
MEDIA STATEMENT

Date: Saturday, 05 March 2022

Attention: Journalists, News Editors and Executive Producers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEC MKHATSHWA COMMITS TO PROVIDE AFTERCARE TOURISM SUPPORT TO THE FAMILIES OF THE SURVIVING AND DECEASED DUTCH TOURISTS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN A ROAD CRASH WHILST EXPLORING MPUMALANGA

Mbombela – MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Vusi Mkhatshwa, says government, through the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA), is currently providing after-care support to the families and survivors of the horrific accident, that claimed five (5) lives, amongst them international tourists from the Netherlands and a South African tour operator, on the Schoemanskloof section of the N4 toll-route, near Poplar Creek, in Mpumalanga yesterday (04 March 2022).

“Currently, our tourism Agency, the MTPA, is providing what we call after-care support, through our tourism victim support programme, to the survivors of the horrific accident and the families of the deceased. We are happy that the two (2) surviving Dutch tourists were today discharged from the Nelspruit Mediclinic, and we wish them speedy recovery”, said MEC Mkhatshwa.

The accident happened when a truck and a minibus taxi were involved in what is described as a side-swipe collision, which subsequently led to the truck colliding head-on with a light delivery vehicle, that was travelling in the opposite direction, according to the Provincial Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison.

“We are deeply saddened by the loss of the five (5) lives on the Schoemanskloof section of the N4 toll-route yesterday, that included international tourists from the Netherlands. We continue to convey our heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased. We will also continue to provide the necessary after-care support to the bereaved families, until the remains of the deceased are repatriated to their places of residence for burial,” concluded the MEC.

ENDS

Issued by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Enquiries: *Dr. Mohau Ramodibe | Head of Communication | 060 989 4678*

Ms. Xolile Nkabinde | MEC's Media Liaison Officer | 071 222 7096