

To: All Media/News Editors
Media Advisory
19 January 2023

MEC SIBONISO DUMA CONDEMNS FAKE NEWS OF HIS INVOLVEMENT: TETA EMPOWA EVENT

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Mr Siboniso Duma condemns the fake news of his involvement in a planned TETA Empower Youth Event scheduled for 26-28 January 2023 at Vryheid.

These social media posts are intentionally false and misleading the public. MEC Duma cautions the public to guard against this news and interrogate the content they receive, as it has the potential to create adverse and uncalled-for effects.

MEC Siboniso Duma said, "Political principals are representatives of government and associating them with fake commentary and quotes has an impact on the brand of the provincial government. The media is central in creating an informed and participatory citizenry, and together with bona fide media houses, we must stamp out fake news."

Duma added, "An informed public is crucial to any operating democracy, and incorrect information is significantly damaging in the news which appears to be authentic. We are cautioning people to refrain from spreading fake news as government policies are misrepresented on this fake news."

ENDS

ISSUED BY THE KZN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS.