



Commission for Gender Equality
A society free from gender oppression and inequality

Media Statement

15 February 2023

CGE JOINS PARLIAMENT ON KZN TOUR TO ASSESS FIGHT AGAINST GBVF

The Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) and Portfolio Committee on Women, Youth and People with Disabilities are calling for State entities to increase aid and expedite relief efforts meant to assist women and children who were severely affected by the 2022 floods in KwaZulu-Natal. In addition, the residents in the province are called upon to report acts of domestic violence and sexual offences to the police.

The CGE recently welcomed Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Women, Youth and People with Disabilities on a tour to assess the emergency response to gender-based violence in KwaZulu-Natal.

The province has reported escalating incidents of gender -based violence and femicide (GBVF), domestic violence and sexual offences in 2022, which led to the CGE partnering with community leaders, non-governmental organisations, municipalities, and the South African Police Services (SAPS) to raise awareness and support victims and survivors.

Members of the Portfolio Committee wanted to assess the state of shelters meant to care for victims of domestic violence, the capacity of police stations in processing investigations of sexual offences and gender-based violence, community-based anti-GBVF programmes, and the kind of support given to women and children who were affected by the 2022 floods in the eThekweni Municipality.



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During the tour, the Portfolio Committee made an undertaking to engage the Minister of Police on a number of concerns identified at several police stations, including inadequate personnel, shortage of vehicles and lack of back-up generators in the event of loadshedding.

"Our role as the CGE is to ensure that the dignity of women is protected at all times and that no person is unfairly subjected to injustice, abuse and discrimination on the basis of their gender" said Acting Chairperson, Ms Nomasonto Mazibuko. "Members of the Portfolio Committee wanted to ensure that we live up to our mandate of protecting gender equality and holding to account state entities that are meant to stop violence against women and provide justice to victims of abuse" Mazibuko added.

Issued by Commission for Gender Equality

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The Commission for Gender Equality is established in terms of Section 181 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa to promote respect for gender equality and the protection, development, and attainment of gender equality.

Toll Free Number: 0800 007 709. GBV Toll Free Number: 0800 428 428, Stop Gender Violence: 0800 150 150 Witness, Survivors and victims of GBV can send Please Call Me at *120*7867#