

## DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS & TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

For immediate release 24 November 2024

## Limpopo Province affected by recent thunderstorms and heavy rains overnight

Several parts of the Limpopo Province have been affected by the recent thunderstorms and heavy rains that left many families without houses. This happened last night (23 November 2024) when heavy rains and thunderstorms wracked havoc in many parts of the Vhembe District Municipality – mainly in Collins Chabane Local Municipality. The heavily affected areas include Mtititi, Jilongo, New Orleans and Govhu villages where roof tops of 36 houses were blown away and damaged, and 8 people needing medical attention at a nearest hospital.

The Coghsta MEC, Mr Basikopo Makamu warns residents to remain vigilant as more disruptive and heavy rains are expected in other areas later today. "Our Disaster Management teams in the district have been activated to assist affected residents with the provision of temporary shelters and blankets. The teams from both local and District Municipalities are on the ground assessing the impact caused by the Thunderstorms,' says the MEC Makamu.

The incidents of thunderstorms and heavy rains that affected the province two weeks ago, caused the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) to classify the incidents as a Provincial state of disaster as in line with Section 23(1)(a) of the Disaster Management Act.

The department continues to advise residents:

Avoid crossing flooded roads and swollen streams.

- Where rising wa6ter levels are observed, affected people should move to high grounds.
- When outdoor during lightning activity, immediately get out and away from the ponds, lakes, and other bodies of water, never shelter under an isolated tree and stay away from objects that conduct electricity which are wires, fences and power lines.

People that find themselves in dangerous situations, can contact the Provincial and District Disaster Management Centers on the following emergency numbers:

Provincial Disaster Management Centre

Telephone: 0800 222 111DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES

• Capricorn: 0800 666 777

• Mopani: 015 306 7000/015 307 5555/060 551 1910/060 551 1911

Sekhukhune: 0800 330 022
Vhembe: 015 964 4500
Waterberg: 0800 111 660

Follow us on the following Social Media Platforms for regular updates.

Facebook: Limpopo CoGHSTA Official

X: L CoGHSTA -Official

Website: www.coghsta.limpopo.gov.za

Issued by the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs.

For further inquiries, please contact, Mr Molebatsi Masedi, MEC Spokesperson -066 477 8919 or

Ms Tsakani Baloyi, Director for Communications (CoGHSTA), 066 486 2571.