

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA DATE : 05 June 2011

MCHUNU SHOCKED BY DEATH OF 6 PEOPLE IN PHONGOLO

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu has received with shock the news of the tragic accident that claimed the lives of 6 people in Phongolo this morning.

The accident happened at around 5h00 am on the N2 between Phongolo and Piet Retief.

It is believed that a VW polo collided head-on with a mini bus taxi on Sivele Bridge.

Five people died on the scene while one died in hospital. Three were from the mini bus and the other three were from the VW Polo. Five occupants who were critical were taken to Tshelejuba Hospital.

"We are saddened by this tragic accident. We are very concerned with a number of accidents and fatalities experienced by our province recently.

This accident happens few days as we still mourning the tragic death of 6 students in Durban last week.

As the government of KwaZulu-Natal we extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends. We urge all motorists to respect the traffic rules and to work with us in reducing carnages on the road," said Mchunu.

Mchunu also commit his department to continue to work with all stakeholder and communities in reducing fatalities.

Ends

For more information contact - Kwanele Ncalane on 072 803 1462 or 079 699 5755

Internet: http://www.kzntransport.gov.za/home.htm