



**MEDIA RELEASE**                      **PSA welcomes decision by KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Economic Development and Tourism to cancel SAMA hosting**

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**EMBARGO**                                None

**ENQUIRIES**                              [communication@psa.co.za](mailto:communication@psa.co.za)

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes the decision by the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Economic Development and Tourism, Mr Sboniso Duma, to cancel of the hosting of the South African Music Awards (SAMA) by his Department.

The estimated cost of hosting the event was between R20 million R28 million. The PSA raised concerns about this extravagant spending on the SAMA awards, considering the pressing needs in the province. These include hospitals with a shortage of doctors, nurses, and administrative support. There is also a shortage of educators, police officers, social workers, and other essential services. The PSA believes that the funds would be better utilised in improving service delivery and boosting employee morale in the public sector in KwaZulu-Natal.

The PSA applauds the intervention of President Cyril Ramaphosa and the response by the MEC for considering the concerns raised. It is trusted that this decision sets a precedent for other departments and serves as a reminder that public funds should be allocated where there is greater value in support of service delivery and employee welfare.

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