



## EXCO MEDIA STATEMENT

### For Immediate Release

### All Media Houses

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### PREMIER NDLOVU CALLS FOR CALM AND PEACE AHEAD OF PLANNED MARCHES ON TUESDAY

The Premier of Mpumalanga, Mr Mandla Ndlovu has appealed to the organisers of the marches on Tuesday, to maintain calm, peace and restraint.

Premier Ndlovu convened an extended Executive Council meeting, attended by Members of the Executive Council (MECs), Executive Mayors, Leadership of the Provincial House of Traditional and Khoisan Leaders, the Director-General, Heads of Department, Municipal Managers and Acting Provincial Commissioner.

During the session the Premier strongly urged the organisers of the marches to ensure that no one conduct search operations, targeting foreign nationals or road blocks. "Government does not condone illegal immigration, but there should be no lawlessness. No unauthorised person is permitted to demand documentation or proof of nationality from anyone. Blocking access to health facilities and schools is prohibited," Premier Ndlovu insisted.

On Thursday this week, the Premier, accompanied by MEC for Community Safety, Security and Liaison, Mr Jackie Macie engaged the organisers of the marches at the Nkangala District Council in Middelburg, and acknowledged that some of their grievances are genuine and that the citizens have a right to voice their concerns.

The Premier directed all state institutions to work in a coordinated approach to respond to the demands of the marchers. "We will establish multi-disciplinary teams to respond swiftly to the issues of the marches. We will ensure that the 30<sup>th</sup> of June is a normal working day. Therefore an incitement of violence and intimidation of people going to work will not be tolerated during the march," Premier Ndlovu emphasised.

Premier Ndlovu further directed all municipalities to enforce by-laws and ensure that service delivery is not interrupted. "Provincial law enforcement agencies will be visible on the ground to maintain law and order, protect communities, and ensure that those who are not participating in the marches can go about their daily routine safely. The communication channels will remain wide open to receive community submissions and grievances in an orderly and respectful manner", the Premier outlined.

Acting Provincial Commissioner of the South African Police Services, Major General, Dr Zeph Mkhwanazi outlined SAPS' state of readiness plan, to foster the maintenance of law and order. "We urge the marchers not to carry weapons. We call on the organisers to ensure their marshals cooperate fully with law enforcement officers on the ground. We encourage

community members to act as active partners in safety by reporting any suspicious behaviour or illegal activities to the police,” Mkhwanazi said.

**Ends.**

Issued by the Mpumalanga Provincial Government  
Office of the Premier

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