

**PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL** 

## **CORPORATE COMMUNICATION SERVICES**

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## TO: ALL MEDIA DATE: 09 MAY 2005 EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## INTERNATIONAL CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL DAY

Every year the world celebrates the International Candlelight Memorial. The International Candlelight Memorial Day is celebrated by more than 4 500 communities, in 93 countries around the world. The memorial day acts as a catalyst for communities to begin talking about HIV/AIDS in their community. It is a unique event that promotes discussion, education, awareness and action against the pandemic. The International Candlelight Memorial day has four main objectives:

- To honor the memory of those lost to AIDS
- To show support for those living with HIV and AIDS
- To raise community awareness and decrease stigma related to HIV/AIDS
- To mobilize community involvement in the fight against HIV/AIDS

This year will mark the 28<sup>th</sup> year that people around the world get together to honour the memory of those who have died from AIDS-related illnesses and to show support to those living with HIV/AIDS. Provincial Health MEC Mrs. Neliswa Nkonyeni and the Department of Health in partnership with the Provincial Aids Action Unit will lead the provincial celebrations to mark the International Candlelight Memorial Day.

Umnyango Wezempilo



The details are as follows:

DATE: 13 MAY 2005

VENUE: NZALABANTU STADIUM, KWA MBONAMBI

**TIME:** 10H00

ENDS.

For more information please contact Ms Lindiwe Khuzwayo on 083 393 9943 or Desmond Motha on 083 295 3901.