



19 October 2007

Farm established to produce traditional medicinal plants

The Minister of health and KwaZulu-Natal MEC's for Health, Agriculture and Arts and Culture are to launch an innovative project aimed at boosting the production of African Traditional Medicine while conserving the environment in Richmond in KZN midlands on Saturday; **October 20.**

About 700 hectares of land, located along the banks of Umkhomazi River, have been leased to the Department of Health by the Mthembu Family for cultivation of medicinal plants.

Health Minister, Dr Manto Tshabalala-Msimang, Health MEC Neliswa Nkonyeni, Agriculture MEC Mtholephi Mthimkhulu and Arts and Culture MEC Weziwe Thusi and a representative of iSilo samaBandla are to participate in the planting of the first set of medicinal plants to mark the launch of the project. The plantation will be followed by a community event to be held Ndaleni Sports grounds in Richmond.

The media is invited to be part of this launch which takes place as follows:

Date : 20 October 2007

Time: 09h30

Venue: Ndaleni, Richmond

Transport is available for media representative to Ndaleni and to the farm. Transport will depart from the Durban Playhouse at 07h00

Please contact:

Leon Mbangwa KwaZulu-Natal Health Department 0834598695 Or Sibani Mngadi National Health Department 0827720161