

Building No. 6, Ext 2, No. 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Mbombela, 1200, Mpumalanga Province Private Bag X11304, Mbombela, 1200. Int Tel: +27 (13) 766 6087, Tel: (013) 766 6087 Int: Fax: +27 (13) 766 8252, Fax: (013) 766 8252

Litiko Lekubusa ngekubambisana netebuholi bendzabuko Departement van Koöperatiewe Regering en Tradisionele Sake umNyango wezekuBusa ngokuHlanganyela neeNdaba zamaKhosi

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## All Editors All Media Houses

## MEC FOR COGTA MPUMALANGA CAUTIONS COMMUNITIES IN EHLANZENI DISTRICT AGAINST A POSSIBLE TROPICAL RAIN

MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Ms Refilwe Mtshweni has cautioned all communities to take precautions during a tropical cyclone predicted for Thursday and Friday this week.

The South African Weather Services (SAWS) has warned of the tropical cyclone currently in Mozambique and is anticipated to move to Ehlanzeni area in Mpumalanga. The cyclone is expected to cause severe thunderstorms and heavy rainfall with possible localized flooding.

MEC Mtshweni says COGTA's Disaster Management unit and Disaster Management units in municipalities are on high alert to provide support in case of emergencies. "We appeal to all our communities to take precautionary and safety measures in case of the tropical cyclone to prevent a loss of lives. The diving unit in the South African Police Services (SAPS) is also on high alert as we monitor the weather conditions to deal with potential disasters," MEC Mtshweni said.

Mtshweni further advised communities about the following:

- 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.

Communities are urged to call the Provincial Disaster Toll free number for emergencies. The number is **0800 202 507.** 

Issued by the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs

**Contact Person: Mr George Mthethwa** 

Contact number: 013 766 6572 / 083 302 2774

Date: 14 February 2017

E-mail: gpmthethwa@mpg.gov.za