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COGTA MPUMALANGA CAUTIONS COMMUNITIES AGAINST THE RAINY SEASON

Mpumalanga province is prone to heavy summer rains which sometimes lead to extreme flash floods that pose danger to mankind and animals. MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Ms Refilwe Mtshweni has cautioned all communities to take precautions during this season due to the expected heavy downpours.

"The Provincial Disaster Management unit is on high alert to intervene in any emergency case. Disaster Management units in the twenty (20) municipalities are placed on high alert to provide support. We are determined to save lives in the event of emergencies caused by the rains during this season," Ms Mtshweni said.

She appealed to the communities to play an active role in saving lives. "We appeal to all our communities to take precautionary and safety measures to prevent loss of lives by reporting emergencies using the Provincial Disaster Toll free number of **0800 202 507**," Ms Mtshweni said.

The MEC advised communities about the following safety tips:

- To avoid crossing over flooded rivers, dams and water streams.
- To stay on higher grounds.
- To keep away children from flooded streams, dams and rivers during stormy conditions.
- Not to walk under power lines to prevent lightning.

Issued by the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs Contact Person: Mr George Mthethwa:013 766 6572 / 083 302 2774

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