

MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

MEDIA STATEMENT

Thursday, 24 July 2014

Chief Whip calls for an apology from the Innibos Festival Organisers

The Chief Whip of the majority party Mr Johan Mkhathshwa today raised a serious concern about the recent Innibos Festival that is annually held in the province. During the festival attendees were led to singing the old anthem "Die Stem". Mkhathshwa formally raised his concerns at the sitting of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature.

"The demon of racism has once again shown its ugly face in our Province. Indeed the deliberate racist act of provocation at the 2014 Innibos Afrikaans festival by a certain racist singer Steve Hofmeyr and his supporters must be condemned." said the Chief Whip of the House, Mr Mkhathshwa as he delivered his member statement.

Mkhathshwa called for government to demand an apology from the Innibos Festival organiser's, saying if an apology is not received government must withdraw sponsorship to the festival.

Mkhathshwa said it was sad that this happened at the Fan Park venue which was renovated with millions of tax payer's money as the country was preparing for the 2010 Soccer World Cup infrastructure development.

The sitting of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature also raised concern over the failure of provision of scholar transport when the schools opened for the third term, earlier this week. The House called upon scholar transport operators to render the service for the benefit of the children and engage relevant departments in addressing the issues of concern.

The sitting also received Policy and Budget speech for the Department of Education and Economic Development.

Later in the day a second sitting will be convened to receive the Policy and Budget speech for the Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison.

All provincial departments will be tabling their policy and budget plans, a process which will be concluded on the 5th of August where the Premier, Mr DD Mabuza and Speaker Thandi Shongwe will respectively deliver Policy and Budget speech for the Office of the Premier and the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature.

For interviews with the Chief Whip please contact

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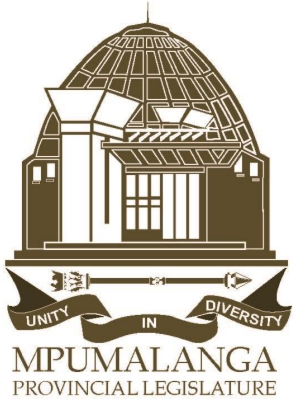
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Issued by: Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature

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