



**HEALTH**  
KwaZulu-Natal

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**TO: ALL MEDIA**  
**DATE: 30 AUGUST 2007**  
**EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA STATEMENT: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE CONFERENCE CONCLUDES TODAY**

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health's African Traditional Medicine Conference will conclude today after two days of serious engagement and deliberations amongst participants. Many of the participants are Traditional Health Practitioners, scientists, researchers and academics.

The second day was addressed by speakers from as far afield as Nigeria and Kenya. The speakers included Dr Komolofe (Nigeria) who emphasized the relevance of traditional medicine in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He recommended that practitioners must record their knowledge and experiences in order to build a body of knowledge for future generations.

Dr Githae from Kenya spoke about the need to provide political will and legislative framework to guide the practice. Another speaker was Pastor Vusi Dube who also addressed the Conference raising concerns about the ever growing fly-by-nights who are very common in cities like Durban. He urged practitioners to play a steward role in order to protect the African Traditional Medicine as a practice and an important element of African culture.

The Conference will culminate in a celebration of the African Traditional Medicine Day which will be graced by iSilo samaBandla kaZulu uZwelithini kaBhekuzulu and the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr. SJ Ndebele as well as the MEC for Health, Ms Neliswa Nkonyeni.

This event will bring together more than 5000 traditional practitioners from the Province at Curries Fountain Stadium. The details are as follows;

**Date :** 31 AUGUST 2007, Friday  
**Time :** 09h00  
**Venue :** Curries Fountain Stadium  
Durban

The media is invited to this event.

**ENDS**

**Issued by;**  
**MR LEON MBANGWA**  
**KZN Department of Health Spokesperson 083 459 8695**

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uMnyango Wezempilo . Departement van Gesondheid

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