

## RAMAPHOSA REITERATES CALL FOR LOCAL GOVT TO CLEAN UP ACT: RESIDENTS COME FIRST

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JOHANNESBURG - President [Cyril Ramaphosa](#) has again called on local government to clean up its act after another dismal performance review by the Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA).

Ramaphosa believes the country's poorly performing municipalities were an indictment on national government and service delivery.

The president addressed the Council of Mayors Conference hosted by the [South African Local Government Association](#) in the Eastern Cape on Thursday morning.

Ramaphosa told delegates at the conference that it was important to do an honest assessment of the performance of local government.

The 2020/21 audit outcomes released earlier in the year cast doubt on the sustainability of close to 250 municipalities.

The AGSA painted a dismal picture of the poor state of the municipalities, which are supposed to be at the coal face of delivery to communities.

The report warned that the future of the municipalities hung in the balance amid their dire financial state.

Ramaphosa said he was aware that the root cause of the degenerating state of municipalities included ineffective financial management, poor political leadership and corruption.

"The residents should be our customers and as you know, customers come first. Customers must be satisfied," Ramaphosa said.

He added that tighter control measures needed to be in place to ensure better service delivery to residents across the country.