

## MEDIA STATEMENT

To all reporters and editors

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For immediate release

### DSD MEC CONDEMNS THE MURDER OF A FIVE-YEAR OLD CHILD IN NAMAKGALE

Limpopo MEC for Social Development Nkakareng Rakgoale has condemned in the strongest terms the murder of a five-year-old boy whose body was found with multiple stab wounds at Makhushane village outside Phalaborwa. Police say Kgohlelelo Selowa's body was found in a pool of blood in the room of his cousin. The boy's cousin who is aged 27 and suspected of committing the murder was later found severely assaulted, allegedly by an angry mob and later died in hospital.

MEC Rakgoale says the incident is a set back to the effort which is being made by the Department of Social Development in teaching communities about the importance of protecting and caring for children.

"What is even worse is to see this incident happening a day after we concluded the National Child Protection Week, which is aimed at encouraging parents and other caretakers to always ensure that children are protected. Incidents of this nature are violating all the rights of children. We hope the police investigations will reveal the motive for this particular case. We have also activated a team of social workers to provide psychosocial support to the people who have been affected by these gruesome incidents.

We further discourage our communities from taking the law into their own hands if something of this nature happens, as the police and the courts are the only authorities who can effectively deal with crimes committed." says MEC Rakgoale.

Issued by the Department's Communications Unit. For enquiries, kindly contact Spokesperson Witness Tiva on 0716099090.

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