



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TRANSPORT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

End of a two-year dispute over taxi routes and historic agreements involving taxi associations in Ulundi and Phongola

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma

04 August 2024

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: Following our strategic planning meeting, all categories of staff in the department have doubled their efforts to ensure the stability of the public transport sector.

We are all pulling in the same direction as we inspire hope for a better future.

In particular, over the past three days, our dedicated Roving Taxi Industry Conflict Management Task Team which is attached to the department's Provincial Regulatory Entity has met with some taxi associations and South African National Taxi Council.

The meetings have resulted in historic agreements and the end disputes over taxi routes.

We recall that weeks ago, taxi operators who are members of Ulundi Mahlabathini Association staged a protest by blocking a road in Mayiwane.

We wish to announce the following agreement which marks the end of a two-year conflict over the routes:-

1. Members have returned to their Nkonjeni, Mkhazane and Ezihlabeni routes.
2. Affected members made an undertaking that they would return and operate at the approved ranking facilities.
3. Members and the executive agreed to settle their differences.
4. The association will proceed to assist those who have operating licenses that have lapsed.
5. The meeting further agreed that Operation Shanela should assist in ensuring that all routes are operated by authorized vehicles.
6. Minibus taxis that are found operating outside the approved taxi rank will be subjected to a legal process that could lead to operating licenses being rescinded.

In addition, we have resolved a dispute involving registered members of the Ikhwezi Local and Long Distance Taxi Association in Phongola.

The dispute was over the Johannesburg and Durban long distance routes.

We wish to announce that the following agreement has been reached:-

1. Members of the association resolved that, in line with the High Court ruling, the Durban and Johannesburg routes will be operated by all members.
2. Each member shall bring one vehicle to operate the long-distance routes.



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3. The association further resolved that all long-distance routes would be operated equally.
4. Members who elect not to operate long-distance routes are at liberty to stick to the local routes.
5. The association has a limit of three operating licenses per member.
6. One vehicle operates long-distance routes, and two operate local routes.
7. The executive committee will be assisted by the SANTACO Regional Executive committee in drawing a schedule for long-distance operations.
8. The schedule will be implemented from 12 August 2024.

The Department and SANTACO will monitor the situation to ensure that the schedule is implemented as agreed.

Our hardworking Roving Taxi Industry Conflict Management Task Team from the department's Provincial Regulatory Entity remains hard at work.

They will continue to resolve disputes and ensure the stability of public transport sector.
Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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