

## Media Statement

All Media Houses

11 September 2018

Limpopo Provincial Government welcomes the conviction and sentencing of vigilante group called “Boko Haram”

The Limpopo Provincial Government would like to commend the justice system for handing down judgement on the thirteen (13) members of vigilante group “Boko Haram”. It’s reported that they were convicted on murder and contravening the Riotous Assemblies Act by the Polokwane High Court.

The Boko Haram group has been terrorising communities of Nkowankowa, Dan, Lusaka and other neighbouring villages which are outside Tzaneen town. On Monday the gang received sentences ranging from six (6) years to ten (10) years for various crimes they committed.

On the 15 February Premier of Limpopo, Mr Chupu Stanley Mathabatha together with Provincial Police Commissioner, Lt General Nneke Ledwaba visited the troubled area of Nkowankowa with the purpose of restoring law and order. They had engagement with the community stakeholders on how best to resolve the Boko Haram issue and bring the situation to normality.

At that moment, the Provincial Government called on law enforcement agencies, faith-based organisations and the community to work together to uproot this barbaric acts once and for all. We are excited that our intervention, working with the community has yield positive results. This is a true reflection that our people have trust in the man in uniform. We would like to also take this opportunity to thank the man and women in blue for their dedication and hard work.

Their recognition at the National Police Awards have in deed showed their commitment and tactics on dealing with criminal activities in the province of peace. We hope and pray that this will serve as a lesson to those whom are still committing acts of crime as well as violence to women and children.

Limpopo Provincial Government urge community members to desist from criminal activities and report crime to SAPS. Government will not engage or negotiate with criminals, thugs and gangsters hell bent on keeping communities living in fear of one another.

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