

MEDIA STATEMENT

TNPA REQUESTS PROPOSALS FOR BERTH DEEPENING AND LENGTHENING AT THE DURBAN CONTAINER TERMINAL

[Gqeberha, 4 December 2023] As part of the R154 billion KZN Ports Master Plan, Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a contractor to reconstruct, deepen and lengthen berths 203 to 205 at Durban Container Terminal's (DCT) Pier 2 North Quay at the Port of Durban over a 5-year construction period starting in 2024.

Initiatives within the Plan aim to improve efficiencies and reduce costs for vessels calling at the port by deepening Berths 203, 204 and 205, including the basin and approach channel, deepening from 12.8m to 16.5m. The KZN Ports Master Plan is expected to create over 570,000 employment opportunities over the next 30 years.

The RFP for the multi-billion-rand main marine construction works package has gone out on tender following all the necessary internal governance approvals and environmental approvals, which were secured in 2015 from competent authorities.

The effective berth length will be increased from 914m to 1 210m to safely accommodate the simultaneous berthing of three Super Post Panamax vessels of 350m in length and draft of 14.5m. Super Post Panamax vessels currently take up two berths on the North Quay which decreases port container capacity.

An added benefit of increasing the draft is the enablement of vessels requiring a draft deeper than 12.2m to enter the port at any time, thereby reducing the queue of vessels waiting at anchorage and reliance of entering the channel at high tide.

This mega project is one of the TNPA KZN Logistic Hub's initiatives of positioning the Port of Durban as an international container hub, by growing its container volume capacity from 2.9 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) to 11.4 million TEUs as per the Transnet Segment Strategy.

The segment strategy also seeks to position the port as a premium automotive hub, increasing its automotive capacity from 520 000 fully built units (FBU) per annum to 1 million FBU. These efforts will enable effective, efficient and economic functioning of an integrated port system to promote economic growth.

“The increased size of container vessels calling the Port of Durban has necessitated a project of this magnitude, as DCT Pier 2 berths are now operating beyond their original design specification regarding water depth. Our continued investment in infrastructure and the modernisation of the Port of Durban’s infrastructure is pivotal in meeting the ever-increasing demands of the maritime industry - in particular the ever-increasing size of container vessels calling at our ports,” said Dr. Gasa-Toboti, TNPA Portfolio Director.

DCT Pier 2 handles approximately 65% of the total containerised cargo of South Africa and is the main link to the country’s hinterland - supporting the industrial and economic hub, Gauteng. It is estimated that the demand through the Port of Durban is expected to grow from 2.7 million TEUs to 4.5 million TEUs over the next 10 years.

RFP documents can be accessed from the National Treasury’s e-tender portal www.etender.gov.za and/or the Transnet website: www.transnet.net.

A briefing session has been scheduled for **29 January 2024**. RSVPs for the briefing session and queries for clarification in respect of this RFP must be directed to berthdeepeningkzn@transnet.net

Responses to the RFP must be submitted by no later than **29 March 2024 at 16h00** as per the submission requirements of the RFP.

-ENDS-

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.



Issued on behalf of Transnet National Ports Authority:

Ayanda Mantshongo, Executive Manager: Corporate Affairs

For media queries please contact:

Ayanda Nyathi

Email: ayanda.nyathi@transnet.net

Cell: 083 252 5294