

MEDIA RELEASE PSA welcomes border infrastructure upgrade, calls for strict oversight and integrity

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) notes the announcement by the Border Management Authority (BMA), of the six bidders shortlisted for the demolition and reconstruction of six ports of entry, at an estimated cost of R12.5 billion. The PSA welcomes this long-overdue infrastructure upgrade, which is critical to enhancing border security, improving service delivery, and ensuring safer and more efficient working conditions for our members deployed at ports of entry.

Modern, well-resourced facilities are essential to support frontline public servants who play a vital role in safeguarding the country's borders and facilitating legitimate trade and travel. However, given the significant financial investment involved, the PSA cautions that it will closely monitor the procurement and implementation processes. The PSA remains committed to ensuring that public funds are utilised responsibly, transparently, and in a manner that delivers value to both the state and its citizens. Any signs of irregular, wasteful, or corrupt expenditure will be reported to the relevant oversight bodies without hesitation.

The PSA further calls on the Commissioner of the BMA to ensure the highest levels of integrity, accountability, and transparency throughout the project lifecycle. South Africa continues to grapple with widespread concerns about corruption in public procurement, as highlighted in findings of the Madlanga Commission. It is therefore imperative that this project does not become another example of mismanagement or abuse of public resources.

The PSA stands ready to support initiatives that strengthen state capacity and improve working conditions for public servants, while remaining vigilant in protecting the public purse.

END