### **MEDIA INVITE**

#### 10 AUGUST 2010

### DEPUTY MINISTER REJOICE MABUDAFHASI'S PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME IN KWAZULU NATAL

Water and Environmental Affairs Deputy Minister, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi, will take her Public Participation Programme road show to KwaZulu Natal from 12-13 August 2010.

Deputy Minister Mabudafhasi will spend two days in KwaZulu Natal as part of her public participation programme, which kick-started in Limpopo last week. During her visit to the province the Deputy Minister will engage communities and launch projects of the Department of Environmental Affairs and the Department of Water Affairs.

As part of the public awareness and education programmes of both the departments, the Deputy Minister will be accompanied by the Blue Bus whereby environment officials, water ambassadors and officials will interact with communities and share useful information about water conservation and sound environment management practices.

Members of the media are invited to attend the Deputy Minister's Public Participation Programme as follows:

# Day 1. Launch of the Department of Environment Affairs' Umhlabuyalingana Conservation of Medicinal Plants Project

The Deputy Minister will launch the Department of Environmental Affairs' project which seeks to conserve and promote sustainable harvesting of medicinal plants, which are becoming extinct in the forests.

Date : 12 August 2010 Time: 09:30 Venue: Umhlabuyalingana, Phelandaba Intersection

#### For RSVP and Media Enquiries

Peter Mbelengwa 082 6118197 or 012 336 7902 / <u>mbelengwap@dwa.gov.za</u> (Media Liaison Officer and Spokesperson for the Deputy Minister)

# Day 2. Launch of the Department of Water Affairs' Isipingo Adopt-A-River Project

The launch will be preceded by cleaning of the Isipingo River. The Deputy Minister will launch a R1, 7 million Isipingo Adopt-A-River project aimed at creating awareness amongst municipalities, communities and women in the vicinity of the targeted river, of the need to care, protect and manage our scare water resources. As part of celebrating women's month, at least 100 local women have volunteered to clean Isipingo River and in the process are afforded a stipend.

Date: 13 August 2010 Time: 09:30 Venue: Menzi High School Sports Ground, Umlazi N Section

## For RSVP and Media Enquiries

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## **ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**