

## **WASCO kicks off 50<sup>th</sup> independence anniversary celebrations with a fun walk**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 WASCO kick started the independence anniversary celebrations with a fun walk aimed at encouraging staff members to join the national festivities held as a build up to the main event to be held on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Staff members from across most service centres took to the streets of the capital city in unison of this purpose.

When speaking at the event director of Human Resource Mrs. ‘Mamojela Koneshe stated that the company is proud to be joining the nation in celebrating fifty years of independence also explaining that in doing so it celebrates over fifty years of providing water supply and sanitation services to the Basotho nation. She indicated that from the early days when the company was a unit within the Ministry of Works, it was able to provide water supply services to the Resident Commissioner and other residents of Maseru and the total population served was about 7000. Over the years it expanded its services to include the general urban population.

The greatest achievement to date is that the company now serves over 300 000 people with potable water which is 60% of the urban population. Water supply services continue to reach the urban populace masses and the latest milestone is the launch of Semonkong water supply project. Development of the Semonkong urban water under this project aims to provide sustainable potable water supply to the town of Semonkong over a period of 20 years. Estimated population which will benefit from this project according to the 2006 Census is 8,000. Semonkong has over 250 customers that have connected since 2015 when the project was launched. Another achievement is that the unit was initially headed by the British but later on Chief Engineers and Chief Executive that headed the unit were Basotho and among them a Mosotho woman Mrs. Refiloe Tlali.

Mrs. Koneshe also explained that the event is merged with the re-launch of the corporate values, CAP-IT. These values promote customer focus (**C**) in everything that employees do, being accountable (**A**) for our actions, professionalism (**P**), integrity (**I**) and the importance of team work (**T**) in water supply and sanitation services. Speaking at the same event the Chief Executive

Mr. Lehlohonolo Manamolela paid homage to all the leaders of Lesotho who have contributed to the unity of the Basotho nation and hailed their efforts in promoting peace and sustainable development. He also applauded the efforts of men and women who have worked hard to deliver the water and sanitation services from the days of water works to now. He said, it is in this regard that he advocates for a positive change within the company. He indicated that this change may come in the form of engaging stringent measures to safeguard financial control and performance of the company.

In addition, the Chief Executive explained that more efforts should be made by all concerned in ensuring and improved customer service. He shared with all that a new customer Call Centre, is expected to be launched in October, 2016. He reiterated the Director of Human Resources sentiments that all employees to always align everything that they do with the CAP-IT corporate values, as this will help all to support each other in providing excellent services but even in times of despair he encouraged staff members to be there for one another.

The Lesotho Independence celebrations for the Gold Jubilee are seen by many as the way to promote the spirit of freedom and unity amongst the WASCO staff members and Nation at large and they will be celebrated throughout the country with the main event expected to be at the Setsoto stadium in Maseru.