



agriculture & rural development

Department:
agriculture & rural development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

To all media houses

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KZN women farmers declare that 30% of land must be allocated to them, urgently

A 1000 strong women delegation from all the districts of KwaZulu Natal has unanimously declared that women deserve to be allocated land as a matter of urgency as they are the only solution for a transformed agricultural sector and poverty free province.

This declaration was made during the Women in Agriculture and Rural Development Dialogue hosted by MEC Bonggi Sithole-Moloi at Umzinyathi District, Dundee Research Station where the women farmers were unwavering in that if RASET programmes are to be implemented successfully, women must have their 30% of the land allocation accelerated.

Citing the Freedom Charter where it states that land must be shared amongst those who work it, the delegates affirmed that women are the majority in subsistence farming within the sector and yet they remain at the periphery of the economy and land allocation.

They urged government to ensure access to social services to women farm workers and dwellers who are the mostly affected by the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

They also acknowledged that agriculture starts with One Home, One Garden and that for sustenance of agriculture in the future, they shall encourage their children within their domestic spaces to follow suit.

The department will develop a strategy that will pave a direction towards woman development towards radical socio-economic transformation and establish a fully-fledged directorate for women to champion issues relating to women in agriculture by the end of Human Rights' month.

The dialogue was also a gathering in line with Human Rights Month and International Women's Day declared by the United Nations.

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