



Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
HEALTH

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8 MAY 2026

**EASTERN CAPE TO HOST INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY 2026: HONOURING
THE BACKBONE OF HEALTHCARE.**

The Eastern Cape Department of Health, in partnership with the Democratic Nursing Organisation of South Africa (DENOSA), will host International Nurses Day on Tuesday, 12 May 2026, in KuGompo. This significant occasion will be led by the Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi, alongside the Premier of the Eastern Cape, Oscar Mabuyane, and the MEC for Health in the Eastern Cape, Ntandokazi Capa.

Observed globally in honour of Florence Nightingale, International Nurses Day recognises the unwavering commitment of nurses as the backbone of healthcare systems and frontline custodians of patient care.

This year's theme, "OUR NURSES. OUR FUTURE. EMPOWERED NURSES SAVE LIVES," places a sharp focus on strengthening and investing in the nursing workforce, from improving working conditions and ensuring fair compensation, to advancing education, leadership and professional development.

As co-host, the Democratic Nursing Organisation of South Africa (DENOSA) continues to champion the voice of nurses both locally and globally, advocating for a healthcare system that enables nurses to deliver quality, life-saving care.

The Eastern Cape Department of Health, under the leadership of MEC Ntandokazi Capa, will use this platform not only to celebrate nurses, but to reaffirm the government's commitment to

empowering them as central agents in building a responsive, resilient and people-centred health system.

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover this national event.

Event Details:

Date: Tuesday, 12 May 2026

Time: 10h00

Venue: Christian Church, KuGompo, Eastern Cape

Issued by:

Eastern Cape Department of Health, in partnership with DENOSA

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