

Inauguration plans at an advanced stage

Preparations for the inauguration of Jacob Zuma as President of the Republic of South Africa are at an advanced stage, Acting Government spokesperson Phumla Williams said.

Saturday's inauguration is expected to attract thousands, 4,500 of whom will be accommodated in the Amphitheatre.

The remaining attendees will be accommodated on the Southern Lawns of the Union Buildings.

Cabinet will brief the media on its preparations tomorrow (Friday).

"All South Africans are assured that the work of government will continue as usual prior to the inauguration of the President.

"The current Ministers and Deputy Ministers, Premiers and MECs remain in their posts and will continue to discharge their duties," William said on Wednesday, after Zuma was elected as President of the country by the National Assembly.

Baleka Mbete was elected Speaker while, Lechesa Tsenoli as Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

The President-elect is expected to name the Ministers and Deputy Ministers who will serve the nation at a date still to be announced.

President-elect Zuma is South Africa's fourth President since 1994. He is preceded by Nelson Mandela, Thabo Mbeki and Kgalema Motlanthe.