



Commission on Gender Equality

MEDIA STATEMENT

AMA TSHEZI CHIEFTANCY STRUGGLE

The Commission on Gender Equality wishes to express its utmost horror and outrage at the senseless killing of Nowinase Ngubenani and her sister Nophumzile Nkonkwana in Mthonjana. This is an utter violation of the basic human right to dignity and contradicts the founding values as enshrined in our Constitution, being freedom, dignity and equality. The CGE is in the process of holding talks with the House of Traditional leaders and other stakeholders in finding a solution to best deal with this problem.

CGE INTERVENTIONS

- Eastern Cape office has shown its support to the Ngubenani family by visiting immediately after the incident to assess the situation and also attended the funeral on the 19 October 2007.
- The Legal Department of the CGE (nationally) in conjunction with the provincial CGE office, the CGE committees Cultural and Religion and Legal is working on a date to meet with the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders.
- The Provincial CGE will be part of the march on the 20th November aimed at opposing the bail application.
- An awareness campaign will be undertaken in March, because if undertaken now, it will have no impact due to the fact that there is a lot being done already by various departments.
- The Amathole District Municipality and departments like Home Affairs, SASSA, to be encouraged to run service delivery workshops in the area, because it has become obvious that poverty is the underlying problem which is causing all the feud and conflict in the area.
- The Legal Department to include workshops aimed at capacitating traditional leaders in the new financial year.
- The Provincial office of the CGE aligns itself with the proposal by the national Research Department of CGE to conduct mini study on chieftainesses issues.
- The Provincial CGE office will closely monitor the case.

***Issued by Commission on Gender Equality
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