

FOREWORD

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MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the KwaZulu-Natal Investment Seminar, a crucial platform created to, among other things, launch a booklet which contains a list of major provincial investment opportunities.

The list forms part of our contribution as the Province of KwaZulu-Natal to the effective national investment drive, launched by President Cyril Ramaphosa recently.

Launching South Africa's mission to attract \$100 billion in investments, President Ramaphosa called on all sectors of society to work together to ensure that it becomes a reality.

As provincial government and business leaders, we have committed ourselves to the attainment of this noble goal by packaging investment opportunities worth \$19 billion, which will be submitted to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

Our provincial delegation will also participate fully in the upcoming National Investment Conference where our KwaZulu-Natal investment opportunities will also be presented, together with those of other provinces.

The summit will involve both domestic and international investors and its main aim is to showcase South Africa's favourable investment climate and to link investors to investment opportunities and bankable projects.

We are confident that the projects we are unveiling today will propel our economy to even greater heights

and drastically change the landscape of our province in the next few years.

We are pleased that our two Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are improving the capacity to attract and host more investors.

The Dube TradePort Special Economic Zone (DTP) is commencing with Phase 2 which will create more industrial space for investors as phase 1 is fully occupied.

At the same time, the Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ) is playing a crucial role in investment attraction.

As the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, we are at an advanced stage with regards to engagements with the Department of Trade and Industry to ensure access to incentives and benefits that are accrued by being located within the SEZs.

The launch of the One Stop Shop at the Trade & Investment KwaZulu-Natal offices in Durban and its satellite offices at Richards Bay Industrial Development Zone (RBIDZ) and Dube TradePort (DTP), will also certainly bolster investment confidence as potential investors would now find it convenient and easy to have their applications for business permits, registration, environmental impact assessments and travel documents processed within the shortest period.