MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 21 SEPTEMBER 2007

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/ REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

CELE CONDEMNS THE KILLING OF A LEARNER IN BERGVILLE

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele has strongly condemned the killing of a learner at Mafu High School in Bergville on Thursday 20/09/07 this follows an argument between learners which led to murder of Mr. S Mazibuko (18) who was stabbed to death by another learner during a school assembly prayer when all eyes were closed.

Cele who is also an Acting MEC for Education has expressed shock and anger towards the brutal murder of a learner inside the school premises. "School violence is a serious concern to both government and society, we cannot allow a generation of criminals and murders in our society however we have to strive for a decent and promising future for our youth and eradicate all remnants of violence that still exist in our youth", said Cele.

"Violence among teenagers is alarming however as go vernment we will integrate all our programmes that are aimed at addressing this challenge and furthermore implement mechanisms of rehabilitating the troublesome youth in our province" Cele added.

Members of the SAPS from Matsheni Police station in Bergville have succeeded in apprehending the suspect who is also a learner at Mafu High School. The suspect sustained injuries after he was attacked by school learners after stabbing Mazibuko to death.

Ends

Issued by the Office of the MEC

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