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## MEDIA STATEMENT

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

ATTENTION : NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

## MEC KAUNDA WELCOMES THE COURT JUDGEMENT HANDED TO AN UNCLE WHO RAPED HIS NEPHEW.

THE KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda, has congratulated the police for their sterling work in ensuring that a rapist who molested a 13-year-old boy was sentenced to life imprisonment.

On Monday, the Vryheid Regional Court convicted and sentenced a 27-year-old man to life imprisonment. It is alleged that a 13-year-old boy and his uncle were at their homestead when the victim fell asleep and the accused raped him. He then told the victim to remain silent about what happened otherwise he will kill him. The following day, the case was reported to the police and the culprit was arrested.

MEC Kaunda has praised the police for meticulously gathering crucial evidence that led to the conviction and sentencing of the suspect.

"This incident raises serious questions about the degree and extent of the erosion of morals and lack of respect for human dignity in our society. It is clear that some men have abdicated their responsibility to protect children against all forms of abuse and crime.

"We are pleased with this sentence as it sends a strong message to other pedophiles that government will not tolerate predators who prey on our children," said Kaunda.

Kaunda also urged the victims and parents not to be frightened by the threats made by the perpetrators; they must report all crimes since no one is above the law.

## Ends

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