

ANGOLA-SOUTH AFRICA PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

19 AUGUST 2009

OPENING REMARKS

MR BRIAN MOLEFE, PRESIDENT OF BUSINESS UNITY OF SOUTH AFRICA

- 10
- Castro said that the history of Southern Africa will be defined as before and after Cuito Carnavale.
 - Post Cuito Carnavale there is peace, stability and democracy in the region as well as investment cooperation between our countries.
 - History will recognize the restoration of peace to Angola seven years ago as a landmark in the post Cuito Carnavale era.
 - I am sure that history will also judge this first state visit by President Zuma to Angola as well as the forging of key business partnerships over the next few days, as significant developments in the post Cuito Carnavale era.
- 20
- This is the largest ever South African business delegation to travel on such a mission. There is no more concrete demonstration of the strong support for the development of the economic relationship between Angola and South Africa than such a strong showing from the private sector.
 - We are here today with representatives from a broad cross-section of South African business. There are companies in infrastructure, health care, pharmaceuticals, culture, transport, mining, oil and gas, housing, construction, banking, financial services and security. Some of South Africa's largest companies are represented here. There are also many

emerging players who are keen to diversify their investment portfolios and who are here to listen with interest to the project proposals.

- The bilateral relationship between Angola and South Africa is now experiencing a renaissance. This visit is a clear demonstration of the increased intensity at a political level. President Zuma of South Africa has chosen to make Angola his first bilateral State Visit and this was welcomed by the business community.

10

- It is now up to us as the private sector to build on the momentum created by our political leaders and seize the opportunities that are opening up.

- In the next two days we need to jointly identify those strategic level issues that need to be addressed in order to create a more conducive climate for doing business. This has to include changes to the visa regime and implementation of the SADC freedom of movement of people agreement by both South Africa and Angola.

- There is a need for a bilateral economic cooperation agreement including a mutual commitment to good and transparent governance in business. Such a move would be fully supported by South African business.

20

- It has now been seven years since peace came to Angola in 2002. We strongly believe the time has come to forge a new economic partnership between two key economies in the Southern African region.

- We look forward to fruitful engagement over the next few days.

- Thank you.