

MEDIA STATEMENT

Collaboration agreement strengthens Durban Port and City integration

[Durban, 12 October 2023] Transnet has signed a second addendum of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the eThekweni Municipality, which focuses on developmental projects and areas of co-operation in which the two parties have mutual interest and benefit.

The second addendum also seeks to establish institutional structures to help the two parties to achieve objectives in terms of section 41 of the Constitution, Section 13 of the National Ports Act, and section 3 of the Municipal Systems Act.

“Through this partnership, we aim to maintain a transparent method of sharing information and consultation with eThekweni Municipality to ensure many of the projects we work together on are implemented timeously,” said Moshe Motlohi, Transnet National Ports Authority’s (TNPA) Managing Executive for the Eastern Region ports.

The collaborative relationship between Transnet and eThekweni Municipality was made official in 2006 through an MOU focusing on spatial planning and land use, economic development, tourism, environment; transport, traffic management, special projects, security, services and sharing of best practices. In 2016, the first MOU addendum with an addition of port operations and development, spatial planning and land use including zoning, precinct as well as interface planning and strategy implementation.

Through the MOU, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was developed for the Durban Container Terminals second road access and the traffic modelling strategy for the Port of Durban.

City Manager, Musa Mbhele said: “Our symbiotic relationship with the Port serves as an economic engine that drives infrastructure development, creates employment opportunities, encourages environmental sustainability and promotes innovation. By recognising and cultivating this partnership, we ensure that our city and port will continue to thrive and make significant contributions to the well-being of the residents and the global economy”.

Guided by section 13 of the National Ports Act which elucidates how different entities of the state should proceed when aiming to collaborate for the betterment of ports, the two entities have since formed a Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) to ensure delivery in accordance with the entity's mandates.

Mr Mbhele concluded by saying, "Our collaboration with Transnet is not merely a partnership, it's a vital lifeline that ensures the success of our city and port. Our objectives, as outlined in the agreement are ambitious but very much achievable. Therefore, by working together, we can overcome any challenge and seize every opportunity that come our way."

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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.

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