

MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

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MEC METH CONDEMNS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE

The search for a missing Eastern Cape Care Giver who was reported missing in 2019 ended in disappointment when her decapitated body was found buried under a bath tub in Dutywa.

Noluvuyo Ndema-Nonkwelo worked as an HIV&AIDS lay counselor at Dutywa Health Care Centre was found dead in Vulindlela village.

The gruesome discovery of her dismembered body at her Vulindlela village home comes as the Eastern Cape is still reeling in shock following a similar gruesome murder of Nosiselo Mtebeni, who was killed in East London two weeks ago.

Health MEC Nomakhosazana Meth condemned gender-based violence and femicide.

"The department has been robbed of a frontline worker who worked tirelessly to ensure thousands of people in the Dutywa area received the best possible healthcare services".

"We would like to call on men to stop their brutality against women. We are saying enough is enough. Noluvuyo had a bright future ahead of her and would have contributed immensely in continuing to deliver efficient services. We have been robbed of a dedicated young health professional. May her soul rest in eternal peace," she said.

A close relative was taken into custody in connection with her murder. The MEC urged the police to prioritise their investigation of this case. "They must leave no stone unturned in their investigation and if found guilty, the accused must be sentenced to a heavy prison term".

"We cannot afford to be losing women like we have been in recent times. This has to be addressed and we are confident our criminal justice system will act swiftly and bring perpetrators of these heinous crimes to book."

Issued by the Eastern Cape Department of Health Communications.