

## **STATEMENT ON THE MEETING OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON 03 DECEMBER 2014.**

The Provincial Executive Council ('Executive Council') on Wednesday 03 December 2014, held its ordinary meeting in Pietermaritzburg. The meeting was chaired by Premier Senzo Mchunu and attended by all Members of the Executive Council. This meeting took place on the eve of the First Anniversary of the passing on of President Nelson Mandela, who remains the guiding light of democratic South Africa. The Executive Council reaffirmed its commitment to uphold values of selflessness and service to humanity as espoused by Madiba. In this regard, it was befitting that this meeting was dedicated to programmes aimed at eradication of poverty and inequality.

### **1. Key Executive Council Decisions**

#### **1.1 Fight against Social Ills and HIV and AIDS**

The Members of the Executive Council presented brief reports on their activities as District Champions for Operation Sukuma Sakhe during the launch of the 16 Days of Activism on No Violence against Women and Children. In this regard, the Executive Council expressed its concern on the noted poor functionality of some War Rooms. The Executive Council reiterated that the core function of War Rooms is to be tools for the fight against social ill in the Province. In this regard, the three main focal areas for War Rooms must be:

- (i) Fights against HIV & AIDS;
- (ii) Fight against social ill including teenage pregnancy, rape cases and abuse against women and children; and
- (iii) Coordination of Government programmes in the particular area of intervention.

The Executive Council directed that all MECs as District Champions for Operation Sukuma Sakhe, need to intensify the fight against social ill in their Districts as an ongoing campaign. In this regard, it was resolved that the Department of Social Development must develop an Annual Campaign Strategy against social ill, which will be presented to the Executive Council in January 2015. The strategy should include a vigorous programme that will involve other stakeholders in society, including media, police, and community and religious leaders.

#### **1.2 Report on the Poverty Eradication Phakisa LAB**

The Executive Council received a report from the Task Team that was set up to develop a The Poverty Eradication Master Plan for KwaZulu-Natal, in line with the agenda of RADICAL socio-economic transformation and Operation Sukuma Sakhe. This Master Plan is about strengthening economic and social foundations that is anchored on a productive society. It reaffirms the principle of unity as our future is based on standing together in an integrated and functionally constructed approach to become a prosperous Province by 2030.

The Executive Council approved the Master Plan on Poverty Eradication as presented. It further directed that emphasised the need to upscale a suit of interventions to fight poverty and create a movement of poverty eradication. In this regard, the Executive Council resolved that the Premier should engage all stakeholders including National Government, the Provincial Legislature and other strategic partners as part of its implementation.

### **1.3 High Visibility Integrated Provincial Plan for the Festive Season**

The Executive Council was informed of the deployment plan of the South African Police Service (SAPS) and Road Traffic Inspectorate (RTI) personnel, as part of the high visibility Integrated Provincial Plan for the Festive Season. The Executive Council resolved that the launch of the Provincial Council Against Crime, should be used as a further platform to communicate key aspects of the Integrated Provincial Plan for Festive Season to the community and stakeholders.

### **1.4 Climate Change Summit**

The Executive Council approved the hosting of the Provincial Summit on Climate Summit scheduled for 5-6 March 2016. This work will be

### **1.5 December Recess period**

The Executive Council was informed of the December 2014 Recess period which starts from 11 December 2014 to 20 January 2015. In this regard, the next meeting of the Executive Council after the recess period is scheduled for 21 January 2015.

## **2 Festive Season Message**

The Executive Council wished all the people of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal a blessed and peaceful festive season. It called on them and all visitors that will spend their time in the Province, to spread peace and respect for life. It called on those who will be using various roads of the Province, to exercise necessary caution to avoid unwarranted accidents. To this end, the Executive Council expressed its condolences to those families who lost their loved ones in a road accident that took place on Sunday 30, 2014 in Mbazwane, Umkhanyakude District.

Ends.

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