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DATE TO EMBARGO

MEDIA ALERT : 28 FEBRARY 2011 : ALL MEDIA : IMMEDIATE

KZN COUNCIL ON AIDS TO DISCUSS THORNY ISSUES

KZN Premier Dr Zweli Mkhize, as chair of the Provincial Council on Aids, is to lead discussions on the progress made by the province in the fight against HIV and Aids during the sitting of the Council tomorrow (WED).

Some of the issues that will be discussed include a report back on people claiming to have alternative treatment for the disease in various regions, causing patients to abandon their ARV treatment.

Also up for discussion of the progress of the Community Care Giver program, counselling and testing campaign and the distribution of free condoms. Districts will also present their operational plans to implement the Provincial Aids Strategy which was adopted in December last year.

The Provincial Council on Aids is a body representing various stakeholders in the fight against aids, including members of the provincial executive, district and municipal mayors, municipal managers, non-governmental organisations, the religious sector and various structures of civil society. Details are as follows:

| DATE | : 07 MARCH 2012 |
|-------|------------------------------|
| VENUE | : Pietermaritzburg City Hall |
| TIME | : 13.00pm |

Issued by the Office of the Premier

RSVP: Regi Khumalo Media Liaison Desk for Dr Zweli Mkhize 079 751 6108 regi.khumalo@yahoo.com

For more information, contact Ndabezinhle Sibiya, Premier's Spokesperson, 082 3754742 or <u>sibiyand@premier.kzntl.gov.za</u> DIRECTORATE:

Provincial Government Communication