



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**DATE: 24 October 2008**

---

**MEC CELE THROWS HIS FULL WEIGHT BEHIND THE DECISION TO END THE BUS STRIKE IN  
DURBAN**

KWAZULU-NATAL MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Bheki Cele has thrown his full weight behind the decision to end the bus strike after a long period of inconvenience to the commuters of Durban and surroundings; this follows major challenges and unresolved issues that led to a bus strike that lasted for weeks.

MEC Cele has attended a series of meetings with all relevant stakeholders in trying to resolve the matter and finally peace and absolute sense have prevailed, and the lives of commuters will get back to normal. "Many commuters have severely suffered; school children were disturbed during school examinations due to issues that could have been addressed without suffering and heartache", said Cele.

"Boardrooms are better than the battlefields; as government we wish to extend our heartfelt apologies to all commuters for the inconvenience caused and furthermore we will be joining our forces to ensure that such a situation does not repeat itself. Our mandate is to provide safe, affordable, efficient and effective public transport system in the country," said Cele.

"Barbaric and inhuman actions like the shooting of two passengers and a driver from KwaNdengezi in the early hours of Friday morning (24 October 2008) was extremely brutal and unnecessary, police will leave no stone unturned in apprehending the perpetrators. The resurfacing of taxi violence in the province is a challenge to both government and the industry. As a collective we shall win the battle - peace will prevail and we shall continue to defend the weak," Cele concluded.

**Ends**

**MEDIA CONTACT: Nonkululeko Mbatha (083 6456 252)**

**Media Liaison & Public Relations Directorate**

Street Address: 172 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Republic of South Africa  
Postal Address: Private Bag X9043, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Republic of South Africa  
Tel: (27) (33) 355 8624 Fax: (27) (33) 355 8632  
Internet: <http://www.kzntransport.gov.za>