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**GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS**

NO. 4035

7 November 2023

**DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002)****CLASSIFICATION OF A NATIONAL DISASTER IN TERMS OF SECTION 23 OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT (ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): IMPACT OF SEVERE WEATHER IN THE EASTERN CAPE AND WESTERN CAPE**

I, Dr Elias Sithole, in my capacity as the Head of the National Disaster Management Centre, after having deliberations with various organs of state and the Eastern Cape and Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centres, and after assessing the magnitude and severity of the impact of severe weather that resulted in flooding, storm surges and gale force winds during September 2023, causing devastating impacts in various municipalities in the Eastern Cape and Western Cape that resulted in the loss of life, damage to property, infrastructure and the environment, and after having considered the information and recommendations received from the Eastern Cape and Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centres, hereby give notice that on 31 October 2023, in terms of Section 23(1)(b) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) (the Act), I classified this occurrence as a national disaster.

Emanating from the classification of this occurrence as a national disaster, in terms of section 26 read with section 23 of the Act, the primary responsibility to coordinate and manage this disaster, in terms of existing legislation and contingency arrangements, is designated to the national executive.

I hereby, in terms of Section 15(2)(aA) of the Act, read with section 23(8), call upon organs of state to further strengthen support to existing structures to implement contingency arrangements and ensure that measures are put in place to enable the national executive to effectively deal with the effects of this disaster.

Furthermore, all affected organs of state must prepare and submit reports, as required by the National Disaster Management Centre as outlined in section 24(4) - (8) of the Act.

The revocation of the classification is set out in the schedule hereto.

*Elias Sithole***Dr Elias Sithole**

Head: National Disaster Management Centre

Date: 31 October 2023

**Schedule**

The national executive dealt with the national disaster in terms of existing legislation and contingency arrangements without declaring a national state of disaster in terms of section 27(1) of the Act.	The classification is revoked by the Head: National Disaster Management Centre when the occurrence can no longer be regarded as a disaster in terms of the Act upon reassessment by the NDMC.
The national executive dealt with the national disaster in terms of existing legislation and contingency arrangements as augmented by regulations and/ or directions following the declaration of a national state of disaster in terms of section 27(2).	The classification of a national disaster is automatically revoked when the national state of disaster is terminated or lapses in terms of section 27(5) of the Act.