



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

MEDIA STATEMENT

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PEACEFUL MEETING FOLLOWING CAMPERDOWN POLITICAL KILLING

MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu has appealed to all political parties under the uMgungundlovu district to help restore the tainted image of the province of KwaZulu-Natal and end the history of political violence.

Yesterday Mchunu was addressing a meeting of all political parties in Camperdown in a bid to ensure peaceful, free and fair elections as we approaching local government elections on the 18th May 2011.

The meeting was attended by the leadership of the SAPS in the province, business leaders, amakhosi and the head of the IEC, Mawethu Mosery.

Mchunu urged all political parties to stop intimidating voters and respect their right to choose political parties of their choice.

This meeting which was held at the Camperdown hotel was triggered by the recent killing of NFP candidate at KwaNyavu.

Mchunu said, "We identified areas which were problematic and requiring our intervention. We visited all those areas but we were forced to add Camperdown because of the killings of public representatives. This area has a long history of political violence. I am appealing to all political parties present to work in changing the image of Camperdown," said Mchunu.

The multi-party committee led by Mchunu has visited troubled precincts such as Estcourt/Mbabazane, uLundi/Nongoma, Maphumulo/Mandeni and Hostels in Durban.

This committee took a resolution to stage prayer rallies to be attended by all political parties, including Durban Metro and uMsinga/Greytown precinct. This initiative is seen as a groundbreaking initiative in uniting the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

The IEC's Mosery told the meeting that an NFP candidate who was killed will be voted as his name will appear on the ballot paper, and that a by-election would be held after three months if the deceased candidate wins. He urged political parties to stop intimidating people. "No amount of violence or intimidation can change the mindset of the voters," said Mosery.

All political parties present at the meeting, including independent candidates, made a commitment to ensuring a free and fair election in the Camperdown area.

Ends

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