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DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE

NO. 4963 **11 June 2024**

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

CLASSIFICATION OF A NATIONAL DISASTER IN TERMS OF SECTION 23 OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): IMPACT OF SEVERE WEATHER IN THE COUNTRY.

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 Heads of Provincial Disaster Management Centres, and after assessing the magnitude and severity of severe weather that resulted in disruptive rains, floods, strong winds and snow falls during May and June 2024, causing significant impact in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and the Free State Provinces, resulting in the loss of life, damage to property, infrastructure and the environment, as well as the disruption of basic services, hereby give notice that on 05 June 2024, in terms of Section 23(1)(b) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), classify the impact and potential impact of severe weather in the mentioned provinces as a National Disaster.

Emanating from the classification, 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 national 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 national 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: 05 June 2024

Schedule

The national 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 27(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 national executive dealt with the national disaster in terms of existing legislation and contingency arrangements as augmented by regulations and/ or directions following the declaration of a national state of disaster in terms of section 27(2).	The classification of a national disaster is automatically revoked when the national state of disaster is terminated or lapses in terms of section 27(5) of the Act.

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