



STATEMENT OF KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1 September 2016

After a long recess, the Provincial Executive Council ('Executive Council') held its meeting on Wednesday 24th August 2016 in Pietermaritzburg. On the 31 August 2016, the Executive Council visited Newcastle Local Municipality as part of Cabinet Operation Sukuma Sakhe. Today, 1 September 2016, the media and public at large are informed of the decisions of the executive council.

Key Issues:

1. Report on a teacher who allegedly had sexual relationships with learners at Ekucabangeni High School at Nquthu, in uMzinyathi District

- Weighing heavily on the shoulders of the members of the Executive Council is the possibility that these learners have been infected with HIV virus. It is for this reason that the council has mandated the Department of Education and Department of Health to ensure that affected learners are given ARVs as a precaution. Critically, the council stated that efforts will also be made to ensure that the alleged perpetrator is tested for HIV and AIDS.
- The council further mandated the Department of Education to intensify a campaign aimed at the restoration of moral fiber for teachers to see learners as their children and desist from unsavoury relations with them. Teachers must teach with a conscience, be in class, on time and teaching. On the other hand learners must respect teachers and be in class on time, learning, and do their school work.
- KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu remarked: "We are reviving the old African saying - Your Child is My Child, My Child is Your Child. We have reached a point where we all agree that education of our children is sacrosanct and thus nothing should be allowed to get between learners and quality education. We are also mobilizing parents and communities at large to take an interest in the welfare of our schools in partnership with government."
- He further noted that as part of countdown to matric examination, elected public representatives will stage unannounced visits to schools and submit reports about their findings in the legislature and to the executive council. All MEC's will be part of campaigns aimed at fighting social ills in schools, acting as champions of Operation Sukuma Sakhe in their districts in support of the MEC of Education Khethomthandayo Dlungwana.

- The Department of Education is the lead department working with the Department of Social Development and the Department of Health including the Office of the Premier.

2. Proposed Establishment of Commission of Inquiry into underlying causes of murder of politicians in KwaZulu-Natal

- The Executive Council has approved a request for the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry into Underlying Causes of the Murder of Politicians in KwaZulu-Natal in terms of section 127 (2) (e) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, read with section 2 (1) of KwaZulu-Natal-Commissions Act of 1999 (Act No.3 1999).
- Political killings have been prevalent in KwaZulu-Natal since 2011. There has been rapid escalation in the number of politicians murdered in the province during 2016 with adverse consequences for governance in the province. This situation is not only of great concern to the provincial government, but it has also been raised by some of political parties in the province as a matter that requires urgent intervention.
- The Executive Council noted that during 2016, 12 members of the African National Congress, 3 members of the National Freedom Party, 3 members of the Inkatha Freedom Party and 2 members of the South African Communist Party have been murdered.
- KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu explained: “The processes of setting up this commission are continuing. These include making a presentation before the Provincial Legislature and consultation with political leaders through the Multi-Party Intervention Committee. In addition, we will consult with religious, traditional and other leaders of society to ensure that the process is inclusive.”
- The Executive Council further expressed its commitment to ensure that once all the above processes are finalized, an announcement is made detailing terms of reference, names of the commissioners and other information such as dates for the sitting of the commission.
- The Office of the Premier is the lead department working with Treasury and Department of Community Safety and Liaison.

3. Update report on the Local Government Elections

- The Executive Council agreed that the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) must be invited to make a presentation on the 03 August 2016 Local Government Elections.
- The Executive Council received a report from the South African Police Service, Provincial Management following the 03 August 2016 Local Government Elections. It was resolved that the Multi-Party Political Intervention Committee must continue with its work of promoting political tolerance, peace, freedom of choice and expression even after local government elections.
- KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu emphasized: “As the executive council we are committed to working with leaders of political parties to create and

promoting an environment of co-existence of political parties throughout the corners of the province.”

- Mchunu further noted: “Leaders of political parties must understand that we are responsible for projecting a better image of our province among the family of nations. We cannot afford images of members of political parties involved in political violence and killings dominating the national international media.”

4. Report on Glebelands Community Residential Unit Provincial Peace Prayer: 24 July 2016

- The Executive Council noted the success of efforts aimed at promoting peace and stability at Glebelands.
- KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu congratulated role-players for ushering in a new era of hope: “We salute His Majesty for assigning the Royal Household and Amakhosi to work with Glebelands Peace Forum to restore broken relations amongst residents. Residents, especially those who were involved in conflicts are now speaking with one voice and are saying never again should brothers and sisters go to war against each other.”
- The Executive Council mandated the Department of Community Safety and Liaison to expedite the traditional leg of the peace building process which involves cleansing ceremonies in Gauteng and Glebelands hostels respectively. In addition, the Department was mandated to fast-track peace-building processes at KwaMashu Hostel and other hostels in the eThekweni.

5. Hijacking of Government Vehicles and other crimes at King Cetshwayo District

- The Executive Council was informed of the hijackings of state vehicles and other crimes in King Cetshwayo District and the interventions thereof. Most disturbing were reports of hijacking of health professionals while rendering much needed healthcare to communities.
- In view of the above, the Executive Council approved a well-co-ordinated security cluster operation covering Ntambanana, Bhiliya, Ntuthunga and KwaBiyela areas.
- The executive council further agreed that a community based United Against Crime campaign be rolled-out in Ntambanana. Communities will be encouraged to give information to the police in order to effect arrests of criminals and syndicates.
- KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu stressed: “Traditional and other community leaders have a responsibility to prevail and maintain law and order in communities and are a natural barrier against crime, a role that we want to emphasise through this campaign.”
- The executive council concluded on this matter by mandating the Provincial Department of Transport to explore the possibilities of getting insurance for provincial government vehicles.

6. Process for filling of the post of Director-General in the Office of the Premier

- The Executive Council approved a request for authority to re-advertise the post of the Director-General. The post was initially advertised on the 2nd and 3rd May 2015 with a closing date of the 15th May 2015.
- During short listing process, only one applicant met the minimum requirements of the post. The headhunting process did not yield positive results. The council noted that this critical post has been vacant for more than twelve months and it is for this reason that the recruitment process is expedited.

7. Upcoming events

1. Preparations for the Provincial Executive Council Lekgotla

- The Provincial Executive Council Makgotla are held every year in February and August to come up with strategic direction of government for the year in line with the policy pronouncements emanating from the State of the Nation Address and the broader Medium Term Strategic Framework (February Lekgotla) and Review of the implementation of the Provincial Government Programmes (August Lekgotla).
- KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu noted: “The Mid-year provincial government Lekgotla is held after the National Cabinet Lekgotla to ensure synergy between National and Provincial Programmes. The National Cabinet Lekgotla was held from 15-19 August 2016.”
- The Executive Council noted the proposed dates as from 14 to 16 September at the Public Works Conference Centre in Mayville, Durban.

2. The 52th Congress of International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)

- The Executive Council received a report on the upcoming 52nd Congress of ISOCARP 2016 and its associated programme to take place from 08-16 September 2016 in Durban. ISOCARP is the international society of city and regional planners, a global association of experienced professional planners that brings together planners in an international network for discussion on planning matters.
- KZN was awarded the rights of hosting the congress through efforts of the provincial government, South African Planning Council of Planners, South African Planning Institute, UKZN and Durban KZN Convention Bureau.
- A local organizing committee responsible for co-ordinating the conference comprises the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform and eThekweni Municipality.

3. 2016 Umkhosi Womhlanga (Reed Dance)

- The Executive Council received a report on the preparations for two Reed Dance cultural events. It was also reported that the Ingwavuma Reed Dance will be held

on 2-4 September 2016 at Emachobeni Royal Palace. Umkhosi Womhlanga will take place from 9-11 September 2016 at Enyokeni Royal Palace, KwaNongoma.

- The executive council commended His Majesty for using cultural events to promote behavioral change and to fight social ills such as HIV and Aids.
- Importantly, the executive council acknowledged that His Majesty continues to give this province the uniqueness and competitive edge. Over the years, His Majesty has hosted guests of international note during traditional ceremonies and in the process, giving the world a taste of our rich heritage and a glimpse to our history.
- The executive council mandated the Department of Arts and Culture to work with the Department of Transport to ensure the safety of maidens going to and from the Reed Dance.

4. 2016 Umkhosi weLembe

- The Executive Council was informed of and supported the 2016 Umkhosi weLembe to be held on the 24th September 2016 at Moses Mabhida Stadium, eThekweni, Durban.
- Umkhosi we-Lembe is an annual commemoration of King Shaka's Legacy and the event is traditionally held in KwaDukuza, under Ilembe District. This year marks 200 years after Inkosi uShaka ka Senzangakhona ascended to Kingship. Therefore, this year's event will be used to celebrate the bi-centenary of Ilembe's reign and to reflect on our rich history. In addition, this year marks 45 years since His Majesty Isilo Samabandla ascended to the throne as Monarch of the Zulu nation.
- KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu noted: "We want the younger generation to be taught about the Kings of the Zulu nation. For example, King Shaka moved further south to Kwa-Dukuza from where he ruled, and was probably the king that made the name 'ZULU' famous. It was his military achievement that led to the establishment of the kingdom that became one of the best known around the globe – the Zulu Kingdom."
- The Department of Arts and Culture is the lead department supported by the Office of the Premier and eThekweni Municipality.

Ends

Issued by Office of the Premier

Enquires:

Ndabezinhle Sibiyi: Spokesperson for the Premier

082 3754742

ndabezinhlesibiyi@yahoo.com