

## **SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS GEARS FOR A BUMPER CRUISE SEASON**

*[Gqeberha, 21 October 2022]* Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is ready to welcome thousands of international tourists to South Africa's shores through our commercial and seaports as the 2022/23 Cruise Season kicks-off.

This season is expected to attract more tourists as the global COVID-19 regulations and restrictions have eased.

Approximately 239 cruise ship call-ins are expected between October 2022 until April 2023. The Port of Cape Town anticipates 70 call-ins; Port of Durban 76, Port of East London 18, Port of Mossel Bay 16; Port of Port Elizabeth 34 and Port of Richards Bay, 25.

In the 2021/22 year, about 20 cruise ships arrived in South Africa, with 71 call-ins at the various ports.

The first passenger vessel of the season, Hanseatic Spirit, arrived at the Port of Cape Town on 18 October 2022, with more cruise ships expected at other ports from 22 October 2022.

Captain Rufus Lekala, TNPA's Chief Harbour Master said, "The increase of passenger liners calling at our ports is based primarily on the fact that we are in the post COVID-19 phase. We take pride in our role of enabling the South African tourism industry, which has been hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Captain Rufus.

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### **About Transnet National Ports Authority**

Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is one of six operating divisions of Transnet SOC Ltd. The National Ports Authority is responsible for the safe, effective, and efficient economic functioning of the national port system, which it manages in a landlord capacity. It provides port infrastructure and marine services at the eight commercial seaports in South Africa – Richards Bay, Durban, Saldanha, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Mossel Bay and Ngqura. It operates within a legislative and regulatory environment and is governed by the National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005).

For more information visit [www.transnetnationalportsauthority.net](http://www.transnetnationalportsauthority.net)

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