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## **MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

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### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

TO: ALL MEDIA  
DATE: 25 April 2014  
ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/ REPORTERS AND PR WIRES

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### **THREE FAMILY MEMBERS DIE IN A GRUESOME ACCIDENT IN VAN REENEN ON THE N3**

**KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu**, has expressed his sadness at the accident that claimed three lives on the N3 near Van Reneen in the early hours of this morning.

Preliminary reports reveal that the left rear tyre of a double cab bakkie carrying four family members came off and it overturned. This resulted in a head-on collision with an oncoming truck. Two adults and a six years old child died on the scene, whilst a 10-year-old, who was in a critical state, was rushed to Ladysmith provincial hospital to receive medical attention. The truck driver escaped unscathed.

A team of forensic experts has been dispatched to investigate the real cause of the accident.

MEC Mchunu expressed his sadness to this horrific accident.

**"On behalf of the government of KwaZulu-Natal, I wish to send my heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have lost their lives in this accident and wish a speedy recovery to the one who is in hospital. It is indeed saddening to learn that all the victims are from one family, parents and their two sons. We urge motorists to be extra vigilant and ensure that their vehicles are in a roadworthy state before undertaking any trips, especially those traveling long distances. The long weekend has begun and we urge motorists to obey all the rules of the road. Our enforcement officers are on the alert to deal with any form of lawlessness throughout the province"** said Mchunu.

MEC Mchunu indicated that major roadblocks comprising of the SAPS, Road Traffic Inspectorate, Customs, Cross border police amongst others, will be conducted in key areas in the province. Police visibility will also be beefed up to monitor traffic movement.

Ends.

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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