

Aircraft crash into the Indian Ocean, off Durban North Beach | Duma at the scene

Media and public statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma

14 August 2025

Sun Coast Casino, Durban North Beach: Immediately after receiving a report about the aircraft crash into the Indian Ocean, off Durban North Beach, I immediately proceeded to the scene. I was received by the Director of SA Civil Aviation Authority, Ms Poppy Khoza and her team.

Ms Khoza informed me that the authority's Accident and Incident Investigations Division (AIID) has taken over and will be conducting an extensive investigation to establish the causes of the accident.

According to AIID, the accident occurred at approximately 13:45pm.

Apparently, the ZS-AEC Extra 300 aircraft crashed into the sea while performing its final display during the airshow.

The airshow took place after the most successful Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) Global Summit 2025.

Critically, as the Department of Transport in KwaZulu-Natal, our hearts are with the family of the pilot.

On Tuesday I welcomed the Minister of Transport Barbara Creecy and more than 1000 delegates from different parts of the globe.

They converged at Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention to discuss the future of the aviation industry.

We were showered with praises by the Secretary-General of the International Civil Aviation Organization, Mr Juan Carlos Salazar. He saluted KZN for being an excellent host.

He pointed out that all international delegates were impressed by the warmth and friendly smiles of the people of KZN.

We thank the organization, the Minister of Transport and SA Civil Aviation for choosing KZN to host the summit

Finally, this afternoon I witnessed the hard work of the National Sea Rescue Institute, the SAPS Search and Rescue Unit and medical emergency personnel.

We will allow the rescue teams and the AIID to handle this matter moving forward.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

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