

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

Media Statement

07 May 2019

For immediate release

MEC Makoma Makhurupetje extends condolences to families of 13 Zimbabwean nationals who died when their bus overturned in Makhado on the N1

Makoma Makhurupetje, the MEC for Transport and Community Safety in Limpopo extends her heartfelt condolences to the families of thirteen Zimbabwean nationals who died late yesterday afternoon when the bus they were travelling in, lost control and overturned on the N1 north, near the Ingwe Hotel in Makhado. The MEC is also wishing a speedy recovery to thirteen others who were injured during the crash.

At this stage no conclusive evidence has been found which points out to the exact cause of the accident although reckless driving is not ruled out as the possible cause.

"We are deeply concerned about accidents involving buses as they lead to more loss of lives compared to ordinary motor vehicles. The driver and vehicle fitness of long distance cross border buses is also a matter of deep concern to us, as this is almost the third time now that we are losing lives because of long distance buses. It is about time that our law enforcement officers step up their routine checks on this buses to prevent this kind of accidents from happening" said the MEC.

"I also call upon drivers of buses and other public transport to take rest in between trips as the lives of passengers remain in their hands", added MEC Makhurupetje.