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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KWAZULU-NATAL TABLES R168.2 BILLION PROVINCIAL BUDGET FOCUSED ON STABILITY, RECOVERY AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

KwaZulu-Natal Finance MEC, Mr. Francois Rodgers, has today tabled the 2026/27 Provincial Budget, amounting to R168.2 billion, in the Provincial Legislature.

MEC Rodgers said the budget is underpinned by fiscal discipline, improved governance and the protection of frontline services.

“This is a budget of stabilisation, credibility and rebuilding confidence in KwaZulu-Natal,” said MEC Rodgers.

Fiscal Stability and Recovery

The budget is anchored by the successful implementation of the Provincial Financial Recovery Plan, which focuses on:

- Stabilising the provincial fiscus through structured creditor repayment and sound cash-flow management;
- Restoring fiscal discipline, transparency and consequence management;
- Protecting essential frontline services; and
- Rebuilding confidence among citizens, investors and suppliers

Key Sector Allocations

More than 80% of the provincial budget or R135 billion is directed to social services, reinforcing government’s commitment to people-centred development.

Education

- Additional funding of R647.3 million (2026/27), rising over the MTEF, to address compensation pressures
- Funding for the progressive equalisation of Grade R teacher salaries
- R70.1 million allocated to the Presidential Employment Stimulus – Teacher Assistants Programme

Health

- Approximately R1.4 billion per year in additional funding over the MTEF to address staffing and accrual pressures
- R90.9 million incentive allocation for health facility revitalisation infrastructure

Human Settlements

- Increased funding for informal settlements upgrading
- Additional allocations to correct compensation baseline adjustments

Infrastructure and Economic Recovery

- R505.3 million for education infrastructure
- R427.7 million for Early Childhood Development infrastructure
- R641.3 million for provincial road rehabilitation linked to disaster recovery



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

TREASURY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Expanded funding for EPWP programmes to support job creation

Economic Outlook

KwaZulu-Natal's economy is projected to grow by 1.5% in 2026 and 1.6% in 2027, supported by infrastructure investment, private-sector participation and improved energy stability. Government is also responding to the Foot-and-Mouth Disease outbreak, including a large-scale vaccination campaign to protect the agricultural sector.

Commitment to Accountability

All budget documents have been tabled electronically, reducing printing costs by 44%, in line with government's cost-containment and sustainability measures.

MEC Rodgers reaffirmed that financial recovery is a discipline and a journey already yielding positive results.

"KwaZulu-Natal will emerge stronger, more credible and more investable. This budget lays the foundation for sustainable service delivery and inclusive economic growth," he said.

ENDS

Issued by KZN Treasury. For clarity, contact Spokesperson and Media Liaison Officer, Nkosikhona Duma on 071 383 0388.