

STATEMENT OF KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF 19 NOVEMBER 2014

The Provincial Executive Council ('Executive Council') on Wednesday 19 November 2014, held its ordinary meeting in Pietermaritzburg. The meeting was chaired by Premier Senzo Mchunu and attended by Members of the Executive Council.

1. Key Executive Council Decisions

1.1 High visibility integrated Provincial Plan for Festive Season Safety

The Executive Council received briefing by the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster. The report included the release of the Provincial Crime Statistics for the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014. It welcomed the decrease of 2.8 per cent in the total number of community reported crimes as compared to the previous release report. The Executive Council was encouraged by the continued popularity of KwaZulu-Natal as a preferred destination for domestic tourism during festive season. In this regard, the Executive Council called on the people of KwaZulu-Natal to be peaceful during this time, and observe the dictates of law and order.

To further augment the safety and security of the people during festive season, the Executive Council approved the launch of the **High Visibility Integrated Provincial Plan for the Festive Season** by the South African Police Service (SAPS). This eight (8) pillar plan amongst others covers issues around armed robberies, crimes against women, children and people with disabilities, and road safety enforcement.

1.2 Launch of the KwaZulu-Natal Council Against Crime (KZNAC)

The Executive Council approved the hosting of the launch of KwaZulu-Natal Council Against Crime on 05 December 2014. This followed due consideration of the draft Terms of Reference for the KwaZulu-Natal Council Against Crime. The Executive Council further directed the Department of Community Safety and Liaison to consider the possibility of the hosting a Provincial Lekgotla on Security Matters in the beginning of January 2015.

1.3 Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Investigation report by the Task Team

The Executive Council approved the report by a Task Team that carried investigation into the restructuring process that took place at the Ezemvelo KZN

Wildlife. The investigation was conducted as a result of industrial action by employees during June 2014. The Task was to mainly determine the fairness, lawfulness and rationality of restructuring process by the executive management. The task team's findings were that the restructuring though necessary, was however improper as there was no consultation with Organised Labour. The process was unlawful and had been implemented without approval by the MEC for Economic, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in accordance with the legislation.

2. Implementation of Key Government Programmes

2.1 Establishment of KwaZulu-Natal Development Holdings. The Executive Council noted the progress made regarding the establishment of the KwaZulu-Natal Development Holdings SOC Limited. It further mandated the Premier to nominate four (4) members to the board to protect the interest of government.

2.2 The Executive Council received status report on the intervention made in Mtubatuba Municipality and Umvoti Municipality in terms of section 139(1) (B) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996. In this regard, the Executive Council approved an extension of this intervention until 31 March 2015. It was agreed that a progress report on the intervention must be tabled to the Executive Council every month.

2.3 Progress was also received on the intervention made in terms of Section 139(1) (c) at Mpfana Municipality. To this end, the intervention was extended until 31 March 2015.

2.4 The Executive Council was informed of the progress and challenges relating to the retention of the ban on the export of animals and animal products as a result of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak in Umkhanyakude District Municipality. Noting the implications of this challenge to the entire economy of South Africa, the Executive Council directed the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to develop a plan aimed at educating people on implications of the Foot and Mouth Disease. This plan must integrate information from Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

3. Executive Council's Position on Current Issues

3.1 The Executive Council received a briefing by the Dr D. Jordaan, President of SAFA expressing his gratitude on the support and work done by the Provincial Government during the tragic period of the passing away of the late Mr Senzo Meyiwa. Dr. Jordan also handed the book on condolences and messages of support from the football fraternity in the World.

3.2 The Executive Council noted the National Launch of the Ward Delimitation Process by the Municipal Demarcation Board's within the Ugu District on 09 December 2014.

3.3 The Executive Council welcomed the recognition of the Provincial Treasury as it received a Gold Medal for being the best functional department at the National Batho Pele Service Excellence Awards. It further welcomed the recognition of the work of the Head of Department of KZN Treasury, who received a Bronze Medal in the category of best Head of Department.

3.4 The Executive Council received a report on the KwaMashu and Glebelands hostels' Khuzimpi Maskandi Crime Awareness Campaign. In this regard, the Executive Council expressed its support for the Maskandi Crime Awareness Campaign to be held on 23 November 2014.

3.5 The Executive Council was briefed on the funeral arrangements for victims of the Synagogue Church of All Nations Church Disaster in Nigeria. The Executive Council expressed its gratitude to the work done by Minister in the Presidency and the entire team involved in the repatriation of the remains of those victims. It further expressed its gratitude to the clergy, which led the reception service held at the Dube City next to King Shaka International Airport. The KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government will be represented in various funeral services by Members of the Executive Council.

4. Appointments

4.1 In line with the commitment to fill permanent positions within the Senior Management Service to ensure stability, the Executive Council approved appointments for the following positions in the Department of Education:

1. Senior General Manager: Curriculum Management and Delivery
2. Senior General Manager: Corporate Services

Ends.

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Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government