



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

Ref: WCPP

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Tuesday 20 August 2024 (at 13:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

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

African National Congress

Nkondlo, ND

Patriotic Alliance

Constable, N

Al Jama-ah

Brinkhuis, G

Additional Members

Booyesen, M (Democratic Alliance)
Stoffels, BN (African National Congress)
Walters, TCR (Democratic Alliance)

The following persons were in attendance:

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 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 F Dharsey, Director – Municipal Economic Support
Mr G Dinga, Director – Agri-Processing
Mr J Stiltz, Director – Tourism
Ms R Loghdey, Director – Skills Incentives
Ms M Parker, Director – Provincial Skills Partnership
Ms C Julies, Director – Strategic and Operational Support
Ms C van Niekerk, Acting Director – Skills Programmes and Projects
Ms G Steyn, Acting Director – Sector Support
Mr F Abrahams, Acting Director – Cape Catalyst
Mr S Bux, Acting Director - Research
Mr J Arnold, Deputy Director – Departmental Communications

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

Ms W Stander, Chief Executive Officer
Mr S Gcwabe, Chief Financial Officer

Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone Licencing Company SOC Ltd (SBIDZ)

Mr D Southgate, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Mr H Boneschan, Chief Financial Officer

Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ)

Mr M Cullinan, Chief Executive Officer
Ms W Saib, Chief Financial Officer

Western Cape Provincial Parliament

Mr J Vermeulen, Senior Procedural Officer
Ms S Niekerk, Procedural Officer
Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant
Mr S Hassan, Information Technology Assistant

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the departmental officials, members of the media, and those who were following the proceedings online.

The Chairperson highlighted that the Committee was unable to complete its discussion on 13 August 2024 and that it would continue its oversight work with a focus on economic development and tourism.

The Chairperson also informed the Committee that the Department had raised concerns about some of their entities traveling long distances to the meeting on 13 August 2024 only to return without having had the opportunity to present. To address this, the Committee would ensure that all entities have sufficient time to present. The Chairperson reiterated that the Committee had indicated in its initial invitation to the Department that there was a possibility of not completing all presentations within the allotted time. The Committee also indicated that it might request to continue the presentations at a later date, potentially not in-person. The Committee's goal in relation to the meeting on 13 August 2024 was to establish its initial connection with the Department and its entities.

The Chairperson requested Members to make a note of possible resolutions during the meeting, stating that the resolutions would be reviewed when the Committee gets to the agenda point that deals with Resolutions/Actions.

2. Introductory briefing

2.1 Department of Economic Development and Tourism

The Department provided the Committee with an overview of its mandate and legislation governing its core functions by placing into context the policies and strategies determining the functions of the Department. The Growth for Jobs Strategy and the seven priority focus areas identified for short- and medium-term results were expanded upon. So too was the organisational structure and departmental programmes. Challenges and key achievements were highlighted and legislation in the pipeline was brought to the Committee's attention.

2.2 Reporting Entities - Western Cape Destination Marketing, Investment and Trade Promotion Agency (WESGRO); Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone Licencing Company SOC Ltd (SBIDZ); and Atlantis Special Economic Zone (ASEZ)

The reporting entities, WESGRO, SBIZ and ASEZ provided the Committee with their respective mandates, organograms and strategic priorities. Key achievements and challenges were highlighted as well as an explanation of the respective funding models.

The Committee deliberated.

3. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of 13 August 2024, which were considered and adopted.

4. Resolutions/Actions

4.1 The Committee **RESOLVED** that it would invite:

4.1.1 WESGRO to brief it on the work that they have completed across all districts in the province with specific reference to the initiatives and support provided to municipalities, particularly in small towns. The briefing to also expand on mechanisms in place to ensure that local products from the Western Cape, whether from rural areas, townships, or cities are included in the export process with specific emphasis on ensuring that emerging businesses are considered, and that there is potential to expand the range of products these businesses offer;

4.1.2 The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) to brief it on the Small-Town Regeneration Programme by providing a comprehensive overview of the Programme. Furthermore, it is proposed that WESGRO, along with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, particularly those involved in enterprise development, be invited to the briefing to ensure a holistic discussion that encompasses both tourism promotion and broader municipal support for small towns;

4.1.3 The Department of Economic Development and Tourism to brief it on the draft legislative reform of the Western Cape Consumer Affairs (Unfair Business Practices), 2002 (Act 10 of 2002), the draft Western Cape Tourism Bill and the draft Western Cape Transfer of Administration of the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership (EDP) Bill; and

- 4.1.4 The Department of Economic Development and Tourism to brief it on the Red Tape Reduction Unit with specific reference to the work undertaken by the Unit, the nature of red tape reduction efforts, particularly in relation to addressing and unlocking by-laws that are currently constraining informal trading, both in formal and informal spaces.
- 4.2 The Committee **FURTHER RESOLVED** that it would extend an invitation to the Standing Committee on Police Oversight, Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport to attend a briefing by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, in consultation with the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety, on the impact of crime on the job creation efforts under the Growth for Jobs Strategy, in order to understand how the province is ensuring that the threat of crime does not hinder the job prospects intended to be achieved through the Growth for Jobs initiative.

5. Closing

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members and departmental officials for their participation in the proceedings, particularly to members, for their patience and commitment in staying beyond the allocated time for the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 16:32.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'NP Masipa', is written over a light blue grid background.

MR NP MASIPA, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Date: 3 September 2024