



## MEDIA STATEMENT

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TO: ALL MEDIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 18 MARCH 2022

### GPL STAKEHOLDERS ENCOUNTER ACCIDENT ENROUTE TO FEEDBACK SESSION

Speaker of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature (GPL), Honourable Ntombi Mkgwe, has expressed words of support to eight (8) GPL stakeholders who met a road accident yesterday, 17 March 2022, while being transported to the feedback session for the 2021 Sector Parliament for Persons with Disabilities.

According to an eyewitness, at approximately 08:00 a speeding truck crashed on the right-hand side of a minibus taxi transporting six (6) adults and two (2) minors who are GPL Stakeholders living with disabilities, as it merged onto the Durban/ Kimberly onramp (towards Ekurhuleni) after the Gilooly's Interchange. The truck driver is reported to have swerved, on the right-hand of the taxi on realizing that he was about to miss the Durban/ Kimberly onramp.

There were no fatalities on the scene. All the occupants were transferred to Tembisa Hospital for medical examination. The reason is that all the participants are from Tembisa, we thought it was prudent that even though there were no physical injuries, that medical observation be conducted.

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On receiving the report about the accident, Mr Linda Mwale, the Legislature's Executive Director: Leadership & Governance, rushed to the scene to ascertain the gravity of the situation. He commended the Legislature's Outreach Officers, who were first to arrive at the scene.

He also thanked officials from Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and the Gauteng Department of Health who were stationed at the event venue in Vosloorus, for rushing to the accident scene and transferring passengers to Vosloorus Polyclinic where they received attention and treatment for trauma.

Passengers who reported pains were later transferred to Tembisa Hospital in Ekurhuleni for further assessment.

The stakeholders were on their way to attend a dry-run session in preparation for the 2022 Sector Parliament for Persons with Disabilities, which will take place today (Friday) 18 March at 10h00 at the Geluksdal Community Hall, in Ekurhuleni. The Sector Parliament presents an opportunity for People living with disabilities to deliberate on challenges and present their demands to the attention of the Legislature and government for resolution.

Hon. Ntombi Mekgwe said, "We are grateful that the valuable lives of our stakeholders were spared in this morning's unfortunate incident."

**ISSUED BY THE GPL'S COMMUNICATIONS UNIT ON BEHALF OF SPEAKER OF THE GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE, HONOURABLE NTOMBI MEKGWE**

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**GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**

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