

**ADDRESS BY MEC FOR FINANCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL NELISWA  
PEGGY NKONYENI MARKING A COMMEMORATION OF 16 DAYS  
OF ACTIVISM FOR NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND  
CHILDREN.**

**EMGENZENGWANE SPORTS FIELD, WARD 12 NDWEDWE LOCAL  
MUNICIPALITY**

**10 DECEMBER 2022**

Programme Director;

Deputy Minister of Health Dr Dlomo;

Deputy Minister of Finance Dr Masondo;

ILembe District Mayor, Cllr Shandu;

Ndwedwe Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Mfeka;

Councillors;

AmaKhosi neziNduna;

Non-Governmental Organisations;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

**Sanibonani!**

**Introduction**

Sihlangene lapha namhlanje ukugubha umkhankaso owasungulwa inhlangotho yamazwe I-United Nations oqala ngomhlaka 25 ku Lwezi uze uphele ngomhlaka-10 ku Zibandlela (25 November to 10 December), okuwusuku esihlangene ngalo namhlanje. Singasho ukuthi sizovala lo mkhankaso ophikisana nokuhlukunyezwa kwabasifazane kanye nezingane. Ukuwuvula kwethu umkhankaso namhlanje akusho ke-kodwa ukuthi sesizothula singasho lutho ngokuhlukunyezwa kwabasifazane kanye nezingane kuze kube unyaka ozayo uma sekugujwa lo mkhankaso futhi, cha! Kepha

uhulumeni wethu unomkhankaso wezinsuku ezingu-365 (unyaka wonke) wokugqugquzela ukulwa nokuhlukunyezwa kwabesifazane kanjalo nezingane.

Lo mkhankaso ugxile kakhulu ekuqwashiseni ngomthelela oba khona emiphakathini esiphila kuyo ngenxa yokuhlukunyezwa kwabesifazane kanye nezingane. Izibalo zakamuva zikhomba ukwenyuka okukhulu kwezigameko zokuhlaselwa nokuhlukunyezwa kwabesifazane kanye nezingane lapha esifundazweni sethu saKwa-Zulu Natal. Lezi zibalo ziyathusa kakhulu.

As per the crime statistics report, KZN recorded the highest number of murders with 1 623 which is an increase of 15.5% from the last statistics. Even more staggering is an increase in murders to women and children- 855 women were killed that is a 53.2% increase while 243 children were murdered that is a 46.4% hike. When it comes to assaults, the figures are as terrifying- 54.7% increase in attacks on women and 58.4% on children.

Nakuba izibalo zokudlwengulwa kwabesifazane zehlile ngo 6% kodwa kukhona izigameko zokudlwengula ezibikiwe eziyisibalo esingu-1 953 okuyisibalo esiphezulu ezweni lonke.

Lezi zibalo zisikhombisa ubunzima obubhekene nabantu besifazane kanye nezingane esifundazweni sethu. Abantu besifazane kanye nezingane ngokwemvelo bangabantu abadinga ukunakekelwa nokuvikelwa ngezindlela eziningi, kodwa ngeshwa elikhulu yibona esibathola besengcupheni yokulinyazwa, ukubulawa kanye nokudlwengulwa mihla namalanga. Lokhu kwengeza ingcindezi abazithola bekuyo emiphakathini esiphila kuyo, ngoba izinkinga esibhekana nazo singumphakathi ezifana nokuntuleka kwamathuba emisebenzi, kanye nokungalingani ziyaphinda phindeka kubantu besifazane kanye nezingane. Abantu besifazane bathi besabhekene nalezi zingqinamba baphinde futhi bakhathazwe izinga lokuphepha kwabo.

Indikimba yalo nyaka yomkhankasaso ophikisana nokuhlukunyezwa kwabesifazane kanye nezingane ithi ***“Amalungelo ezenhlalo nezomnotho kanye nokunikwa amandla okwakha abasefizane abaqinile nabaphikelelayo ukulwa nokuhlukunyezwa okuqondene nobulili kanye nokubulawa kwabaseifazane: Ngokuxhumana, Nokuhlanganyela, Nokuzibophezela/ Socio-Economic Rights***

***and Empowerment to build Women's Resilience against Gender-Based Violence and Femicide: Connect, Collaborate, Contract.***

**COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impact on Women**

Izwe lethu like labhekana nesihlava esibi kakhulu okuyi COVID-19, Lapho esibone khona amalungelo abantu besifazane ezomnotho eshabalala ngoba nakuba bebaningi abantu abalahlekelwa imisibenzi ngokwezibalo kodwa imisebenzi eyathinteka kakhulu yileyo esijwayele ukuthi yenziwa abantu besifazane, ezindaweni zokudlela (restaurants) ezavalwa uthola bebaningi abantu besifazane, ezindwaweni zokucwala izinwele (salons) nazo zengamelwe abantu besifazane abanengi, kanjalo nase zinkulisa (Early Childhood Development Centres) yibona abenza umsebenzi wokusibhekela izingane, okwathi uma zivalwa lezi zindawo kwacaca ukuthi ikati lilala eziko. Amalungelo ezomnotho abaluleke kakhulu uma sifuna ukunqanda lesi sikhava, ngoba umuntu wesifazane ozimele ngokomnotho usuke enesisekelo esingamsiza ukuthi angahlali ebudlelwani ahlukumezeka kubo ngenxa yenzuzo ayithola kulobo budlelwano.

Kanti futhi ucwaningo luveza ukuthi kube nenhlasi yokunyuka kwezibalo zokuhlukunyezwa kwabesifazane kanye nezingane ngesikhathi se COVID-19, lokhu kuphazamisa amalungelo abantu besifazane ezenhlalo.

Indikimba yalo nyaka idlulisa umyalezo wokuthi, sonke kumele sihlangele futhi sizibophezele ukwakha abantu besifazane abazowazi amalungelo abo futhi baphinde babe nesibindi sokuphumela obala uma bezithola behlukumezeka.

Njengoba sihlangele sonke lapha, kumele sizibuze ukuthi yini esingayenza ukulwa nalesi sikhava siphinde siqinisekise ukuphepha kwabesifazane kanye nezingane.

**Government Response to GBV**

Given the scourge of Gender-Based violence in the country, which is declared a national address, government is implementing the Emergency Response Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide which was announced by the resident of the country in September 2019 with the 5 keys of intervention:

1. Access to justice for victims of crime and survivors.
2. Change norms and behaviours through high-level prevention efforts.

3. Urgently respond to victims and survivors of GBV.
4. Strengthen accountability and architecture to adequately respond to the scourge of gender-based violence.
5. Prioritise interventions that facilitate economic opportunities for addressing women's economic vulnerability.

**The role of the communities:**

- a) Be an activist against GBV in your homes, communities, work and positions. Challenge cultures and practices that perpetuate gender inequalities and consequent abuse of women and children at personal and societal level.

**Play your part:**

- Reject and report abusers- Act and don't look away.
- Do not protect abusers, report them.
- Do not engage in abusive activities and become an abuser- Stop abuse.
- Challenge and denounce cultural practices that perpetuate gender inequalities.
- Be sensitive and supportive to GBV victims.
- Seek personal help to change harmful behaviours such as alcohol and substance abuse.
- Teach children values of gender equality.
- Protect children from exposure to violence and harmful content on internet and social media, including pornography, sexual solicitation.

Ngokubambisana noHulumeni, asihlangane siseke lo mkhankaso wezinsuku eziyishumi nesithupha ophikisana nokuhlukunyezwa kwabesifazane kanye nezingane, kungangcini kulezi zinsuku kuphela, kepha siqhubeke kube umzabalazo wansuku zonke.

**Ngiyabonga!**