



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

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 09 SEPTEMBER 2010

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRES

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MAHLABATHINI ACCIDENT CLAIMS ANOTHER LIFE MAKING A TOTAL NUMBER OF SIX

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Mr. Willies Mchunu has expressed his deepest shock and condolences to the families of the six victims killed in a gruesome accident on P702 Mahlabathini near Phoqukhalo area yesterday (08/09/2010).

Preliminary reports have revealed that the driver of a minibus failed to negotiate a bend, lost control and overturned due to brake failure leaving five people dead on scene and 9 other passengers seriously injured. They were all taken to Nkonjeni Provincial hospital. It has been reported that another person died today at the hospital bringing the total number of the deceased to six. Six culpable homicide cases have been opened pending investigation.

"I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased. I hope that time and memories will help lessen the burden of your sorrow. May you draw some measure of comfort knowing that others care and share in your loss. I also wish to emphasize that road safety is everyone's responsibility therefore 100% compliance should be our way of life. It is every driver's responsibility to check the roadworthiness of their vehicles before embarking on a trip. We will continue to enforce the law on those who do not want to obey the rules of the road to prevent such accidents from happening," said Mchunu.

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