

Province of KwaZulu-Natal

Address by Ms N. Dube-Ncube: MEC for Finance The KwaZulu-Natal Unauthorised Expenditure Authorisation Bill, 2022

Madam Speaker

Honourable members of the Legislature

Honourable Premier Sihle Zikalala

Colleagues in the Executive

Distinguished guests

Fellow citizens

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Unauthorised Expenditure Authorisation Bill 2022 is to enable the Provincial Legislature to authorise expenditure recorded as unauthorised in the Provincial Accounts. This Bill deals with the unauthorised expenditure for the 2018/19 financial year.

The stance of the KwaZulu-Natal Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA) to enforce “first charges” against departments, has certainly reduced the quantum of unauthorised expenditure which, at one stage, was over R5 billion.

SCOPA recommended, in light of the explanations offered by departments, as explained in the Explanatory Memorandum submitted with the Bill, that the unauthorised expenditure incurred by five departments, be authorised as direct charges against the Provincial Revenue Fund.

The Resolutions of SCOPA in this regard were tabled for adoption by the Legislature on 19 November 2019 and 20 May 2021.

The Provincial Revenue Fund has made provision to fund the unauthorised expenditure as reflected in the Schedule to the Bill. The amount of unauthorised expenditure being authorised by means of this Bill is **R29,600,000.**

CONCLUSION

The KwaZulu-Natal Unauthorised Expenditure Authorisation Bill 2 of 2021 gives effect to the Resolutions of SCOPA to authorise the unauthorised expenditure disclosed in the 2018/19 Annual Financial Statements of the relevant departments and reported on by the Auditor-General, as well as authorising specific expenditure recorded as unauthorised in the Provincial Accounts.

I wish to express my appreciation to SCOPA for the sterling work done in addressing these matters and other Audit findings, timely and proficiently.

It is now my privilege to formally table the KwaZulu-Natal Unauthorised Expenditure Authorisation Bill 2 of 2021 for consideration of this House.

Thank you.