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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## MPUMALANGA HOUSE OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS (MHTL) CONVEYS CONDOLENCES ON THE DEATH OF INGOMA INITIATES

Chairperson of Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders (MPHTL), Kgoshi Lameck Mokoena has expressed shock in the unfortunate passing of four initiates in the cultural Ingoma. He also conveyed condolences to the families of the victims "We are deeply shocked in the unfortunate passing of the initiates. Our heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased. Investigations are underway to determine the cause and action will be taken against responsible owners of the affected initiation schools, if found that the deaths resulted from negligence in their initiation schools" said Mokoena

The Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Department of Health, traditional leaders and law enforcement agencies are working together to prevent a further loss of lives in the Ingoma practice. Mokoena advised all initiation schools owners to comply with the Ingoma Act of 2011.

The Act regulates amongst others, the following:

- Permission to attend
- Duration of the Ingoma
- Prohibition of forced attendance
- Fees
- Inspection at the Ingoma

## End

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