



## agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### MINISTER DIDIZA CALLS ON THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR TO PRIORITISE SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF FARM WORKERS

27 JANUARY 2021

The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Ms Thoko Didiza calls upon the agricultural sector to prioritise the safe transportation of farm workers.

This minister's call comes following yet another accident involving farm workers on the R44 before the Durbanville off-ramp en route to Wellington involving almost 80 seasonal farm workers injured in a truck accident this morning in the Western Cape Province.

The minister is concerned that similar accident occurred when about 40 farmworkers, all seemingly female, were being transported on a four-ton truck from Meerlust farm in De Doorns to Worcester via the N1 where a woman was killed.

The minister wants the sector to have an urgent and honest discussion on how to improve the livelihoods and safety of all farm workers.

"Farm workers are an integral part of a successful agricultural sector and therefore their safety and better working conditions should be prioritised," said Minister Didiza.

The minister calls on all role players, including NGO's, Labour unions, farmers, farm workers and government to urgently put their heads together and arrive at a sustainable solution.

The minister would like to wish all the injured a speedy recovery.

**-END-**

Issued by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development:

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