

**MEDIA RELEASE****Expected flooding in KwaZulu-Natal: PSA calls on Premier of KwaZulu-Natal to allow public servants to work remotely**

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The Public Servants Association of South Africa (PSA) calls upon the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Ms Nomusa Dube, to make provisions to accommodate the absence of employees from all government departments owing to potential disruptions caused by impending flooding as a result of heavy rain.

The South African Weather Service (SAWS) has issued warnings in the above regard. The irrefutable reports by the SAWS and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs signal concern regarding anticipated heavy rainfall, which may lead to flooding of the coastal and midlands districts of KwaZulu-Natal. Adhering to the elevated level-six warning, utmost caution becomes paramount. There is a possibility of substantial damage to critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, of both formal and informal settlements. This alert, commencing Monday afternoon, poses an alarming threat to the municipalities of eThekweni Metro, Ugu, Harry Gwala, iLembe, and uMgungundlovu.

In light of this imminent risk of the lives of employees, the PSA also calls on the Union's members to prepare for the impending heavy rains and undertake essential precautionary measures to ensure their personal safety and security as well as those of communities.

The flexibility of remote work would enable public servants to adequately organise transportation, accommodation, and other basic needs, ensuring their uninterrupted availability during this challenging period. As no life is worth risking, the PSA's calls on the Premier to urgently attend to the implementation of the requested measures, including allowing public servants to work remotely and/or granting special leave, to proactively act during this time of crisis.

END

