



STATEMENT OF THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 29 JULY 2015

The Provincial Executive Council ('Executive Council') held its ordinary meeting on 16th September 2015 in Pietermaritzburg.

1. Reflection on Current Issues

1.1 Recent instability in the Taxi Industry

The Executive Council noted the recent incidents of violence in the Province particularly in the taxi industry. It further noted the shootings that happened in KwaMashu. It condemned these acts and resolved to release the MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison to go and attend to the issues and coordinate all relevant structures.

1.2 Report on the Nkwalini Murder of Mr Thabo Ncube and Lux More Chicariro

The Executive Council noted the report of the killing of two foreign nationals on 12 September 2014 by community members of Nkwalini. The deceased were alleged to have been involved in copper cables theft. It was noted that this matter was a criminal one and no impression should be created that it had to do with acts of xenophobia.

1.3 Report on service delivery protests within eThekweni and ILembe Municipalities

The Executive Council was informed of the violent service delivery protests that occurred in the Province, which resulted to the loss of life. The protests occurred at Quarry Road Informal Settlement, the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Westville Campus) on 14 September 2015, and at Ndwedwe Local Municipality within ILembe District on the 14-15 September 2015.

Whereas the Executive Council respects that right to protest, however such right must be exercised within the prescripts of the law in a peaceful manner. In this regard, the Executive Council expressed its condemnation of acts of violence that characterised these protests. It further resolved that a team comprising of MECs N. Dube-Ncube (convener); T.W Mchunu; R.R. Pillay, should meet with relevant stakeholders of eThekweni Metro to discuss all pertinent matters relating to the prevention of prevalent public protests.

1.4 Presentation by the Commissioner of the Presidential Remuneration Review Commission

The Executive Council received a presentation from the Presidential Remuneration Review Commission on the review of the public service remuneration policy. It was reported that the Commission was appointed by the President to investigate remuneration and conditions of service in the public service and public entities listed in schedule 3A and 3C of the PFMA. In this regard, Departments were reminded of the need to make submissions to the Commission.

1.5 United States Funded DREAMS Programme on HIV and AIDS

The Executive Council noted the presentation on the Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe (DREAMS) Project that is funded by the United States of America (USA) under its President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The goal of the project is to reduce new HIV infections for the 15-24 year old adolescent girls and young women (AGYM). It was noted that out of the five (5) districts identified for the intervention in the country, three (3) are in KwaZulu-Natal, namely eThekweni, uMgungundlovu and uMkhanyakude. The report will further be presented at the next meeting of the Social Cluster as its implementation requires a multi-sectoral approach.

2. Key Executive Council Decisions

2.1 Mainstreaming of the Anti-rape Awareness Campaign

The Executive Council approved the mainstreaming of the 365 Days Anti-Rape Awareness Campaign as part of broader programme of fighting social ills. This means Provincial Government Departments are to use major events as another platform to disseminate information on Anti-rape Campaign. A team made up of the Office of the Premier, the Department of Social Development and the Department of Health, was established and will be coordinated by the Democracy Support Unit in the Office of the Premier.

2.2 Progress report on the intervention in Imbabazane Municipality

The Executive Council received a progress report on intervention made in Imbabazane Municipality, and resolved to extend this intervention to 31 March 2016. This had been made in terms of Section 139 (1) (b) of the Constitution, 1996. All formalities must be complied with including notifying the Municipality, NCOP, the National Minister and the Provincial Legislature. Quarterly reports would be submitted the Executive Council on progress made.

2.3 KZN COGTA's participation at the 51st ISOCARP Planning Congress

The Executive Council was informed of the holding of the 51st International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) Planning Congress in Netherlands. The Executive Council supported the participation of the Provincial Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs at this planning congress and receive the hosting baton on behalf of the Province. The hosting of the 52nd Planning Congress in Durban in 2016, will not only enable the Province to realise Vision 2030, but offers

an important platform for young professional planners to partner with their international counterparts.

2.4 Annual KwaZulu-Natal Economic Summit 2015

The Executive Council was informed of the Annual KwaZulu-Natal Economic Summit to be held on the 18th of September at the Hilton Hotel, Durban. It was reported that the 2015 edition of the KZN Economic Summit will see the signing of Chapter 3 of the KwaZulu-Natal Social Accord by provincial social partners covering the areas of Maritime and the KZN Aerotropolis.

3. UPCOMING EVENTS

3.1 Commemoration of October as Senior Citizens month – A memorandum was presented to inform the Executive Council about the commemoration of October as Senior Citizens Month and the observation of the International Day for Senior Citizens to be held on 01 October 2015 and logistical arrangements thereof.

3.2 Umkhosi weLembe - The Executive Council was informed of the 2015 uMkhosi weLembe, which will be held on 24 September 2015 at KwaDukuza Recreational Grounds.

3.3 Provincial Public Sector Strategic Human Resources Convention - The Executive Council was informed of the Provincial Public Sector Strategic Human Resources Convention scheduled for 8-9 October 2015 at Imbizo Conference Centre, Sibaya Casino and Entertainment Kingdom.

3.4 Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) Cabinet Day - The Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) Cabinet Day scheduled for Friday, 25 September 2015 will be held in Ulundi Local Municipality. The theme for the OSS is *“Towards the identification, promotion and preservation of South Africa’s living heritage”*. The eThekweni Cabinet Operation Sukuma Sakhe will be held on 07 October 2015.

ENDS

Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government

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