



KZN PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF 01 APRIL 2015

The Provincial Executive Council ('Executive Council') held its ordinary meeting of the year on Wednesday 01 April 2015 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. Reflections on Incidents of Xenophobia in Isipingo

The Executive Council reflected on reported acts of violence taking place in Isipingo, which are characteristic of xenophobia. The Executive Council condemned any acts of xenophobia and characterised them as regrettable, unfortunate and inhuman.

The provincial government of KwaZulu-Natal, embraces human rights as inalienable and indefensible, and subscribes to the laws of the Republic of South Africa as governed by the Constitution. The Executive Council appreciates its obligations to promote, defend and fulfil human rights as outlined under relevant conventions of the United Nations and the African Union.

The Executive Council reflected on the link that has been made between the acts of xenophobia, to what is purported to have been said by the Zulu monarch, His Majesty King Goodwill Zwelithini on the role and presence of foreign nationals in South Africa. In this regard, the Executive Council reaffirmed its belief in the spirit of shared humanity as central to contemporary global meaning of human rights and development. It expressed its mindfulness of emergent challenges facing our country especially - poverty, unemployment and inequality. In this regard, the Executive Council remains resolute in implementing programmes on poverty eradication, economic development and social protection of the vulnerable in our society.

The Executive Council, calls upon the citizens of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal to desist from acts of violence against fellow human beings. It further calls for open dialogue and active participation by all citizens to finding solutions to our development challenges. In the recent past, KwaZulu-Natal went through a very difficult period of political violence that led to the loss of many lives and internal displacement of victims. As Provincial Government, we are dealing with issues around illegal immigrants, particularly those involved in criminal activities. We will continue to confront development challenges that lead to a sense of social exclusion, poverty and vulnerability of women and children in instances of such violence.



2. Implementation of Key Government Programmes

2.1 Progress Report on the Section 139 (1) (C) Constitutional Intervention at Mtubatuba

The Executive Council was apprised on progress to date in Mtubatuba Municipality following the decision taken on 30 January 2015 to intervene in this municipality. To this end, a recovery plan was presented to the Executive Council that identified water supply services, sanitation services, lack of capacity within the municipality, electrification and human settlements as key challenges faced in the municipality. The IEC has set the by-election for the 6th May 2015.

2.2 Royal Household Trust Board

The term of office of the Royal Household Trust Board ended on 31st March 2015. In this regard, the Executive Council approved the appointment of the new Royal Household Trust Board. The following members were confirmed:

- Mr Thulasizwe Buthelezi (Chairperson)
- Dr Jimmy Mfanimpela Mthethwa
- Prince Mbonisi Zulu
- Professor Musa Khulekani Xulu
- Ms Zanamuhla Primrose Khanyile
- Professor Sazile Mtshali
- Dr Ashwin Trikamjee

3. Executive Council's Position on Current Issues

3.1 Support to Local Arts Industry

The Executive Council noted the need to support local artists and music industry, particularly in light of the catalytic role of the industry in the attainment of strategic priorities of Provincial Government. These strategic priorities include economic development, radical economic transformation, and youth development. In this regard, the Executive Council approved the use of artists by Provincial Government Departments within strict prescripts of government guidelines as determined by the Department of Arts and Culture.

3.2 Easter Holidays and State of Readiness

The Executive Council was apprised on preparations for peaceful and safe Easter holiday season by relevant cluster Departments. As usual, KwaZulu-Natal can expect an influx of thousands of holiday makers and tourists. During this time there is an increase of traffic volume at all National roads countrywide as a result major and fatal accidents take place due to impatience, driving under the influence of alcohol, fatigue, unroadworthy vehicles and contravention of the Road Traffic Act. The Executive Council called upon the people of KwaZulu-Natal and all those who will be visiting the province to take all necessary precautions against crime and possible road hazards.

3.3 Provincial Freedom Day Celebration

The 2015 Provincial Freedom Day Celebration will take place in Mkhanyakude District under Mtubatuba Municipality. The theme for this year's celebration in line with national government, is **“Celebrating the Beginning of the Third Decade of our Freedom through Accelerating Radical Economic Transformation.”**

Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government

Enquires:

Mr. Thami Ngwenya
Head: Provincial Government Communication
Cell: 060 572 9881



"MOVING FORWARD WITH SPEED, ENSURING A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL."



'MOVING FORWARD WITH SPEED, ENSURING A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL.'