

**The complicated rescue operation was completed at 23h30. And there was no victim left behind in the wreckage. This is after a bus rolled 100m down the embankment**

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

10 March 2025

N2, Mandeni and Stanger:

As we start the day, we wish to express our deepest condolences to the families of the nine (9) church members of Twelve Apostles Church in Trinity, Ward 28 in KwaDukuza Local Municipality.

They departed unexpectedly following a bus accident on the N2 between Mandeni and Stanger.

This morning at 08h00 I will be at the scene of the accident. I will be joined by the Mayor of KwaDukuza Local Municipality Cllr Muzi "Ali" Ngidi, other local leaders and Department's Chaplain Apostle V Mpungose.

I received the last report at 23h30 last night from our highly efficient team from Road Traffic Inspectorate.

I asked the entire team involving RTI, Traffic departments - Fire and Disaster Teams from Mandeni, KwaDukuza and SAPS to execute the rescue operation with a high sense of efficiency and responsibility.

The team conducted a very complicated search and rescue operation due to the steep embankment and thick bush.

The operation was completed at 23h30 and no victim was found left in the wreckage.

The team will return this morning to pull up the wreckage. It will be taken to Road Traffic Inspectorate Offices in Gingindlovu.

This will enable the SAPS, Road Traffic Management Corporation and RTI to conduct an investigation.

This is the most difficult period for the Twelve Apostles Church in Trinity in KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa as a whole.

The Department will be in touch with all families and the leadership of the Church starting from today. We want to ensure that the victims are given a dignified funeral.

Importantly, we pray to God to shine his face on the families, relatives, church members and those who were injured.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Ndabezinhle Sibiya | Spokesperson | 082 375 4742 | MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

