

DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Private Bag X454, PIETERMARITZBURG, 3200 2nd Floor North Tower, Natalia Building, 330 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Tel: 033 846 6995 Fax: 033 846 6980/1, or E-mail address: <u>musa cebisa@kznfreasury.gov.za</u>

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media Date: Monday, 24 June 2024 For immediate Release

KZN FINANCE MEC TIGHTENS HIS GRIP ON THE BUDGET BY CLOSING THE TREASURY OFFICE IN DURBAN.

The new MEC for Finance in KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Francois Rodgers, has started to demonstrate his commitment to ensure effective spending of the budget by closing down the office situated on the 9th floor of The Marine Building, in Durban.

The closure of the leased offices will save KZN Treasury an estimated R1million a year, which will be directed to other strategic service delivery needs of the department in supporting the province.

Speaking on his commitments, MEC Rodgers said his main priority is to stabilize the finances of KwaZulu-Natal and that he will work with the KZN Treasury team as well as Members of the Executive Council to ensure that strategic decisions are being taken in order to safeguard the Provincial fiscus.

"During my consultation with my executive team in the Department, I directed that business cannot continue as usual and we need to streamline operations. In this regard, I have decided to close the Durban office (which served as a secondary office), with an annual lease amount of R1 115 786.40, translating to a total value of just over R5 578 000 over five years that we will save. My ministry team will operate from the Pietermaritzburg office and the team will be as prescribed by the Ministerial handbook. My wish is to enhance the transparency of our decisions making in resource allocation and utilization and am prepared to make tough decisions if we are to demonstrate that we mean business when we say we will stabilize the finances in the province with prudent fiscal management and as KZN Treasury, we must lead by example," he said.

MEC Rodgers said that he is committed to stabilizing spending, eliminating irregular expenditure in departments, attracting foreign investment as well as ensuring accountability and transparency.

Issued by KZN Treasury. For clarity, contact Director for Corporate Communication, Musa Cebisa on 071 6878 777.