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DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE

NO. 4890 **27 May 2024**

DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002)

CLASSIFICATION OF A LOCAL DISASTER IN TERMS OF SECTION 23 OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): IMPACT OF SEVERE WEATHER IN KWAZULU-NATAL

I, Dr Bongani Elias Sithole, in my capacity as the Head of the National Disaster Management Centre, after having deliberations with various organs of state and the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Disaster Management Centre, and after assessing the magnitude and severity of the impact of heavy rainfall that resulted in flash flooding on the 14th of April 2024, causing devastating impacts that resulted in the loss of life, disruption to livelihoods due to damages to property, infrastructure and the environment in uGu District Municipality on the South Coast of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal, and after having considered the information and recommendations received from the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Disaster Management Centre, hereby give notice that on 03 May 2024, in terms of Section 23(1)(b) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), I classified this occurrence as a Local Disaster.

Emanating from the classification of this occurrence as a local disaster, in terms of section 26 read with section 23 of the Act, the primary responsibility to coordinate and manage this disaster, in terms of existing legislation and contingency arrangements, is designated to the local executive.

I hereby, in terms of Section 15(2)(*aA*) of the Act, read with section 23(8), call upon organs of state to further strengthen support to existing structures to implement contingency arrangements and ensure that measures are put in place to enable the local executive to effectively deal with the effects of this disaster.

Furthermore, all affected organs of state must prepare and submit reports, as required by the National Disaster Management Centre as outlined in section 24(4) - (8) of the Act.

The revocation of the classification is set out in the schedule hereto.

Elias Sithole

Dr Bongani Elias Sithole

Head: National Disaster Management Centre

Date: 03/05/2024

Schedule

The local executive dealt with the national disaster in terms of existing legislation and contingency arrangements without declaring a national state of disaster in terms of section 55(1) of the Act.	The classification is revoked by the Head: National Disaster Management Centre when the occurrence can no longer be regarded as a disaster in terms of the Act upon reassessment by the NDMC.
The local executive dealt with the local disaster in terms of existing legislation and contingency arrangements as augmented by regulations and/ or directions following the declaration of a local state of disaster in terms of section 55(2).	The classification of a local disaster is automatically revoked when the local state of disaster is terminated or lapses in terms of section 55(5) of the Act.

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