

Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo IeNtshona Koloni

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND TOURISM

Thursday, 22 February 2024 (08:00) Chamber, 6th Floor, 7 Wale Street, Cape Town

ATTENDANCE

Members:

Democratic Alliance

Murray, C (Chairperson) Sileku, I Van der Westhuizen, A

Al Jama-Ah

Brinkhuis, K

Absent

Nkondlo, N (ANC)

The following persons were in attendance:

Western Cape Provincial Parliament:

Ms Z Adams, Procedural Officer Ms M Mrubata, Committee Assistant

Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Ms M Wenger, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities Mr G Steyn, Deputy Director Ms I van Schalkwyk, Chief Director Mr R Toefy, Deputy Director-General Ms J Johnston, Deputy Director-General

Transnet

Mr V Jones, Acting Managing Executive: Transnet National Ports Authority Mr O Borchards, Acting Managing Executive: Transnet Port Terminals Ms S Khumalo, Head of Operations: Transnet Freight Rail Mr R Dana, Port of Cape Town Manager Ms V Mangcu, Parliamentary Liaison Officer

Exporters Western Cape

Mr T Gale, Chairman Ms T Alexander, EWC Committee Member Mr K Beswick, EWC Committee Member Ms I Rens, EWC Committee Member

South African Association of Ship Operators and Agents

Mr E Joubert, Chapter Chairman: Cape Town

South African Association of Freight Forwarders

Mr B Hanival, Consultant

Mediterranean Shipping Company (PTY) LTD

Mr I Rosario, Director: Operations Mr D De Kock, Cape Town Regional Director Mr C Blankenberg, Reefer Trade Management

1. Welcome and attendance

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism welcomed the Minister, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Transnet, Exporters Western Cape, the South African Association of Ship Operators and Agents, stakeholders from MSC and One Africa, and the members of the public to the meeting. The Chairperson indicated that the briefings would greatly assist with drafting recommendations regarding port efficiency that would be sent to the National Minister.

The Chairperson noted the rules of engagement for hybrid meetings and proceeded to introductions, and the presentations.

2. Briefing by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism updated the Committee on developments in terms of the Port of Cape Town's challenges.

The Members engaged on the content that was presented and proceeded to the next presentation.

3. Briefing by Transnet

Transnet updated the Committee on the latest developments in respect of tackling challenges at the Port of cape Town.

The Members engaged on the content that was presented and proceeded to the next presentation.

4. Briefing by Exporters Western Cape

Exporters Western cape briefed the Committee on the challenges experienced in respect of the exporting of goods via the Port of Cape Town, particularly during the grape harvesting season.

The Members engaged on the content that was presented and proceeded to the next presentations.

5. Briefing by the South African Association of Ship Operators and Agents

The South African Association of Ship Operators and Agents briefed the Committee on the challenges experienced at the Port of Cape Town, the surcharges at the Port, and the gap between the average turnaround time at the Port and the ideal turnaround time needed.

The Members engaged on the content that was presented.

6. Resolutions/Actions

- 6.1 The Committee RESOLVED to:
 - 6.1.1 Send any additional questions to the respective presenters; and
 - 6.2.1 Express its gratitude to the presenters for briefing the Committee and providing useful and insightful information for the report that will be submitted to the National Minister. The Committee noted the work of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in engaging with Transnet, trying to alleviate the bottlenecks at the Port of Cape Town, and acting in the interest of the Western Cape, especially the agricultural sector. The Department was going above and beyond to improve matters at the Port.
 - 6.2 The Committee REQUESTED the following:
 - 6.2.1 The PWC report that Transnet had sent to stakeholders; and
 - 6.2.2 A written report from Transnet indicating the specific infrastructure needed at the Port of Cape town, the status of their procurement of these pieces, when the infrastructure will arrive, when the infrastructure will be operational, and how this will assist in achieving the 8 Point Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 12h00.



MS CAT MURRAY, MPP ACTING CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND TOURISM DATE: 15 April 2024