## Woman Summit

As the rest of the country was celebrating woman of our society, the Inkomati CMA also celebrated its woman, from stakeholders to female staff members. The celebration was held at the Greenwaywood under the stewardship of the Chairperson of the Governing Board Mrs. Patience Nyakane-Maluka.

The event was attended by 115 women from all sectors of our stakeholders, including sector departments like DWA, DARDLA, Rural Development and Land Reform. Woman were honoured and also received critic talks from how woman can access water and how they can be assisted to access funds from the department of water affairs. But most importantly we deliberated on gender issues and how woman can break the barriers in the workplace or in the water sector.

A declaration was made during the summit as a result of the deliberation that the summit was engaged on: -

## ICMA Woman summit declaration

On the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2012 held at the Greenway wood hotel, declared as follows: -

We the women of the Inkomati Water Management Area from different sectors gathered at the Greenway wood to discuss challenges that affect women in accessing water and also to learn on how the ICMA and DWA can assist us.

We acknowledge that it is very difficult for women to access water and get necessary support. There is no financial support that is focused on women. We therefore declare that: we will not sit and wait, but we will stand up and fend for our families through agriculture and other projects and that the ICMA will develop programmes focusing on financial support to the women emerging farmers.

As women we need to support each other against the triple oppression of the PHD (Pull Her Down) and QUEEN BEE syndrome and that is attacking women. We also have the responsibility to shape the society starting from our homes.