



PROVINCE OF KWAZULU - NATAL - ISIFUNDAZWE SAKWAZULU - NATALI

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT**

**UMNYANGO WEZOKUTHUTHA**

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**TO : ALL MEDIA**

**DATE : 25 August 2011**

#### **MEC MCHUNU LED A ROAD SAFETY PRAYER ON THE N3**

KZN MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Willies Mchunu, together with the Eastern Cape government, Uthukela District Mayor Ms Dudu Mazibuko, uMtshezi Local Mayor Mr Bongani Dlamini, Religious leaders and Community Road Safety structures led the laying of wreath ceremony on the N3 near Ultra City-Escourt, today (25/08/11).

This follows an accident that happened in the early hours of Monday (22/08/2011).

Preliminary reports have revealed that a bus was travelling from uMtata to Gauteng when a truck coming on the opposite direction towards Durban lost control and collided with the bus.

Eight people died on the scene and two others died later in hospital making a total number of ten fatalities.

Members of the families from Eastern Cape attended the ceremony.

**“Because our province is a gateway to other provinces, we are planning to engage with other affected provincial departments on road safety campaigns. We also need to look at legislation to ensure that traffic offenders get harsh punishment”**

**“We are also worried about the way truck owners operate. They seem to be profit driven all the time and tend overload vehicles poorly maintain their vehicles. The working conditions are also compelling drivers to speed on our roads,”** said Mchunu.

This month alone, more than 40 people died in KwaZulu-Natal on the roads.

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