislature. In 1999 she became the Special Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 2001 she was appointed Chief Director for Western and Central Africa. In 2004 she became the South African Ambassador to Brazil and in 2007 she was elected to the ANC National Executive Committee and in 2009 was elected to Parliament. Welcome to the show, Minister.
MINISTER ZULU	Thank you very much for the invitation, I'm really delighted to be with you today.
DR. MALKA	It's a pleasure to have you here and casting back, it's been almost a year since we last met, at the Reconciliation Day with the unveiling of the Nelson Mandela statue.
MINISTER ZULU	And so much has happened since then as you can see now, I'm the Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises, a very exciting space that I'm in, but I've had to adjust obviously from being on International Relations, Special Adviser to the President. This is just how politics goes.
DR. MALKA	It's a fantastic achievement and congratulations.
MINISTER ZULU	Thank you very much.
DR. MALKA	Now, Minister today you hold one of the most significant offices for the future growth and development of our economy and have become a role model for millions of women and girls in South Africa. Can you please share with us, a few of the landmarks in year career and when you understood that politics was a big part of your destiny.
MINISTER ZULU	Well maybe, let me just take a step back and say that the person in my life, that helped me shape my life and my future was my grandmother who was a domestic working in Johannesburg for many, many years who retired after I was born. But after retirement she then decided that there was nothing as important for her as it was in the education of her children, that it will be important for us, more than being educated. Even if I disappointed her a few times by having children when I was, shouldn't have been having children at all, she still took me back to school. So that is where the solid base started. From just a normal life, day to day life but also from a political point of view, she was also the person that made me conscious of what was going on in South Africa herself and my

	<p>grandfather, because my grandfather lived in hostels in Johannesburg for more than fifty years and by the time he passed on there was nothing much that he could show for, except for the fact that he had us grandchildren and he assisted in bringing us up and a few trophies. Trophies, you would be surprised what there is, it would be very interesting for people to know that today at the end of each year, people get what they call a bonus. My grandfather used to receive trophies. I still have them, they are trophies that are written his name and they are written, for best service. That's all he got in each and every end of the year.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>So recognition for the work that he had done, in the form of an award as opposed to a form of remunerative benefit.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Absolutely. There was nothing, but then I can proudly say that my grandparents, the best that they created for me and making me aware of the fact that South Africa could be a better place, if we struggle to change it into that and I did just that. I joined the liberation struggle. I am proudly a member of the African National Congress and I have been a member of the African National Congress as way back as 1978 to date and I think also the ANC as a liberation movement did a lot to add to what my grandparents had started by giving me an opportunity to go and study and I went overseas. I studied in Moscow. That's where I did my journalism and came back with a Master's Degree.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Congratulations, that's a really significant achievement and especially working on both the liberation elements but still being able to further yourself and advancing yourself.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Absolutely, because this is what the African National Congress thought was very important, and in particular, I would mention, O. R. Tambo who was leading the African National Congress at that time. He really believed in education. As a result, when I joined the African National Congress, and in particular, because I was just coming out of College at the time. I was studying at the time in Swaziland in the Swaziland Development and Cooperative College. So when they learnt that I had come out of College, they then said, well there's no way that you can go anywhere else except school and at the time, obviously, everyone was clamouring to go to Angola to do their military training, I could just think of my grandparents and the way that they had wanted us to be educated that when the ANC then was offering me to continue with my studies, even though it was going to be a different field altogether, but all the same it was a field of choice. I chose that I wanted to do journalism because that's what I obviously wanted to do so the issue of education for the ANC was very important. So they build for my grandmother to the ANC is what made me to be where I am today.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>There is a total succession there, from building on from your grandparents, their philosophies, their ideologies to groom you into the achievement of who you are today.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Absolutely, but also may I say, that it was just the women in the ANC at the time. From the time that we had to go to school, who decided that they had to support us. I mean I can talk about one of the women, that we always looked up to, Gertrude Shope. She's old today but she's a stalwart</p>

	<p>today but she is the kind of woman that was always there to look after us, as young girls. There were many other women who took care of us because when we were out in exile, there was no mother and no father but just elderly people of the ANC, who made sure that we completed our school and Gertrude Shope was one that even visited us when we were in Moscow studying, sent by the ANC. Even when I went to do my military training in Angola, she was among the women that came to visit us just to make sure that we as women are treated correctly, even within the liberation movement itself.</p>
<p>DR. MALKA</p>	<p>And that's an important point that you raised which I'd like to go back to, a little further on in our discussion, but today, you are now Minister of Small Business Development and you just started your term of office and you have explained during the course of the colloquium earlier, that the structures, the mission, the vision, the fundamentals are in place for the department. Are there any specific milestones that you want to achieve in the current zone and is women's representation one of the milestones or one of the priorities on the agenda?</p>
<p>MINISTER ZULU</p>	<p>Absolutely. Our priority is really to have a common understanding of the state of SMMEs, the Small, Medium and Micro Enterprise Sector, in South Africa and also even break it down to looking at who in those SMMEs are we talking about. That is why our target is youth, women and people with disabilities because we think that those are the people that actually are the backbone for South Africa, yesterday, for South Africa, today and for South Africa tomorrow and therefore and particularly women, we think, it's important, because the empowerment of women or if I may call it, as we used to call it, before, the emancipation of women is very important because women are the ones that really nurture almost everything in our society and the more they're empowered enough to be able to bring up, not only bring up children from child bearing but once the children are there, we have the necessary resources and everything to make sure that those children, I am an example of a grandmother that, because my father died when I was still very small and my parents never married. So my grandparents were the ones that took responsibility of myself and my siblings and because my grandmother had such a strong belief in education, she graduated from being a domestic worker into a hawker, from being a hawker into small business and she managed to feed us, to clothe us and to educate us through that. So with that kind of an understanding of what a woman can do with the little resources that a woman gets, targeting women for me is very important and also even in the travels that I've done around the country, I've found that small businesses are run by women but at the end of the day, the ones that are being run by women, they collapse so easily because the little that women get, the first thing that they do is to think about their family, think about the clothes, the food and everything so we target women because we think that women, I also learnt from the bank in India that when they borrow women, women are the ones that return the money, more than any other. So our target is those three targets but what is very important for us is yes, understanding the SMMEs, yes, understanding who are at play in SMMEs but it's also about creating a conducive environment for SMMEs to thrive, which therefore means we must look at the legislative and regulatory environment, we must look at the kind of support that they</p>

	<p>need in terms of skills development, in terms of financial support, but also more than anything else is about looking at markets for them because what's the point of women producing things or one woman trying to produce something only to find that she doesn't know where to start, with selling whatever products that she has set to do.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Having access to the right markets, having access to the financial resources, having access to knowledge and communication.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>And communication, actually. In fact, the communication, I personally believe that is one of the weak links that we have in our system, because in order for people to access whatever you're trying to do as government, that has to be communicated to them and many a times the communication is flying high there. So that you know, your people that you are targeting do not get the information, but more than that, it's about getting the information on time because there is nothing as crucial and critical for people who are in business to get everything timeously. So that's what we have to focus on as a department and fortunately for us, we came into a space where the Department of Trade and Industry was already doing certain things there but unfortunately, it was at a small scale and now that we have a department, that is actually going to be focussing, so it means our impact on small and medium enterprises is going to be greater than what it has been. It's about upscaling the support that we need to do for business people and for small and medium enterprises and we know exactly in what areas we need to do the upscaling because we've been getting reports from the work streams that were in the Department of Trade and Industry and besides I think that participating in a colloquium like this also, is an advantage for us because we're going to be listening to people who are in the coalface of small and medium enterprises. They will be sharing with us their experiences, ours is to really listen to them so that whatever we shape, whether it's in the regulation or whether it's in the planning, it's informed by people that are in the coalface. They say they want to have a master plan, we would like to see what that plan is.</p>
<p>AD BREAK</p>	
DR. MALKA	<p>Now continuing with our discussion. Minister, when we're talking about women and we're talking about small and medium enterprises, are there any specific programmes that have been engineered for women who are operating in rural environments?</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Yes. Absolutely, under the Department of Trade and Industry, there were specific programmes that were dealing with women in the rural areas, particularly when you look at what the economy of rural area is, but of course the kind of support that the women were getting was not enough, in my opinion. That one, in particular, the Department of Trade and Industry was focusing on cooperatives in rural areas, because the possibilities of people coming together in rural areas as cooperatives and producing things that can be sold somewhere. The challenge again, is you put them together, they produce something, where is the market.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>It's looking for that market access.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Yes, it's looking for that market access but secondly, it's about whatever they're producing there because it's agricultural and other, what is the</p>

	<p>packaging of that, what is the quality of even what they are producing, because even if they can produce and get it to the market, the market is going to turn around and say, but you're not producing the quality product that we want. So the Department has been trying to support, the Department of Trade and Industry, and what we think we should do, we cannot do it alone. If it's rural development, it means we must work together with the Department of Rural Development, work together with the Department of Agriculture and any other relevant departments, so that whatever products are coming out there, they have processing either way and the infrastructure, I shouldn't forget that because one of the biggest challenges is that if they're in an inner space and they're producing something, just to transport whatever is there it's a mammoth task and it's also very expensive for rural structures but also from the rural point of view, there's a women's section or a women's unit that was dealing with the women's issues, gender and other issues. That one we found that they were also doing, having projects.</p>
DR. MALKA	Is that unit part of the dti?
MINISTER ZULU	It was part of the dti but it's coming over to our side.
DR. MALKA	So it's coming into your responsibility?
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Yes, it's coming to our responsibility, for instance, the Deputy Minister, Minister Elizabeth Thabete, not long ago travelled to Atlanta, where there is a standing market for South African beaded products, so she led a delegation to Atlanta. People that went with their goods already prepared and I think, what is important for me now is, if we take those people to Atlanta for instance, that market must be permanent. When they come back from there they must come back with orders, because it doesn't make sense for them to go there and sell whatever they've got if the department that paid for their travel and everything. We need to develop them to a point where they can be able to stand alone.</p>
DR. MALKA	So it becomes a sustainable business for them.
MINISTER ZULU	It becomes sustainable and if it's in Atlanta, why not in Italy, why not in England, why not in Kenya, why not in Nigeria?
DR. MALKA	<p>And that brings me to another point that you've raised here, in terms of the collaborations, for Small and Medium Enterprises and Ministry, we need to have collaborations that are working across different departments, to integrate everything and then the next element is in terms of the fact that we function in a globally connected society now and we've got initiatives so people are going out to Atlanta, under the support of the department, while you're working on any collaborations that can aid small and medium enterprises in the rest of the continent in Africa.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Absolutely, we start with SADC, Southern African Development Community itself, before we even go to the rest of the continent. We're looking at the SADC countries and we have to learn something because we can't deny the fact that we're only twenty years in democracy and many of these countries were free much earlier than we were. So I'm sure we have something to learn from them but they also have something to learn from us because our economy is different. Our economy is way bigger and therefore I think that the opportunities for small and medium enterprises</p>

	<p>does exist in our space, but what is also good about our space is the fact that we have a government that still has in its interest, the creation of a conducive environment for people to be able to work for themselves. So we will be looking at what is existing and by the way, the other thing is, small and medium enterprises and our intention is not to make them, help keep them there being small and medium. It's opportunities for them to grow even bigger. If they grow bigger, it means their market becomes bigger so SADC becomes a market for them, the entire continent becomes a market. I was talking about the women that went with the DM, to Atlanta, nothing stops those women producing things that can be sold in the continent itself. It's just that I'm sure that they just don't know where to start and then we also want to connect to fairs that happen around the region, but also that happen around the continent. In the main, what we see, is that many of those fairs are things that are happening in the developed world. In town, also we had those fairs, then on the continent. If there is a fair that takes things that are happening around SADC, let's check it there, the area of ECOWAS, Economic Community of West African States as a region. Let's take East Africa as a region and see if there are any fairs that are there, so that our own South African products can find themselves in there, from small things to big things.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>And from a Ministry perspective, one of the most common problems affecting small and medium enterprise, it doesn't seem to be that there's a lack of programmes because the information you shared, there's an abundance of programmes, which have been structured to assist people, but rather, it's about being able to educate and inform our citizens about those programmes. Has there been any progress in that regard or alternative mechanisms to communicate with people?</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>We're looking for alternative mechanisms because we have realised that the partnership that we need to be having with big business is not at the scale and level at which it is at, for instance, big business, many companies have got their CSI, Corporate Social Investment projects and if we look at some of their projects, we find that they're just ticking the box. Those programmes are not speaking to the challenges on the ground from a perspective of saying, it's a challenge, but you need to empower those people, that tomorrow you don't come back with your CSI programme, just to pour money in there.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>It seems to be CSI as opposed to enterprise development and we need to have more enterprise development.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Absolutely, absolutely. So we're looking at ... we're going to have to partner with them but what we need to do is look at the already existing programmes that we have. What we want out of those programmes is, are those projects and programmes having the necessary impact that they need to have. So when you look at small and medium enterprises, for instance, it's about companies also willing to support small and medium enterprises instead of shutting them down, instead of closing the space for them. A simple example, in this colloquium, part of the people that were contributing here were saying that if you go into the township economy you find that it's being blocked because all these malls that are happening everywhere and the small and medium enterprises now cannot go and sell their wares at the mall because they've got the big shops now and the</p>

	people.
DR. MALKA	It becomes competitive.
MINISTER ZULU	<p>And it becomes very difficult for people in the township to even have a small little shop or a small little boutique that they can open there because the rent is very high, the services also costs a lot, just the overheads are just too much for small and medium enterprises. So what is happening is that there's a plan by government for the revitalisation of the ... making sure that the money in the township also does circulate within the township. It ends up empowering people. Government for instance, has got a very important programme, that it has come up with recently, is that of revitalising old mining towns and we as small and medium enterprises, we already see an opportunity there. If they're going to be revitalising towns, who are the people that can have opportunity there? Who else, more than small and medium enterprises because you still have people that live there. Some of them work within that space, some of them work outside of the mine but they still come back to that and there is a lot of creativity in our opinion that can happen. If you go to towns that are slumps now and not mining there is a lot of tourism that can happen there. Who says people do not want to know how mines used to operate and so forth? So when you have revitalised those towns, you have to look at what opportunities exist and then make sure that those opportunities are taken by small and medium enterprises.</p>
DR. MALKA	That's seeking innovation through the opportunities that are provided.
MINISTER ZULU	Absolutely.
AD BREAK	
DR. MALKA	<p>Now, picking up on our discussion, a few months ago we celebrated Women's Month in South Africa and the years that women struggled and we reflect on the progress that women have achieved. I feel that our history defines our presence but the actions that we put in today, they affect and direct our future. In your opinion, which areas do you think that we need to build on the most in order to benefit women in the future?</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Education, we just start from there because to think that there are still families who think that it's important for them to educate the boys than the girls. Well, there's a change, there's not so many, but the fact that they are still there is a problem. Secondly, a lot of the girls drop out of school for one reason or the other so it means that we must focus on ensuring that we keep the young girls in school because if they finish education, then they can even be better parents. They can even decide, they don't want children unnecessarily at an early age, when they can't take care of themselves, so for me, just like my grandmother did, education, education because I think, I am where I am today because education was at the centre of everything and education is also the centre of our government. Government prioritised education as one of the five priority areas that start from there. Secondly, it's also about empowering our people to understand the space from which we're operating today. That doesn't mean, I'm saying, that people must not demand from government what they rightfully have to demand, but we must wake up to the reality that we are almost on our own, when it comes to the development and everything</p>

	<p>of our country and ensuring that our people get the kind of assistance they get, you know, when I get, as we did during the liberation struggle, you get the Europeans giving us a lot of support, giving us financial support, giving us scholarships, giving us all the things that they gave us because we're still struggling. Today, they're saying, you're free now, it's twenty years now, you've got to make sure that you do this on your own. So we need to create that understanding for our people so that people can appreciate and work on what they already have as a country and it's also about just creating the unity that we need. South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white and therefore, the responsibility of building this country cannot be left to one side only. So the building of our country belongs to all of us, black and white and putting our efforts together without necessarily having one side of whites saying to black when it's your government it's your government they have to take care of you, we're not bothered with that, you've got your political power. Then the next thing is this radical economic transformation, transferring of the resources to our people who were previously disadvantaged is very important and transferring of that it doesn't mean, you give in order for people to just consume, consume and go away. It's about empowering people with the understanding that all of us need to work. We need to create that work even in the smallest way that you need to create the work but how do you do that when many were left out for so long that even the value of money is not something that you begin to understand a hundred years ago. We're beginning to understand it now because suddenly the space is open for us but there needs to be again an education and assistance so that the future looks better. Harnessing the energy that we have as South Africans, I talk about economy toyi-toyi, because the toyi-toyi that we did was on the basis that we were trying to get rid of a system that was keeping us out of space. Now there's an energy that is there now which sometimes gets misdirected because you get people in certain areas, what we call service delivery today, to me it doesn't make sense to file for service delivery and then burn the school, burn the clinic, burn the Council, burn this, burn everything, because at the end of the day, the very same resources have to be found somewhere so that you can come back and rebuild it.</p>
DR. MALKA	Rebuild it and then provide additional services.
MINISTER ZULU	<p>And provide additional services, so those are just the things that I think that as a nation we need to focus on, how do we empower each other to see the future as something that is possible. But of course, sometimes they say it's easy for people who have jobs, who earn a living. It's not as easy for people who don't have to understand but the bottom line is that when we were in the struggle, there were people who were a little bit better spaced than others, but still we all had one common goal of getting rid of a system that did not allow us to grow in the space of the economy as black people. Now, we've got a government that is saying, what can we do together to make sure that you take advantage, as government we need to create that conducive environment.</p>
DR. MALKA	But do you think that's the key of having a central focus, to direct people's energies into making a better society and a better economy?
MINISTER ZULU	Absolutely, that must stop being a responsibility of the political people.

DR. MALKA	And of individuals.
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Absolutely, it must be the responsibility of each and every citizen and those that are in a better space of understanding, need to help the others because the ANC, for instance, in mobilising people to fight the system. It's not everybody that woke up and said, we're going to fight the system. The organisation organised itself, first and foremost and developed a mechanism of communicating to the people, the need for them to stand up and fight in order to get rid of the regime. The ANC is there now, but of course, the challenges are that we are faced with many other issues individually. We're looking for, I am looking for my family and whatever. We need to go beyond just taking care of our family, we need to take care of our family, yes, as a priority but we must also understand that it's upon us to also create a conducive environment for building better communities and better society that we need to get in. I think that somewhere along the line, in our new-found freedom which we fought for there are certain things that we let loose, that we thought would come automatically. It doesn't come automatically. It comes through consciousness, it comes to leadership that also must be rooted amongst the people so that at all times we keep this conversation about what kind of South Africa we want. Is it a better South Africa that we want? How do we get to a better South Africa? Everybody needs to make a contribution towards that.</p>
AD BREAK	
DR. MALKA	<p>Now continuing with our discussion, earlier when we were talking you mentioned the likes of Gertrude Shophe, in terms of being an influence on holding on and nurturing young people within the ANC as they were going forwards and receiving education in different environments. Building female leadership capacity is important for the future of women and to our country and as a Minister of Small Business Development, how do you see female leadership in South Africa and how do you see the ANC building and contributing to that leadership?</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>I think it has gone a long way in its history of women and women struggles and women's emancipation. The recognition by the ANC itself and particularly because of the fight of women, particularly within the ANC, to say that we are not going to wait for the struggle to be over before we start fighting for our rights as a women organisation itself was very helpful because then the women were able to raise the bar in as far as the understanding that if you don't tap into the resource of women who are just as capable of doing things, then the country is doomed and many leaders that came after that, they indicated the role and importance of women and as we are celebrating one of those heroes of our struggle, O. R. Tambo, who spoke a lot about the emancipation of women. It was because of also his exposure to the international world and other places and also just his belief as a freedom fighter, that why must the freedom be enjoyed by one section of our society and not the other and I think that women themselves when they pick up on this mantle of saying they're going to fight for women's rights from that day on, a lot has happened. We talk of the fact that in the ANC the decision to have the fifty-fifty, it was a struggle of women and believe me some people might not believe in it but there's just no way that we could have been having so many women in key decision making structures of the ANC and some say, ja, well it's just</p>

	<p>women who are in key decision making structures and it's for themselves. No, it's not. We are there because we also, as we go along doing our day to day lives, there's the other element of looking at where are women. If we are passing a law or a regulation, what impact does it have on women, see our South African Constitution. If we are having programmes in place that would improve the lives of people, we'd dig deeper to say how will it impact on women. That is happening, also because we have got a vast number of women that are sitting in those key decision structures but also those women are influencing the men that are within. So You'll find that in the ANC today, it's men sometimes who even raise the issues that are pertaining to women to say no, we can't have a policy like this because it discriminates against women, but as women, of course, we still have a long way to go because it cannot be that it's left to us at the top. What should concern us more is what is happening to the women at the bottom, in the township, in rural areas, girls in school, those are the things that we still need to focus on. We are far from ensuring that society looks at you as a woman, yes, because you're a woman from a biological point of view, but looks at you as a resource, as a person that contributes, towards the building of the country but also towards participating in the economy of the country and meaningfully participating in the economy of the country. It's a long way that we still have to go but we are based and one thing I can assure you with all the troubles that we've done in the world we are a shining example, as South Africa for having raised the bar in as far as ensuring that women are in decision making structures.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Well the government has done incredible things, in terms of our position, when you look at the Inter-Parliamentary Union, unfortunately this year we slipped from fifth position to tenth but we've still got incredible strong representation ...</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>No we do, especially, if you think of the fact, that we are just twenty years in government. That is not a very long time. There are countries that have been free for the past fifty, sixty years. They are nowhere near where we are and I think also what is important is the fact that, it's not just about the putting women for the sake of women. South Africa has got quality women who have the capacity really to contribute towards anything and it's no different from when we were students, way back, we were students studying in Moscow. We went through everything that everybody else had to go through and when we were cadres in uMkhonto we Sizwe doing our military training there was nothing that we could do because we were women. So all those experiences within the African National Congress have been the lessons that have assisted us to be able to push the agenda for women's empowerment and gender equality in South Africa. Yes, it's going to be a while because if it doesn't happen in the family, you know, as an organisation, we can't go into each and every family, but what we need to do regarding the programmes is just to educate everyone of the importance of tapping on the resource called, women.</p>
DR. MALKA	<p>Minister, we're coming to the end of our programme now, in closing the discussion, can you please share a few words of inspiration that you'd like to pass on to other women in Africa who are listening to the show.</p>
MINISTER ZULU	<p>Lessons learnt from other women that have been there before us, we stand on the shoulders of those women and I think that's looking forward to</p>

	<p>younger generation of women, for instance, they must not be caught up with the things that do not bring value to them. We as society, as communities overall need to assist our girls to understand that they are in a better space than our grandmothers and mothers were and we're not saying that they must feel sorry for us, in the past, we did what we did because we wanted to create a better environment for them so that they could take advantage of that and shine. It's about solidarity and solidarity amongst ourselves as women and solidarity amongst us across the continent and across the countries. You know, if you think about it, women's emancipation is something that started way back but it was able to sustain itself because women held hands across and today we're even in a better space for doing that because communicating with each other, is like a snap of a finger and a press of a button, we're able to. I think that as a South African who was in the liberation struggle, I'm sure that without the international support, a lot of it also came from women, it would have been very difficult for us to be where we are. We learnt also from those women out there and because they supported us, women has to be where we are today and so I'm saying to young girls, take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves, most of it is free. We had to fight for it, for them it is free. They just need to improve on their education, make sure that they have a plan. If you don't have a plan, you don't know which direction you're going. The country needs us as women and the continent needs us as women and we mustn't forget the fact that some of the women in the continent are still struggling. There are girls who were abducted, who we still don't know where they are up to date. We have women in countries like the DRC, Democratic Republic of Congo and the eastern Congo who are struggling because of wars. We have women in Sudan who are really struggling because of the wars and that's the solidarity that we need because when we were in the liberation struggle, we had solidarity but that solidarity is beginning to waver a bit because people are very much inward looking. If we can just change that and turn it back to what it used to be in supporting each other in solidarity, I think the world can be a better place for us.</p>
DR. MALKA	Thank you very much, Minister.
MINISTER ZULU	Thank you for the invitation.
DR. MALKA	And we wish you all the best in this new Ministry and continued success.
MINISTER ZULU	I need it. We need it. Thank you very much.
END PROGRAM	

