



MEDIA ALERT

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 07 FEBRUARY 2008
ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE
RE : MEDIA BRIEFING/LAUNCH OF SIYAZENZELA

CELE TO LAUNCH SIYAZENZELA PROJECT WITH UMSUNDUZI MUNICIPALITY

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele together with the UMsunduzi District Municipality will on **Monday (10/03/08)** at the **Jika Joe Settlement in Pietermaritzburg at 08h30** address a media briefing about the launch of '**SIYAZENZELA**' a project which is aimed at eradicating poverty by creating job opportunities.

'**SIYAZENZELA**' is a programme that is driven under the EPWP (Expanded Public Works Programme) in the Department of Transport and it was initially launched with the Hibiscus Coast Municipality in April 2007. The programme allows the unemployed members of the public an opportunity to collect garbage in exchange of food parcels.

The programme is said to be of great benefit such that the environment is kept clean, poverty is alleviated, hygiene is improved, less garbage is dumped in sensitive sites such as rivers and a better life is created for the undernourished poor. Fifty beneficiaries have been selected and are undergoing a process of signing contracts.

MEC Cele is also expected to give an outline on the **EPWP Focus Week (10/03/08 to 13/03/08)** and an Award Ceremony that has been initiated by the Department of Transport to encourage implementers in the Province to participate in the EPWP programme. In celebrating this labour intensive programme the EPWP sites across the province will be visited by politicians and other prominent community figures who are also expected to be hands-on. The sites include Home based care, Road projects, Housing projects as well as the **SIYAZENZELA** food for waste programme.

“Job creation and poverty alleviation are the fundamental are the fundamental challenges that government is vigorously fighting. It therefore delights me to partake in launching SIYAZENZELA with the UMsunduzi District Municipality as it will benefit our poor communities and also maintain a healthy living environment, said Cele”.

ENDS.

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