



Media Statement

To: All Media Houses

19 December 2025

MEC FOR COGHSTA, BASIKOPO MAKAMU, CALLS FOR EXTRA VIGILANCE DUE TO EXPECTED HEAVY RAINS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE PROVINCE

The MEC for the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs in Limpopo Mr. Basikopo Makamu urges the people of Limpopo Province to remain vigilant, due to inclement weather that is likely to wreak havoc in many parts of the province.

The South African Weather Service has issued an Impact-Based Warning: Level 4 for Severe Thunderstorms, which came into effect yesterday, Thursday, 18 December 2025 and is likely to continue until Saturday, 20th December 2025. This warning indicates a high likelihood of severe weather with significant impacts. The affected districts and municipalities include:

Bela-Bela

Elias Motsoaledi

Ephraim Mogale

Fetakgomo Tubatse

Lepelle-Nkumpi

Lephalale

Makhuduthamaga

Maruleng

Modimolle–Mookgophong

Mogalakwena

Thabazimbi

Residents in these areas are urged to take this warning **extremely** seriously.

“Since the beginning of the rainy season in October, the province has regrettably recorded at least three fatalities due to these heavy downpours. One lost life is one too many. We urge communities to remain vigilant by avoiding unnecessary travelling, avoiding low water bridges and flooded areas as well as driving through dangerous roads that are easily flooded.” Says MEC Makamu.

According to the South African Weather Service, scattered showers and thunderstorms have already been observed, and these storms are expected to persist into the evening, with a strong possibility of becoming severe.

The expected weather impacts include:

- Heavy downpours leading to flooding of roads, settlements and low-lying areas,
- Overflowing rivers and submerged bridges,
- Strong, damaging winds, and
- Large amounts of small hail, particularly in overpopulated areas.

These conditions may result in:

- The closure of roads and bridges,
- Damage or loss of infrastructure, including homes in both formal and informal settlements,
- Damage to vehicles, property, livelihoods, and livestock, and
- Increased risk to life and safety, especially in flood-prone and low-lying communities.

The provincial and local disaster management teams, together with emergency services, municipalities and sector departments, remain on high alert and fully operational to respond to incidents as they arise. The Summer Season Disaster Management Contingency Plan is in place, to ensure coordinated preparedness, timely response, and effective management of disasters associated with summer seasonal hazards, particularly severe weather events to minimize loss of life, reduce damage to property and infrastructure, and enhance the safety and resilience of communities.

The MEC calls upon communities, traditional leaders, ward councillors, and community structures to assist in sharing this message widely and to support vulnerable households, particularly the elderly, children, and persons with disabilities.

END.

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

For more information contact: MEC's Spokesperson, Mr. Amos Phago on 072 804 3427 or Ms. Tsakani Baloyi, Director for Communications, Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) on 066 486 2571.