



CABINET STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA
EMBARGO : IMMEDIATE

KZN GOVERNMENT CONGRATULATES POLICE

Pietermaritzburg, 16 May 2013: The KwaZulu-Natal Government has congratulated the police for the concrete breakthroughs in the fight against crime and the positive trends over the first three months of the year.

As part of an integrated approach against crime in the Province, the KwaZulu-Natal Cabinet sitting in Pietermaritzburg yesterday received an update from a high level South African Police Service team led by Provincial Commissioner Lieutenant General Mammonye Ngobeni. Premier Zweli Mkhize and all members of Cabinet are leading the fight from the front by interacting directly with affected communities in various parts of the Province to encourage them to collaborate with the police to identify and isolate criminals in their midst.

The Commissioner told Cabinet that in the period January to March 2013 there had been a general stabilization in crime compared to the same period in the past five years. The Provincial Commissioner was also of the view that stability mainly in the Upper Highway Area had been realized. She also echoed her sentiments of appreciation to the Premier and the Cabinet for supporting the sustainability of law and order in the Province, including in Hillcrest, KwaNyuswa, Nqetho Reserve and Molweni. Prime suspects that are linked to house robbery cases, including murder and car-jacking, have been brought to book.

Among the categories that have either decreased or stabilized in the Province are contact crimes, house robberies, car-jackings as well as business robberies. Property-related crimes, commercial crime, drug - related crime and sub-categories of aggravated crimes such as cash-in-transit and bank robberies have also followed this trend.

Cabinet also reflected on the work of the Multi-party Political Party Oversight Committee chaired by the MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr Willies Mchunu that is tackling incidents of political violence and intolerance in Estcourt and Durban. Seven suspects, linked to five incidents, have been arrested.

Commissioner Ngobeni indicated that the challenge of instability in the taxi industry remained a concern and arose from competition over passengers and routes. Among the areas affected are Mpumalanga, Folweni, Ntuzuma, Pisang, Umlazi, Mandeni/Sundumbili/Stanger, Dolphin Coast, Maphumulo, Ngwelezane, Amatimatolo and Pietermaritzburg.

Cabinet welcomed the announcement by the Police Commissioner that the police taxi task teams will be reconstituted to further strengthen efforts to quell the violence that has led to the loss of many lives.

The Provincial Government's high profile campaign to support the activities of the police and mobilise the community against various forms of crime, including drug dealing, violence against women, children and the elderly, has taken the political leaders and the police to the various parts of the Province. The latest visit, to the Highway Area, is already yielding positive results.



premier

Office Of The Premier
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

Said Dr Mkhize: “The whole of Government is working closely with the police to mobilise communities to work with us to rid our society of the minority that is terrorising the vulnerable among us.

We are taking the fight to the drug lords and appreciate the co-operation we receive from affected communities. The police cannot succeed working alone, and as Government we appreciate the regular interaction and updates we receive from the Commissioner and her team about progress in this joint initiative.”

Issued by the Office of the Premier on behalf of Cabinet

Mr Cyril Madlala

Head of Provincial Government Communications

✉ cyril.madlala@kznpremier.gov.za

☎: 071 850 9596

Enquiries:

Colonel V Mdunge:

☎: 079 525 8062