



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 950

Musina Makhado SEZ Project

Ms M Kennedy (Limpopo: EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

(a) What are the specific reasons for the delays in the Musina Makhado Special Economic Zone project, (b) what amount has been allocated or funded by his department and (c) what plans are in place for integrating local small-, medium- and macro enterprises into the project and ensuring equitable participation for Black South Africans? CW1075E

REPLY:

(a) The Musina Makhado Special Economic Zone (MMSEZ) highlighted the following reasons as key to the delay of the project.

Northern Site:

- In the north site, the development has been delayed mainly due to the slow process of attaining:
 - Township establishment; and
 - Lack of land development rights.
- This resulted in the bulk infrastructure projects being deferred until the full status of township establishment is attained.

The National SEZ Project Management Unit has also reported Procurement delays and renewal of the tree removal permits hampering progress on design reviews and construction kick-off.

Southern Site:

- In the South, the delays are mainly due to the Environmental Impact Assessment process which took long, due to back and forth between the entity and the interested and affected parties, including environmental activists.

(b) No funds have been transferred to Musina Makhado Special Economic Zone from the Department's SEZ Fund.

(c) One of the key purposes of the SEZ Act, 2014 (Act No. 16 of 2014), is for SEZs to broaden the economic participation, by promoting small-, medium- and micro enterprises and co-operatives; and promoting skills and technology transfer.

In respect to the plans for integrating local small-, medium- and micro enterprises into the project, this is done by the SEZ in-line with the Act, mentioned above; and therefore, the MMSEZ will be best placed to respond in this regard.

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