



Promulgated in terms of the KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008)

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MEDIA RELEASE

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RE: KZN SHARKS BOARD FATAL BOAT ACCIDENT IN RICHARDS BAY

The Sharks Board boat responsible for servicing the shark safety gear at Richards Bay overturned this morning while changing the shark net which protects Newark Beach. This is the beach that is closest to the Northern Breakwater. Regrettably the Skipper Richard Gumede, and one of his crew drowned in the incident and two crew members were rescued and are now in hospital receiving treatment. The fifth crew member is still missing. The NSRI and the Portnet helicopter have been forced to call off their search; due to deteriorating sea conditions. The name of the drowned crew member will be released once the family has been informed.

The MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Sihle Zikalala; the CEO of the KZN Sharks Board, Mthokozisi Radebe and senior Operations staff are currently visiting the scene of the accident.

-ENDS-

Mthokozisi Radebe

Chief Executive Officer