

# SWAZIS NEED TO BE CAPACITATED ON WASTE MANAGEMENT

Storie by Starsky Mkhonta  
*Nhlangano*

**THERE is need to have more programmes introduced in educating Swazis on waste management and litter related issues.**

Campaigns aimed at addressing issues of littering should be encouraged with the nation sensitised on the consequences of littering. Nhlangano Station Commander Gelane Msitibi said knowledge on tackling littering issues was lacking. She said there was also need to regulate the disposal of waste material or when it was sold for recycling. "Some of the items come in packages and you find some without any instructions on how that product can be destroyed or disposed of. It is then that at times you find such material littered everywhere. People simple open that item and once it is used, they throw it anywhere without even considering the harm it can cause to the environment," said Msitibi.

She also suggested that some of the investors should be taught on



**PRESENTATION: Gcina Dladla from the Swaziland Environment Authority (SEA) making his presentation during the Shiselweni Regional Waste Indaba.**

their first day of arrival how Swazis do things, including disposing of waste. "There is need to organise a forum where those coming to the country are educated on how we do things, includ-

ing getting rid of certain material which include garbage and how we handle waste," said Msitibi. Another speaker said there should be billboards along roads or in any other public place



**SPEECH: Chief Makhosikhosi (Khumalo) of Ekwendzeni making an intervention at the function.**

teaching people about waste management. "Media houses should also be used on how to get rid of waste material," said a speaker.

## PARLY SHOULD ACT ON PLASTIC BAGS ISSUE

**PARLIAMENT should act swiftly on resolving the plastic bags issue.**

Attendants of the Waste Management Indaba, which was staged in the Shiselweni region, said legislators must urgently come up with a lasting resolution on plastics as the indiscriminate disposal tainted the country's image. "The uproar that followed when it was suggested that plastics should be sold to customers stopped the whole process. Parliament has work to do in protecting the environment and plastic bags are to blame for the stinking environment thus a lasting solution should be found," the meeting noted. The issue of disposable napkins also became a hot issue that was discussed with some of the speakers noting such was found scattered everywhere and on rainy days it was washed into the rivers. "Since the disposable napkins are handy, they are found littered anyhow. This is another waste which during rainy periods, get washed into rivers," said another speaker. Meanwhile, on behalf of chiefs, Chief Mbani of KaMhavu said for the country to realise vision 2022, all should come on board. He said the issue of littering should be the responsibility of all Swazis.

On that note, Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku thanked the minister for personally gracing the forum saying it was an indication he was the right choice for the job. "You did not delegate even when we are aware of your tight schedule but decided to squeeze us in and we are not taking this for granted. I want to also thank all of you for being part of this important gathering," said Masuku.