

**BUSINESS FORUM ANGOLA-SOUTH AFRICA  
“PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT”**

**19-20 AUGUST 2009  
LUANDA, ANGOLA**

**JOINT DECLARATION BY  
Angolan Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
And Business Unity South Africa**

- Luanda, Angola has this week played host to the largest ever business delegation from South Africa. Over 150 South African delegates representing nearly 120 companies met with their counterparts from 250 Angolan companies. The business representatives were from sectors including infrastructure, health care, pharmaceuticals, culture, transport, mining, oil and gas, housing, construction, banking, manufacturing, financial and legal services, agriculture, fisheries, tourism and security.
- Business had a very fruitful exchange of ideas over the two day event and the following is a summary of the interactions.
- The private sectors of Angola and South Africa encourage the full implementation of the SADC Trade Protocol. This would enable the trade of goods to be facilitated between the two countries and would be an important step forward for regional integration in Southern Africa.
- A commitment to good and transparent governance in business has been made by both delegations. In order to ensure that Angola reaps the full benefits of the investments made by South African companies, business will continue to operate in a responsible and accountable manner that is in line with global best practice.
- The business communities of South Africa and Angola discussed ways to cooperate in the diversification and growth of the economic relationship. This could be assisted through the extension of more of those incentives and programmes that are provided for companies operating in the oil and gas sector in Angola to other industries.
- The following sectors were discussed in detail.

## Finance and Banking

- A welcome development has been the establishment of banking operations by both South African and Angolan banks in both countries.
- Business welcomes the commitment made by the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa to provide financing for viable and sustainable projects in support of collaborative initiatives between the two countries.

## Petroleum, Gas and Mines

- Huge opportunities still remain in the petroleum and gas sectors in Angola with 28 of the 51 concessions off-shore still to be licensed and explorations underway on-shore.
- The favourable geology and high exploration success rate make Angola an appealing destination for further investments in the oil and gas sectors.
- Both Angola and South Africa rely on the mining sector to provide employment and to earn foreign exchange. Future growth will also come through the beneficiation of mineral resources and the creation of value-added products.
- The transfer of technology and technical expertise between Angola and South Africa can facilitate growth of the mining sector in both countries.

## Industry and Commerce, Energy and Water

- Energy and water are key to the development and growth of any economy. South African companies have expertise and technology to offer in this area.
- The establishment of special economic zones (SEZs) and industrial parks in Angola is of particular interest to South African investors and provide potential for the expansion of trade and investment.
- Business welcomes the signing of the Memoranda on Industry and Commerce.

## Agriculture, Rural Development and Fishing

- Food security is a growing challenge for the region and the agriculture sector remains a strategic priority for South Africa and Angola.
- Investment and technical exchanges will enable both Angola and South Africa to move away from reliance on imported commodities and to strengthen the local production of food crops.
- There are opportunities for South African companies to assist in the development of the rural economy in Angola through the provision of inputs and the transfer of technology for the processing of agricultural products.
- The creation of stronger infrastructure through the identified corridors will assist in linking small-scale farmers in the region with commercial supply chains.
- South African industry has been invited to invest in the fisheries sector, including canning plants, to add value to the fish stocks of Angola.

## Transport, Public Works and Urbanisation

- A more advanced telecommunications network will not only benefit the Angolan economy but will also improve the overall investment climate. South African firms are in discussions to support the development of a 3G network and have been involved in the maintenance of the cellphone infrastructure in Angola.
- The programme for the reconstruction of infrastructure in Angola provides opportunities for a wide range of South African companies, including in the rebuilding of roads, bridges, municipal and public buildings.
- A number of South African civil engineers are already part of infrastructure developments that will contribute to the growth of the Angolan economy in the long-term and there is considerable expertise in South Africa that can be utilized in future projects.
- The South Africa – Angola Housing Initiative has been established to make a key contribution to the provision of low-cost housing. The struggle to provide adequate accommodation is a common one faced by both countries and we have much to learn through the exchange of experiences and technology.

- The Spatial Development Initiative (SDI) is fundamental to link South Africa with its neighbours to the west – Namibia and Angola. The SDI and other transport corridors provide scope for public-private partnerships as well as to make a significant contribution to improving the facilitation of economic linkages.

### Tourism, Sports and Culture

- Angola and South Africa are both blessed with the natural resources to ensure that tourism is an important source of economic growth and employment. The 37 protected areas and vast stretches of beaches in Angola provide opportunities to grow the eco and luxury tourism offerings. South African companies can provide services, training and investment to assist in this regard.
- Both countries will be hosting significant sporting events in 2010 with the African Cup of Nations in Angola and the FIFA Soccer World Cup later in the year in South Africa. Cooperation between the two countries could assist in ensuring both events are successful and that the greatest level of benefits will accrue to the region.
- The focus of sporting fans from across the world will be on Angola and South Africa in 2010. The media will play a key role in ensuring a positive image is conveyed and that the message is taken to as large an audience as possible.
- In conclusion, the South African delegation thanked the hosts and the Angolan business community for showing such warm hospitality. None of the opportunities described above will bear fruit unless the space is created to develop strong personal relationships between Angolan and South African business.
- The free movement of business people between the countries is a necessary pre-condition for the growth of the economic partnership. Angolan and South African business urges both governments to address the visa concerns expressed during the business forum.
- The private sector organizations of Angola and South Africa look forward to following up on the contacts that have been made in Luanda. South Africa hopes to reciprocate in the near future.