



## transport

Department:  
Transport  
Province of KwaZulu-Natal

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA  
DATE: Tuesday, 15 November 2016  
ATTENTION: Editors, News Editors & PR

#### **MEC KAUNDA VISITS ACCIDENT SCENE TO MEET WITH FAMILIES OF FIVE VICTIMS WHO DIED IN A ROAD CRASH IN NGWELEZANE - EMPANGENI**

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr. Mxolisi Kaunda, will visit the accident scene today (Tuesday, 15 November 2016) and meet with the bereaving families of five victims who died in a multiple-vehicles crash in KwaDlangezwa, outside Empangeni yesterday afternoon.

MEC Kaunda has once again expressed disappointment at this fatal accident, which happened on R102, when a minibus taxi, Toyota Tazz and a bus collided at around 16h00 yesterday.

All the five victims (four females and a male driver) died on the scene and other occupants escaped with critical injuries and were taken to the Ngwelezane hospital.

All vehicles have been checked and confirmed to have roadworthy certificates, however traffic police who attended the scene have not ruled out the possibility of human error as a major cause of the accident.

"It is very painful that once again within the vicinity of Empangeni we lose people on the road. Just a week ago, a taxi collided with a truck, killing four people. Now we have lost an additional five people. This is living testimony that more stringent and drastic measures are needed to enforce traffic regulations. Sadly, these crashes are happening as we approach the busy festive season, further calling for more re-doubled efforts to save lives. We will soon be tabling our integrated festive safety plan to the Provincial Executive Committee for inputs and endorsement. We urge all road users and all stakeholders, including business, government and social partners to come together and act to curb road crashes, as well as intensify road safety education and responsible behaviour. I wish to send our deepest condolences to all the affected families," said Kaunda.

Kaunda will be accompanied by the leadership of King Cetshwayo District and uMhlathuze Local municipalities when he visits the accident scene at 12h30 this afternoon, further meet with the affected families and ultimately visit survivors at eNgwelezane hospital.

Ends.

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