PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA ALERT

TO: ALL MEDIA

DATE: 05 JANUARY 2010

ACTING MEC DHLOMO URGES MOTORISTS TO DRIVE CAREFULLY **DURING THIS RAINY AND MISTY WEATHER**

Acting MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison in KZN Dr. Sibongiseni Dhlomo

has urged all motorists to adjust their driving habits to suit the prevailing weather

conditions. The recent summer rains, coupled with mist have resulted in several road

accidents across the Province, thus causing road closures-which have been a huge

inconvenience for other road users.

Mist, at times with zero visibility, is currently being experienced throughout the Province

and is causing accidents. Speed limits must be drastically reduced and motorists should

ensure that prior to travelling, their head lamps, brake lights, rear lights and windscreen

wipers are fully functional. More importantly, they should ensure that the de-mister is

working, to ensure visibility and also keep a safe following distance. Amongst areas mostly

affected are Nguthu, Nkandla and Ladysmith.

"The KZN Department of Transport encourages all motorists to drive with their

headlamps switched on during the day in order to create visibility for the benefit of

motorists and pedestrians. Drivers should increase their following distance and

decrease speed as slippery roads caused by rain may cause them to lose control.

Furthermore, motorists should be extra cautious as most roads have been reported

damaged after these heavy rains. Whilst we will make use of all resources in the

Media Liaison & Public Relations Directorate

Province to ensure the safety of all road users, their ultimate safety lies within their own hands" said Dhlomo

ENDS

Media contact: Kwanele Ncalane-079 699 5755/072 803 1462