



## CABINET STATEMENT

**TO** : ALL MEDIA  
**EMBARGO** : IMMEDIATE

### **KZN HAILS DAUGHTER OF THE SOIL**

**Pietermaritzburg, 18 July 2012:** The KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government has hailed the election of a “daughter of the soil”, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, to head the African Union Commission, describing her victory as a significant step towards the ultimate decolonization of Africa.

Dr Dlamini-Zuma is from rural Bulwer in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands and cut her teeth in politics as a student activist in the Province before moving on to make her mark nationally as a minister and internationally as a champion for the African cause on various global platforms.

Cabinet noted that South Africa had been responsible for mobilizing the African states to take their rightful place as equals among the nations of the world. The African Renaissance initiative, the inauguration of the African Union and the entrenchment of democratic values on the continent signaled that Africa was shedding the burden of colonial repression.

Premier Dr Zweli Mkhize said: “South Africa is more than eminently suitable to take the continent to the next level, and a better choice than Dr Dlamini-Zuma could not have been made. We are particularly proud that one of our own has been entrusted with this responsibility. Understanding her work ethic and absolute commitment to the improvement of the lives of the poorest of African children, we are confident that the AU Commission is in good hands. We congratulate her and laud President Jacob Zuma for the inspired nomination.”

**Issued by the Office of the Premier on behalf of Cabinet**

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