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## National Women's Day - "Building Resilient Economies For All."

Mbombela, South Africa: Friday, 08 August 2025 - *Wathint'Abafazi Wathint'imbokodo!* That was 09 August 1956, a fateful day, wherein approximately 20,000 women marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria. Mothers, daughters, sisters and friends decided enough was enough and came together to initiate change. National Women's Day, a day that celebrates the strength and resilience of women and their contribution to society and country - an opportunity to pay tribute to the generations of women whose struggles laid the foundations for the progress made in empowering women and achieving gender equality to date.

The challenges women faced from systemic barriers to societal expectations have not only shaped their experiences but also their contributions. From the right to vote, right to work, equal pay, right to education, reproductive rights, to financial independence. The rise of social media has transformed female empowerment into a global conversation. Movements such as #MeToo and #TimesUp have highlighted issues of sexual harassment and assault, while simultaneously creating a powerful space for accountability and change.

In recent years, more women have taken on leadership roles in politics, business, and social movements. Empowerment now means ensuring that diverse women are seen, heard, and respected. Today, empowerment is about encouraging women to define success on their own terms, whether that means professional advancement, creative pursuits, or balancing work and family.

The significance of this month extends beyond mere recognition; it serves as a call to action. We must advocate for a more inclusive portrayal of a narrative that honours the diverse experiences of women from all backgrounds. By doing so, we not only validate their contributions but also inspire future generations to continue the fight for equality and recognition. This acknowledgment is crucial in fostering a more equitable future, where the contributions of all individuals regardless of gender are recognized and appreciated. Their stories are not just footnotes in history; they are powerful narratives that highlight the strength, resilience, and leadership of women who have fought against systemic oppression.

MEGA acknowledges that the journey is far from over, but with each step we take towards inclusivity and recognition, we move closer to a world where every individual's contributions are valued, and where gender equality is not just an aspiration, but a reality.

You are strong, nurturing, intelligent, and resilient. You are a mother, daughter, sister, entrepreneur, scientist, lawyer, manager, activist, and leader. Your ability to overcome adversity is a testament to your unwavering spirit. Your continuous advocacy for social justice, education, and healthcare reduces poverty, improves child welfare, enhances national development and make's the world more compassionate.

"The hand that rocks the cradle, is the hand that rules the world." W. R. Wallace.

**Your destiny is to Thrive.**

MEGA Acknowledges You.

**END.**