



MEDIA STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

To: All Media Houses

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DISRUPTIVE RAIN LEVEL 9 WARNING ISSUED BY SAWS IN MOPANI AND VHEMBE DISTRICTS

The MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs in Limpopo, Mr Basikopo Makamu, calls for a further heightened vigilance as level 9 warning has been issued by the South African Weather Service (SAWS) for tomorrow going into Tuesday (12 January 2026 – 13 January 2026). This inclement weather will lead to heavy downpours that will result in widespread flooding of vulnerable roads, informal settlements, causing difficulty in driving, affecting widespread transport from Monday to Tuesday.

Areas that will be affected in the two districts of Limpopo include:

- Ba-Phalaborwa
- Collins Chabane
- Greater Giyani

“According to the level 9 warning issued by South African Weather Services, the persistent rain for the past few days due to tropical moisture and the indication of more expected rainfall over the eastern Lowveld of Limpopo and Bushbuckridge in Mpumalanga, people are advised to stay indoors and avoid crossing rivers and swollen streams. People should avoid being in dangerous places that might cause harm to their lives,” says MEC Basikopo Makamu.

The Level 9 warning also indicates the impact that the rain will have as follows:

- Widespread flooding of roads and settlements
- Widespread displacement of affected communities
- Widespread damage to property, buildings and loss of livelihoods and livestock
- Widespread transport routes and travel services will be severely affected
- And widespread prolonged disruption of essential services such as water, electricity, and accessibility to schools.

The MEC says “we also urge parents to take care of the young ones as schools will be opening on Tuesday. Please make sure that kids have proper transport that will take them to and from schools. Let us all make sure that our kids do not go and swim in rivers and streams as they can be swept away by water.”

MEC Makamu says the Department of COGHSTA will continue to work closely with sister departments such as Social Development, SAPS and Emergency Management Service agencies as well as municipalities to preserve lives and human dignity of our citizens during this rainy season.

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.