



# transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

## MEDIA LIAISON AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

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### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA  
DATE: Monday, 22 February 2016  
ATTENTION: EDITORS and NEWS EDITORS

#### **MEC MCHUNU STRONGLY CONDEMNS THE KILLING OF TWO TAXI OPERATORS INCLUDING THE DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF LINDELANI TAXI ASSOCIATION**

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Willies Mchunu, has strongly condemned the killing of Lindelani Taxi Association's Deputy Chairperson Mr. Mdubane Sishi, who was killed in broad daylight this afternoon.

The killing of Mr. Sishi comes as the industry was reeling from deep shock following the brutal murder of a female operator, Ms Buhle Buthelezi, who was gunned down in front of her six-year-old child yesterday.

According to the police investigation, Mr. Sishi was killed today when unknown men opened fire, leaving him dead on the scene. The motive of his killing is not known, however, police are investigating if the two incidents are linked.

Ms. Buthelezi, a member of Lindelani Taxi Association, was allegedly shot by four (4) unknown men whilst standing in front of her house door. She sustained multiple gunshot wounds and also died on the scene. It is alleged that a six-year-old child was also shot on the foot and was rushed to the nearest hospital for medical attention.

It was established that the deceased (Ms Buthelezi) was previously shot in January and sustained injuries on her arm.

Reacting to the killing of the two operators, MEC Mchunu said it was worrying that two members of the association were killed in the short space of one day and urged the police to leave no stone unturned to arrest the killers.

**"We strongly condemn the killing of two operators in Lindelani. The fact that two operators have been killed in two days is a sign that there is tension that needs urgent attention, threatening the progress already made in bringing broad peace and stability in the taxi industry. We urge the police to thoroughly investigate these two murder cases and increase visibility to prevent further killings. Working with Santaco, we will continue to intervene in areas engulfed by violence,"** said MEC Mchunu.

Ends.

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