

## **TNPA REQUESTS INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF A CRUISE TERMINAL OPERATOR IN THE PORT OF RICHARDS BAY.**

**[Richards Bay, 13 December 2022]** Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is calling on interested parties to respond to the Request for Information (RFI) on the possible appointment of a cruise terminal operator to design, develop, finance, construct, operate, maintain and transfer the cruise terminal at the Newark Precinct in the Port of Richards Bay.

These efforts follow the introduction of the KwaZulu Natal (KZN) Logistics Hub Programme, which seeks to position the Port of Richards Bay as a dry-bulk hub and a strategic player in the renewable energy space. This programme has also developed the Port of Richards Bay Master Plans, which incorporates the development of a cruise terminal in order to fulfil the tourism industry's growth objectives for the City of Umhlatuze and King Cetshwayo District at large.

"In alignment to the Department of Tourism's Cruise Strategy, TNPA's strategic position is to also offer new and modern cruise terminals that will provide an ideal gateway to a unique South African experience through its eight commercial ports," said Dr Bridgette Gasa-Toboti, Portfolio Director: Mega Projects (KZN Logistics Hub).

The cruise terminals throughout the port system provide Multi-Modal Connectivity to the region and the world, thus contributing to the growth of the South African tourism industry. The RFI therefore aims to provide TNPA with the necessary insights and information regarding the viability of such a facility in the Port of Richards Bay.

"These are exciting times for KZN, in particular the Richards Bay business community. Our hope, which will also be a legacy for Transnet, is to see this development being awarded to consortiums with a local footprint. It has been a vision of the Zululand Chamber Commerce & Industry (ZCCI) to see local businesses and communities play a key and sustainable role in developments within the Port of Richards Bay", said Ms. Hlengiwe Mvubu, President of ZCCI.



In the 2022/23 cruise season, which runs from October 2022 until late April 2023, at least 25 luxury cruise ships are expected to visit the Port of Richards Bay and at least 239 international cruise lines are scheduled to call at the country's six cruise ports.

RFI documents can be accessed from the National Treasury's e-tender publication portal [www.etender.gov.za](http://www.etender.gov.za) and/or the Transnet website: [www.transnet.net](http://www.transnet.net).

The RFI responses must be submitted to TNPA by no later than 28 February 2023 at 16h00pm (CAT). Interested parties are required to RSVP to join the briefing session by requesting a MS Teams link by 12 December 2022 at the following email address [Richardsbaycruiseterminalrfi@transnet.net](mailto:Richardsbaycruiseterminalrfi@transnet.net).



**Issued on behalf of Transnet National Ports Authority by:**

Mr Dennis Mqadi

Port Manager, Port of Richards Bay

**For media queries please contact:**

Nkululeko Molefe: Corporate Affairs Manager

[Nkululeko.molefe@transnet.net](mailto:Nkululeko.molefe@transnet.net) , 060 569 4060