

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 20 May 2025 (at13:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Bosman, G Bryant, DW Masipa, NP (Chairperson) Mbombo, N

African National Congress

Nkondlo, ND

Patriotic Alliance

Constable, N

Al Jama-ah

Brinkhuis, G

Apologies

Wessels, DJ - Member (Democratic Alliance)
Meyer, I - Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism

The following persons were in attendance:

Ministry of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism

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 I van Schalkwyk, Chief Director - Economic Sector Support
Mr J Peters, Chief Director - Economic Enablement
Mr N Joseph, Chief Director - Skills Development
Mr J Wolmarans, Director - Enterprise Development
Ms M Ellis, Director - Red Tape Reduction

Ms C Julies, Director - Strategic and Operational Support

Ms F Dharsey, Director - Municipal Economic Support

Ms A Augustus, Deputy Director - Red Tape Reduction

Mr B Ngcolomba, Deputy Director - Red Tape Reduction

Mr B Mchunu, Deputy Director - Red Tape Reduction

Ms G Smith, Deputy Director - Monitoring and Evaluation

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

Ms L Colli, Assistant Director - Monitoring and Evaluation

Ms C Rose, Assistant Director – Monitoring and Evaluation

Ms J Hartman, Executive Assistant to 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

Freeport Saldanha Industrial Development Zone (FSIDZ)

Mr X Sithole, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Mr H Boneschan, Chief Financial Officer

Mr S Marthinus, Company Secretary

Mr C Joseph, Executive - Stakeholder Management

Ms K Molemane, Executive - Infrastructure and Environment

Mr G Geldenhuys, Executive - Transaction and Investor Support

Ms S Neumann, Acting Executive - Investment Facilitation

Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ)

Mr M Cullinan, Chief Executive Officer

Ms W Saib, Chief Financial Officer

Ms F Williams, Company Secretary

Mr S Willoughby, Executive - Integrated Ecosystems

Ms D Jacobs, Project Coordinator

South African Local Government Association (SALGA) – Western Cape

Mr L Njamela, Advisor: Intergovernmental Relations and Strategic Relations

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 Head of Department, the Chief Executive Officers of WESGRO, FSIDZ and ASEZ, departmental officials, and those who were watching the live proceedings on YouTube.

2. Briefing by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, ASEZ, Wesgro and FSIDZ on its non-financial quarterly performance for the period January – March 2025

The Department and Entities briefed the Committee on its respective Quarterly Performance Reports highlighting with reason the targets that were not achieved as well as those that were partially achieved within the various programmes.

The Committee deliberated.

3. Briefing by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism on the Red Tape Reduction Unit

The Department briefed the Committee on the Red Tape Reduction Unit with specific reference to the work undertaken by the Unit, and the nature of red tape reduction efforts, particularly in relation to addressing and unlocking by-laws that were constraining informal trading, both in formal and informal spaces.

Regulatory reform initiatives, improving government systems and process, communication interventions, culture interventions, as well as municipal engagements in relation to red tape reduction were expanded upon.

4. Resolutions/actions

- 4.1 The Committee REQUESTED that Wesgro provides it with a written update on the operational challenges that were reported at the Cape Town International Airport and George Airport earlier this year, with specific reference to what has been done to address these challenges, the current state of affairs and the outcome of the First Preliminary Diagnostic Report that was compiled by the Committee of Aviation Experts and adopted by the Minister of Transport and the Air Traffic and Navigation Services.
- 4.2 The Committee FURTHER REQUESTED that the Department of Economic Development and Tourism provides it with:
- 4.2.1 In terms of the District Export Awareness Roadshow, a report on the engagements with municipalities in the 2024/25 financial year, outlining the location of these roadshows and the impact of the campaign. Additionally, the Department to provide a list of upcoming roadshows in the 2025/26 financial year; and
- 4.2.2 A written response in terms of the training modalities with specific reference to the definition and concept of training modalities, its contribution to skills development and the relationship between the number of placements and the number of businesses supported.
- 4.3 The Committee RESOLVED that it would invite the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, to brief it on:
- 4.3.1 The tracking tool, namely, the Impact Pulse Implementation Plan, that is presently with cabinet for approval;
- 4.3.2 Red tape reduction with a focus on regulatory reform, as well as assessing and addressing red tape within targeted municipalities to promote local economic development and facilitate the ease of doing business, with a specific focus on the informal economy; and
- 4.3.3 The Skills Development Programme by providing an overview of the current skills development programmes and their alignment with the province's economic priorities; Key sectors and geographic areas targeted for skills investment; Details on partnerships with industry, training providers, and educational institutions; Programme outcomes to date, including number of beneficiaries, employment placement rates, and performance indicators;

Funding mechanisms, budgets, and any constraints experienced in implementing skills programmes; Future plans and expansion strategies, particularly for addressing youth unemployment and rural inclusion; and Monitoring and evaluation processes in place to assess impact and ensure accountability.

4.4. The Committee FURTHER RESOLVED that it would, while acknowledging the Atlantis SEZ investment pipeline and urgent funding needs as well as the SEZ's efforts in attracting significant private-sector investment, invite the Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism to brief it on work he is doing in an effort to explore and propose immediate and long-term solutions to close the funding gap and to ensure that SEZ's, including Atlantis SEZ, are adequately supported to realise their full economic potential.

5. Closing

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

The meeting adjourned at 17:02.



MR NP MASIPA, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Date: 18 June 2025