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Media and Public Statement

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For immediate release

ETHEKWINI SUKASAMBE EVENT POSTPONED DUE TO UNRESOLVED COMMUNITY ISSUES

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Dr Ntuthuko Mahlaba wishes to inform members of the media and public about the postponement of the Department's Sukasambe event that was due to be held in Ward 01, KwaXimba this Saturday.

"We regret to announce the postponement of the eThekwini Sukasambe event due to ongoing community challenges that have made it impossible to proceed as planned. This decision was made to allow space for the community to resolve these issues. The event will be rescheduled for a future date, which will be communicated in due course. The Provincial Government is committed to assisting in finding a lasting resolution to some of the issues," said Mahlaba.

"We are also concerned about the impact of the ongoing protest action on the Dusi Canoe Marathon. The Dusi Canoe Union has informed us that residents of KwaXimba have blockaded the road into the valley from Cato Ridge to Dusi Bridge with stones, branches, and broken glass. We are currently in consultation with community leaders and the Ward councillors concerned to find a swift resolution. The Dusi Marathon is a significant event that has benefited tourism in the area, and we are committed to safeguarding its success. We urge community members to address their grievances through the appropriate channels and structures," said Mahlaba.

ISSUED BY THE KZN DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE