

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING EXTENDS THEIR CONDOLENCES TO MINISTER BLADE NZIMANDE ON THE PASSING OF HIS MOTHER**

The Deputy Minister of Higher and Education and Training, Mr Mduduzi Manana, wishes to express the Department's humble and heartfelt condolences to the Minister, Dr Blade Nzimande, on the passing of his dear mother, Mrs Nozipho Nzimande (affectionately known as 'uGogo'). Mrs Nzimande took her last breath on Sunday night, 11 June 2017, at the age of 90 years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Minister and his entire family in this moment of sombre and sadness. As we mourn uGogo and share in the grief and loss of the people of Pietermaritzburg who formed part of her life, we also wish to pay tribute to her for raising such an outstanding leader of our country who now sits at the helm of such a crucial portfolio of higher education and training.

Both a teacher and nurse by profession, uGogo Nzimande will always be remembered for her love for community work. She dedicated her life in helping and empowering local people especially the vulnerable and marginalised.

On behalf of the Ministry and Department, we convey our deepest sympathies to the Minister and his entire family.

May her soul rest in everlasting peace.

UGogo will be buried on Saturday, 17 June 2017, in Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu-Natal. Funeral details are being finalised and will be communicated in due course.

**Ends**

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