



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## **MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

#### **MEC MCHUNU EXPRESSES CONCERNS AT THE ATTACKS DIRECTED AT FOREIGN SHOP OWNERS IN KWAMASHU**

KWAZULU-NATAL MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has expressed strong concerns at the attacks targeting foreign business owners in KwaMashu township.

Mchunu's comments come in the wake of attacks of two shopping containers at C-section in KwaMashu, which are owned by Somalians.

Police have indicated that the suspects used petrol bombs to destroy these shopping containers.

Two counts of attempted murder and malicious damage to property are being investigated by the police.

No arrest has been made so far but police have indicated following leads which might lead them to an early breakthrough.

Reacting to this incident, MEC Mchunu, said attacking foreign owned shops is equal to xenophobic attacks and must be condemned in all possible ways.

"We find it unacceptable that people would target foreign business owners and vandalise their properties. If people have got issues with the level of competition presented by foreign business owners and their impact on local business owners, such must be discussed through proper channels and peacefully. These attacks are unwarranted and must end now," said MEC Mchunu.

He further added that these attacks of foreign business owners, if not stopped, might pose another fear of xenophobic attacks –which is against the values South Africa stands for.

On Thursday a meeting is planned between a group calling itself *abahwebi baKwaMashu*, eThekweni Mayor, the Department of Community Safety and Liaison and the police – in a bid to resolve this matter.

ENDS.

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