



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: 26 September 2007

DOT CONDUCTS ZIBAMBELE SUMMIT IN LADYSMITH

The Department of Transport in KZN will on **Friday (28/09/07) conduct the Zibambele Summit at the Ladysmith Indoor Sports Complex at 09h00 am.**

The Zibambele programme is an adaptation from the Kenyan Lengthman System which to date has more than 32000 poor rural households being afforded an opportunity to preserve the rural road infrastructure and make earnings from it. These contractors have been clustered into savings clubs, which amount to more than 900 and have collectively saved approximately R7,5 million.

The main objectives of the summit is to introduce and engage the Zibambele contractors on ABET and Masifundisane programme, to introduce the concept of learnerships to contractors and to showcase the economic activities that the Zibambele savings clubs are engaged in with a view to encourage saving and exiting the programme yet remaining sustainable. The summit is subsequent to the department realizing the low levels of literacy amongst beneficiaries which posed a challenge to them in managing their savings clubs and co-operatives. The Department of Transport has therefore partnered with the Department of Education to access the Zibambele contractors to Literacy programme such as ABET and Masifundisane which are aimed at getting the entire province literate.

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