



CABINET STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA
EMBARGO : IMMEDIATE

KZN CABINET CONDEMNS POLITICAL KILLINGS AND RAPES

Pietermaritzburg, 25 October 2012: The KwaZulu-Natal Cabinet has condemned the resurgence of politically motivated killings and assured the citizens that no effort will be spared to ensure that the Province does not return to the dark days of violence.

Cabinet has also spoken out strongly against the recent spate of incidents of the rape and murder of senior citizens in KwaZulu-Natal. Last week seventy-nine year Mr Fanlo Mkhize and sixty-five-year old Ms Zamekile Ngidi were found murdered in KwaSwayimane, in the Midlands.

Reflecting on the recent murder of leaders of the African National Congress, Inkatha Freedom Party and the National Freedom Party, Cabinet urged the community to co-operate fully with law enforcement agencies to apprehend the culprits without delay and restore normality.

Cabinet commended the police for the swift arrest and appearance in court of suspects in the recent political murders, particularly in Oshabeni on the South Coast and KwaMashu hostel in Durban. It welcomed the interventions by the provincial multi-party task team on political violence led by the MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr Willies Mchunu.

The team facilitates and drives extensive peace initiatives among various political parties in KwaZulu-Natal. Its work has been given further impetus by King Zwelithini's call on all stakeholders, such as the various political, religious and traditional leaders, the Independent Electoral Commission and the law-enforcement agencies, to work together to bring about peace. Cabinet saluted His Majesty for his leadership and guidance.

Premier Dr Zweli Mkhize said: "There is no reason for a sense of panic in the Province. The patterns we see in political killings these days are different from those of two decades ago which were largely between the two major political forces at the time. These days intra-party conflict has emerged as a factor and that is why we encourage all the parties to get together to normalise the situation and curb escalation of conflict to other areas. The community must work with us because we have confidence in the structures and mechanisms we have put in place to deal with this type of political instability.

GOOD WISHES TO MATRICULANTS

Cabinet has noted the smooth start to the 2012 Matric examinations in KwaZulu-Natal and congratulated the Education Department for meticulous planning.

"We have improved our investment in education by offering emergency financial assistance in the form of bursaries. Our teachers and pupils have responded well to our call for an improved pass rate this year. We wish all our matriculants good luck and want to see all of them in universities and technikons next year," said the Premier.

Issued by the Office of the Premier on behalf of Cabinet



premier

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