



## KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Thursday, 02 September 2021**

### **MEC NKONYENI DIRECTS AN URGENT INVESTIGATION INTO THE FATAL ROAD CRASH THAT CLAIMED 11 PEOPLE BETWEEN HIGHFLATS AND IXOPO**

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Ms Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni, has directed an urgent investigation into the cause of the major fatal crash that claimed the lives of eleven (11) people between Highflats and Ixopo. This tragic accident happened today (Thursday, 02 September 2021) on the R612.

Preliminary reports suggest that a minibus taxi traveling from Highflats to Ixopo collided head-on with an oncoming tipper truck, resulting in 11 people from the minibus losing their lives.

The scene where the accident took place is a construction site, however, there is visible signage and control measures to control the traffic and speed.

Among the eleven are seven females and four males including the taxi driver. Six others have sustained serious injuries and they have been transferred to Christ the King Hospital for further medical treatment.

The Road Traffic Inspectorate, SAPS and other law enforcement agencies are currently on scene and the forensic experts have started with the forensic investigation.

Reacting to the shocking news of the horrendous accident, MEC Nkonyeni, called on road users to adhere to traffic laws.

"We are deeply saddened by the fact that majority of people who died here are women. Losing eleven people in one accident is painful. Since January 2021, we have not recorded a major fatal accident. This, therefore, comes at a time when we were appreciating the downward trend in both crashes and fatalities. We are calling on road users to take responsibility and adhere to the traffic laws. We wish to express our deepest condolences to all the affected families," said Nkonyeni.

MEC Nkonyeni will tomorrow (Friday, 03 September 2021) visit the accident scene at 11h00. Details of the visit will follow.

ENDS.