

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

Ref: WCPP 11/6/12

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday 1 April 2025 (at 09:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Bryant, DW Masipa, NP (Chairperson) Mbombo, N Wessels, DJ

African National Congress

Nkondlo, ND Stoffels, BN (Additional member)

Patriotic Alliance

Constable, N

Al Jama-ah

Brinkhuis, G

The following persons were in attendance:

Ministry of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism

Dr I Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism Ms M van Jaarsveld, Head of Ministry Mr D Johnson, Media Liaison Officer Ms P van Jaarsveld, Office Administrator

Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Ms J Johnston, Head of Department
Mr R Toefy, Deputy Director General - Economic Operations
Ms M Abrahams, Chief Financial Officer
Ms I van Schalkwyk, Chief Director - Economic Sector Support
Mr J Peters, Chief Director - Economic Enablement
Mr N Joseph, Chief Director - Skills Development
Mr T Parle, Chief Director - Digital Economy
Mr H Jonker, Director - Industrial Coordination

Ms O Dyers, Director - Digital Leadership

Mr J Wolmarans, Director - Enterprise Development

Ms M Ellis, Director - Red Tape Reduction

Ms C Julies, Director - Strategic and Operational Support

Ms M Parker, Director - Provincial Skills Partnership

Ms F Dharsey, Director - Municipal Economic Support

Mr G Dingaan, Director - Agri-Processing Sector

Mr T Chipeya, Director - Research

Mr J Stoltz, Director - Tourism

Ms C van Niekerk, Acting Director - Skills Programmes and Projects

Mr F Abrahams, Acting Director - Cape Catalyst

Mr R Le Bron, Deputy Director - Management Accounting

Ms C Titus, Assistant Director - Office of the Head of Department

Western Cape Destination Marketing, Investment and Trade Promotion Agency (WESGRO)

Ms W Stander, Chief Executive Officer

Ms G Darries, Chief of Staff

Mr S Gcwabe, Chief Financial Officer

Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone (SBIDZ)

Mr X Sithole, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Mr H Boneschan, Chief Financial Officer

Mr S Marthinus, Legal Adviser

Mr C Joseph, Executive - Stakeholder Management

Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ)

Mr M Cullinan, Chief Executive Officer

Ms W Saib, Chief Financial Officer

Ms F Brand, Company Secretary

Ms O Mpahlwa, Financial Accountant

WCPP Officials

Ms S Niekerk, Procedural Officer

Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant

Ms A Mtimkulu, Researcher

Ms C Morris, Information Technology Assistant

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the Minister, Head of Department, the Chief Executive Officers of WESGRO, SBIDZ and ASEZ, departmental officials, and those who were watching the live proceedings on YouTube.

2. Deliberation on Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2025]

The Department briefed the Committee on Vote 12 in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2025].

The Committee deliberated after which it agreed to support the Vote. The African National Congress did not support the Vote.

3. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Report on Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 2–2025]

Upon conclusion of its deliberations the Chairperson submitted a Draft Report. The African National Congress requested that their minority view be included in the Report, after which the Report was considered and adopted.

4. Resolutions

- 4.1 The Committee resolved that it would invite the Department of Economic Development and Tourism to brief it on the outcomes of the Municipal Economic Summit to be held later this year. The briefing should include key findings, recommendations, and proposed actions arising from the summit.
- 4.2. The Committee requested that the Department of Economic Development and Tourism provides it with:
- 4.2.1 A report on municipal engagement in relation to red tape reduction, specifically identifying and outlining legislation that they have engaged municipalities with to enable the participation of informal traders, township entrepreneurs, and the rural economy;
- 4.2.2 A clear timeline for the development of the Township, Rural, and Informal Economy Strategy, including anticipated completion dates. Additionally, the Department must clarify how this strategy will align with the ongoing implementation of the Growth for Jobs Strategy initiative to ensure these sectors benefit. Furthermore, the Committee requested a comprehensive outline of the budget allocation and institutional mechanisms for implementing the Strategy to ensure accountability and effective execution;
- 4.2.3 A sector-specific report, excluding agriculture, on the impact of tourism on various sectors such as township economies, and other industries. The report should detail how these sectors have been impacted and identify which areas have benefited and how. Furthermore, the Department must provide an analysis of the socio-economic benefits derived from these sectors, focusing on job creation, business development, and infrastructure investment;
- 4.2.4 Information on whether there are specific job creation targets set for the province in relation to the Provincial Strategic Plan. The Department should also clarify the role it plays, along with its entities, in enabling private sector job creation within the province and provide any relevant targets related to this;
- 4.2.5 An explanation regarding the relationship between the rand value of infrastructure investments and the number of jobs created. Specifically, the Department should clarify the mathematical ratio or economic factors that explain why large investments, such as the R8.7 billion in nine Wesgro investment projects, is set to create relatively few jobs (10,846 jobs over five years), compared to smaller investments like R2.64 billion in trade declarations, which create significantly fewer jobs (1,071 jobs). The Department should provide an economic analysis to help understand the disparity between the ratio of rand value investment versus the number of jobs created by these investments; and
- 4.2.6 A strategy document that aligns with its ongoing headcount review. The Department must submit a formal strategy once the staffing review is completed, ensuring that funding decisions are guided by this clear strategy.

4. Closing

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members, the Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism, the Head of Department, and departmental officials for their contribution to the success of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40.



MR NP MASIPA, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Date: 22 April 2025