



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 7383

Mr G C Niehaus (EFF) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

Considering the recent border closures with Mozambique due to regional instability, and noting projections of modest gross domestic product growth reliant on resolving logistics and other trade bottlenecks, what targeted interventions will his department prioritise in 2026 to bolster cross-border trade? NW8247E

REPLY:

The Governments of the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Mozambique concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Economic Cooperation on the margins of the Bi-National Commission on 3 December 2025. The MoU seeks to deepen collaboration across trade, investment, industry and infrastructure development, and to promote enhanced private-sector cooperation. It identifies priority areas for investment facilitation in Mozambique, including but not limited to rail, port and road infrastructure, energy, hydraulic systems, water supply and manufacturing.

The two Governments have agreed to establish a Joint Trade and Investment Committee in the first quarter of 2026 to prepare an implementation plan for the MoU and to evaluate, monitor and report on the execution of economic, trade, investment, financial and technical cooperation commitments between the two countries.

Upgrades at Lebombo / Ressano Garcia Border Post are currently underway at Kilometre Seven (Km 7) on the South African side to implement the one-stop border post (OSBP) concept and to facilitate the seamless movement of goods and people between the two countries. Border processing at Km 7 will be carried out as a coordinated effort by all relevant South African and Mozambican border agencies. While these infrastructure improvements

are being completed, both governments have agreed to begin integrating their border-management systems to ensure uninterrupted traffic flow and to operationalise the OSBP model.

With regards to advancing trade with Mozambique, the Department in 2026 will further work with the recently launched South African Chamber of Business in Mozambique (SACBM) and other organised business formations to promote trade and facilitate investment by South African companies into Mozambique through trade missions and other platforms that advance South Africa's exports.

Mozambique remains a critical partner for South Africa, not only as a transit route for exports through its ports but also as a growing market for South African goods and services.

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