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Lihovisi la Ndvunankhulu I-Ofisi Lika Ndunakulu Kantoor van die Premier

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release All Media Houses Date: 28 June 2024

Premier Ndlovu to preside over MPAC to assess fighting measures against the spread of HIV and TB endemics in Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga Premier Mr Mandla Ndlovu will preside over the meeting of the Mpumalanga Provincial Aids Council (MPAC), to assess the implementation of the plan to fight against HIV and TB endemics. MPAC is a multi-sectoral structure that comprises of government and the civil society. It was established to develop and assess strategies aimed at reducing the prevalence of the endemics in the province.

Although Mpumalanga is ranked among the four provinces in the country with a high number of people living with HIV/AIDS, however, the Provincial Government continues to implement aggressive measures to reduce new infections of HIV and TB, through the Provincial Implementation Plan (PIP) for HIV, TB and STIs. These include among others, mobilization of communities for TB screening and to encourage them to stick to the programme of taking TB drugs consistently, to test and know their HIV status, and to ensure that patients on ARVs programme, are encouraged to take the drugs consistently for viral suppression.

MPAC guides the Provincial Government on measures to intensify the fight against the HIV, TB and STIs endemics. It advises government on measures to prevent duplication and waste of resources.

District Executive Mayors, as Chairpersons of AIDS Councils in Ehlanzeni, Gert Sibande and Nkangala respectively, will present progress reports, to detail the implementation of the plan. Members of the Executive Council, Heads of Departments and members of the civil society, will also attend the meeting to be held virtually on Friday.

Premier Ndlovu will preside over the meeting, alongside the Co-Chairperson, Ms Sonto Nkosi, a representative of the civil society.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

Date: Friday, 28 June 2024

Time: 10:00

Ends...

## **Issued by the Mpumalanga Provincial Government**

Office of the Premier

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