

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

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TO: ALL MEDIA DATE: 7 March 2007 EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA STATEMENT: KWAZULU NATAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND UNIONS HAPPY WITH PROGRESS OF THE TRIBUNAL

The KwaZulu Natal Department of Health has met with the unions representing dismissed nurses to look at progress being made and to review the speed with which the tribunal deals with the cases of the dismissed nurses.

A meeting was convened between the Department and Unions today to look at the work of the Tribunal since it was instituted. The parties expressed their happiness that the department has increased the number of members dealing with the hearings from the original three (3) to an additional six (6). It was announced that there is now going to be three seating of the Tribunal that will hear cases simultaneously. This is to ensure that the cases are concluded within the set time frames.

This new arrangement will be with effect from 19th March 2007. The institutions are going to be grouped in terms of the 3 areas wherein each of the three groups will be allocated cases to deal with.

The department has committed itself, once again, to a speedy process to resolve this matter. The Office of the Chief Operations Officer, Mr. Nkosi, will continue to liaise with all stakeholders and ensure that the matter is resolved as speedily as possible.

ENDS

Issued by the Department of Health

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