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NAPTOSA WELCOMES PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE

COMMITMENTS MUST TRANSLATE INTO URGENT, VISIBLE ACTION

NAPTOSA welcomes President Cyril Ramaphosa's address to the nation on 29 September 2026 on the killings of women in Ekurhuleni and the national response to gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF).

The President's acknowledgement that the country's efforts to protect women and girls have not been sufficient is an important and necessary admission. NAPTOSA supports the announced measures, including a national safety audit to identify high-risk public spaces, a review of unresolved GBVF-related cases, strengthened investigative capacity and greater accountability across the criminal-justice system.

As a trade union representing education professionals, NAPTOSA emphasises that schools, colleges and workplaces must be safe spaces. Education has a critical role in challenging harmful gender norms, promoting respect and equality, and equipping young people with the values and skills needed to reject violence, coercion and abuse.



However, commitments must urgently translate into visible action. Learners, educators and communities need effective prevention programmes, responsive policing, survivor-centred support services, properly resourceed social services, and consequences for perpetrators.

NAPTOSA calls on government, communities, families, civil society and especially men and boys to work together to end GBVF. No woman or child should have to live in fear at home, at school, at work or in public spaces.

> **Gender-based violence and femicide are not inevitable. Together, we must build a South Africa where every person can live, learn and work in safety and dignity.**

Source: Address to the Nation by President Cyril Ramaphosa, 29 September 2026.

BL Manuel
Executive Director

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