

## Media Advisory

For immediate release

Tuesday, 29 August 2017

### **SALGA ENGAGES MOERANE COMMISSION ON COUNCILLOR KILLINGS**

The South African Local Government (SALGA) is set to make presentations on findings into councillor killings at the Moerane Commission in Mayville, KwaZulu Natal, on Tuesday, 29 August 2017.

The presentation comes after the SALGA National Executive Committee (NEC) took a decision in July this year to make a case for councillor safety provisions to be reviewed in light of the recent spate of killings.

The NEC had also committed to engage, among other stakeholders, the Moerane Commission to find sustainable solutions to address the killings of councillors.

A delegation made up of the KwaZulu Natal Provincial Executive Committee of SALGA and the National Working Group Chairperson on Councillor Welfare and Governance, Councillor Cole Stofile, will be representing SALGA at the Commission.

Their presentation is anchored on a findings report titled "Violence in Democracy", which was recently compiled by SALGA. The report outlines various factors that have been identified to be contributors to the intimidation and killings of councillors.

#### **Some of the SALGA findings include the following:**

- Between 1994 and 2016, up to 600 politicians in South Africa were killed, and most of them served in local government.
- Although a steady decrease of killings was recorded between 2011 and early 2016, more councillors were now either being killed or intimidated.

- Some of the sources of the intimidation and killings of local government officials have been identified as economic resource competition and competing ideologies, among others.
- The reported intimidation and killings are also attributed to councillors' own political parties, opposition parties, tenderpreneurs, corrupt government officials, political opponents, and even criminals in some instances.
- The killings of councillors is not only confined to KwaZulu Natal and the Eastern Cape, there are cases reported across the country's provinces.

**ENDS**

**Issued By: South African Local Government Association**

**For media enquiries, please contact:**

**Tahir Sema**

Manager: Communication

Email: [TSema@salga.org.za](mailto:TSema@salga.org.za)

Mobile: 082 940 3403

**Sivuyile Mbambato**

Media Relations Officer

Email: [SMbambato@salga.org.za](mailto:SMbambato@salga.org.za)

Mobile: 073 897 8519