

EASTERN CAPE PREMIER INTENSIFIES HIS CALL FOR PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

Writes: Puleng Kekana - GCIS Eastern Cape

Eastern Cape Premier Mr Phumulo Masualle led a campaign to tackle attacks on foreign nationals, he visited the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality on 23 April 2015 to reassure foreign nationals in and around Port Elizabeth that Government cares for all those who live within the borders of South Africa.

The Premier's outreach programme follows a Presidential directive requesting all leaders in government to engage communities on a need to call for calm in the recent spate of attacks on foreign nationals. These attacks seek to reverse the historical achievements we have made as a nation and moreover, the attacks go against the democratic values as enshrined in the Constitution of South Africa.

The Premier was accompanied by the Executive Mayor of Nelson Mandela Metro Municipality, councillors as well as leaders from organs civil society organizations and representatives of foreign nationals.

The programme started with activation by rail information blitz from Uitenhage to Port Elizabeth station, followed by walk about at Govern Mbeki Street, Strand Street and Durban road in Korsten. Our leaders interacted with foreign nationals and citizens assuring them that South Africa loves them.

"Government condemns violent attacks on foreign nationals in the strongest terms and we appeal to communities to continue living in peaceful co-existence" said Premier Masualle.

Later in the day, the Premier joined an intersectoral march against attacks on foreign nationals coordinated by Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) in which students strongly condemned violent attacks on foreign nationals and Xenophobia.

The Premier highlighted that attacks on foreign nationals are unacceptable in our society and will not be tolerated and South Africa is a multicultural society that welcomes and promotes interaction among people of different backgrounds.





Premier's arrival and engagement with first person to board the train in Uitenhage station





Premier engaging commuters of all races in the train





More engagement in the train





Premier engaging youth and children with Executive Mayor, Cllr Fihla





Media door stop and Premier addressing the team for the outreach





Premier and Executive Mayor interacting with hawkers at the taxi rank in Port Elizabeth





Premier and interaction with taxi drivers and commuters





Premier and Executive Mayor interacting with people in town and shop owners in Port Elizabeth





More interaction with NMBay citizens and demonstration by some of the members of the NMBay task team on anti-xenophobia





Blitz and interaction at Durban Road, Korsten





Blitz and interaction with owners of shops in Durban Road, Korsten who are foreign nationals





The start of the march at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in PE





The march at the University and Premier with Executive Mayor adding their signatures for solidarity against against xenophobia