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## MEDIA ADVISORY

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Date: Thursday, 02 June 2022

Attention: Journalists, News Editors and Executive Producers

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### MKHATSHWA TO EMBARK ON STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ROADSHOW TO SONGIMVELO NATURE RESERVE

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**Mbombela** – Mpumalanga MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Prince Vusumuzi Mkhathshwa, will from next week, embark on Stakeholder Engagement Roadshow, starting at the Songimvelo Nature Reserve, just outside Elukwatini in the Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality. The purpose of the Roadshow is to engage communities adjacent to, and landowners, under whose land the Provincial Nature Reserves are situated.

“I strongly believe that our success is anchored on stakeholder engagement; we engage so that we can check if we are providing what the landowners and communities neighbouring our nature reserves require from us. Secondly, the nature reserves the MTPA is managing, are situated on the land belonging to communities; hence we must engage and co-manage with them”, explained MEC Mkhathshwa.

During the roadshow, onsite services, such as application for small business funding, will be provided by various government development finance institutions. This will be the first of the many visits and stakeholder engagements that MEC Mkhathshwa will undertake, to all Provincial Nature Reserves, managed by the MTPA (Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency).

Details of the Roadshow are as follows:

Date: Monday, 06 June 2022

Venue: Songimvelo Nature Reserve

Time: 11h00

**All media is invited.**

For confirmations of attendance, please contact **Mr. Thomas Msiza** on 079 500 0137.

**ENDS**

*Issued jointly by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism (the dedt) and the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA)*

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