MEDIA STATEMENT – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO : ALL MEDIA
DATE : 25 NOVEMBER 2008

MEC’S CUP – EC LEGENDS VS PSL LEGENDS

The Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, through its 2010 unit, is embarking on a football legacy project where it plans to involve football veterans in the development of football in the Eastern Cape.

Football legends are a hive of knowledge and skill and as such, tapping into their expertise is of great importance to young people of the Eastern Cape. These legends have played their meaningful role in active football during their days but the sad thing is that most of them are sitting back with their skills when they could impart them to the up and coming footballers.

It is out of this scenario that we have decided as a department to champion the MEC’s Cup where we engage our legends in the promotion and development of football. We are now engaged in processes to sustain these legends and we still respect them as ambassadors of our beloved Eastern Cape.

That is why we have arranged a match of this magnitude, where we are challenging the former PSL players, the strongest that we have ever seen, the Class of ’96. We are mindful of the fact that this is equivalent to challenging the National Squad since
the class of '96 is undoubtedly of that calibre.

The main objectives of the MEC’s Cup are to:

- Promote football as a tool to contribute towards social cohesion
- Promote the idea of ‘Sport For All’
- Strengthen national, regional and local partnerships to make sport and football, in particular, accessible to everyone.
- To promote football as a viable engine for a healthy lifestyle
- To prepare our spectators for bigger things to come, including the Confederation Cup and the FIFA World Cup

This coming weekend, the department will be hosting provincial trials to identify these legends from all the districts in the Eastern Cape in order to engage them in playing again.

A number of high profile PSL Legends including Doctor Khumalo, Edward Motale and others will be present in a press conference that will be held next week to outline the purpose and role played by them in the country’s football.
The events will be held as follows:

**PROVINCIAL TRIALS**
Date: 29 November 2008  
Venue: Rotary Stadium, Mthatha

**PRESS CONFERENCE**
Date: 02 December 2008  
Time: 11h00  
Venue: Garden Court, Mthatha

**MEC’s CUP TOURNAMENT**
Date: 13 December 2008  
Venue: Rotary Stadium, Mthatha

Your presence and coverage of the above-mentioned events will be highly appreciated.

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