



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**DATE : 18 APRIL 2015**  
**TO : ALL MEDIA**  
**EMBARGO : IMMEDIATE**

### **KWAZULU-NATAL PREMIER PLEASED WITH REMARKABLE PROGRESS IN ENDING ATTACKS AGAINST FOREIGN NATIONALS**

The Honourable Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Senzo Mchunu has noted with appreciation the sense of calm that has been recorded over the last 48 hours in all areas that were considered as hot spots.

Premier Mchunu said: “The current climate of relative calm is as a result of a week-long programme of action involving government, His Majesty, civil society and security agencies. This plan of action involved engagements with African diplomats, visiting hot spots, engaging with community and business leaders, religious leaders and traditional institutions. We thank all South Africans of goodwill who have in their small but significant way, also stepped in to assist those affected.”

This relative calm is experienced ahead of an Imbizo by His Majesty, which will close the first phase of this week-long intervention. The next phase will be announced after Imbizo, which is planned for Monday 20<sup>th</sup> at Moses Mabhida Stadium.

Mchunu has however expressed concern over reported threats of violence and retaliation for attacks on foreign nationals that had occurred in Durban over the past two weeks. This is particularly notable as KwaZulu-Natal is bordering neighboring Mozambique and Swaziland.

“We are saddened by the news that there are individuals who have threatened the safety of South Africans who are either travelling or working in African states as a retaliation of incidents of violence that we have witnessed directed at foreign nationals in areas around Durban over the past two weeks,” said Mchunu.

He appealed to communities to work with government in its continued efforts to return the situation to normality. He appealed for those on platforms like social media, to put this to good use and spread messages of peace and unity.



premier

Office Of The Premier  
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

“We have been informed of threats made against South Africans doing business or travelling around the continent of Africa. We find this situation very detrimental to the growth and development of Africa, our country and KwaZulu-Natal. We therefore appeal to everyone to continue working toward improving people to people relations,” said Mchunu.

Mchunu said a cycle of violence cannot be good for anyone, whether they are local or foreign national and it impacts negatively on the economy, thus undermining efforts to create jobs and environment for investment.

“We want to emphasize the fact that there can be no justification for resorting to violence or taking human life. There are other ways of voicing our concerns and problems without violence,” said Mchunu.

Ends

**Issued by the Office of the Premier**

Regi Khumalo  
Media Liaison Desk  
079 751 6108  
[regi.khumalo@yahoo.com](mailto:regi.khumalo@yahoo.com)

For more information contact:  
Mr. Thami Ngwenya  
Head: Provincial Government Communication  
Cell: 060 572 9881