



## **MCLI PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S NOTES – 6 AUGUST 2009**

1. It is an honour for me to open this event today and call everybody together to celebrate the achievements of our past 5 - almost 6 years.
2. At the onset I would like to make an urgent appeal to all present to complete the MCLI evaluation form and membership forms and to ensure it is given to an MCLI team member. This will ensure you are included in our 10 lucky draws at the end of the meeting and at the MCLI desk for new members – this feedback is extremely important for us to ensure we deliver on your expectations and address your concerns in this year that lies ahead.
3. The result of your responses will be analysed and posted to our website in order to ensure we as MCLI improve on our service delivery on our corridor.
4. We will also post all the addresses, contact details of all delegates as well as plenty of pictures onto the website and send out an e-mail early next week to inform you of the link.
5. I would also like to inform the media that a press pack with our speaker's addresses will be made available at the MCLI desk directly after this meeting.
6. When we were launched we realised our first task was going to be to work to turn the negative perceptions around the Maputo corridor, in order to get stakeholders to

work together to ensure we could with boldness promote the Maputo Corridor as first choice for the region's importers and exporters. At that stage we realised that there was still much work that needed to be done.

7. I recall the days when the lanes on the N4 were limited and not so safe to drive on, and a trip between Nelspruit and Maputo took almost a day, the rail link from the SA border into the port was almost non-existent with extremely limited capacity. I recall the days when we needed visas to cross the border and it was only open till 6 in the afternoon, which meant freight could only be processed from around nine to three daily with so few trucks that it did not seem to be a hassle or safety issue to have them at the border post. I recall coming to this port in the rainy season and thinking ....what on earth – this looks like a lake, with no vessel in sight and a lot of dilapidated buildings – not to mention the lack of equipment in the port. I recall the days when we as the private sector tried to engage with the public sector on these matter and it was almost impossible to secure a meeting! Then we had the nerve to say we needed to set up an institutional framework through which the private and public sectors could work together towards addressing these constraints in order to break the “chicken and egg” situation and to attract direct calling shipping lines to the port. We knew that together we could do more.
8. We have indeed come a very long way in a relatively short spell of time!
9. Now indeed we see the fruit of our labour with a rehabilitated safe road, rail network, port and terminals, a 24 hour One Stop Border Post in the making as well as direct container ships calling the port of Maputo and we are here today to celebrate this and to encourage all organisations who are not yet members of MCLI to join forces with us today. If you move goods, travel, holiday and trade on this corridor – you are a stakeholder and your corporate social responsibility is to support us to ensure this work continues. My personal passion is driven by the fact that at the end of the day an effective transport corridor, supports an enabling environment for further development, investment, trade and job creation and ultimately alleviating poverty. Each one of us here today can make a difference.

10. For those of you who were at our Gala launch on the 18th of February 2004 at the Hotel Polana, when we launched this Bi-lateral Initiative of Public Private partnership which was attended by more than 400 guests, you may recall that the late Governor Njamitete, after I delivered the inaugural address, said that he forecasted sustainability for our Initiative, because he has never seen a woman talk so long without needing to drink water and if that staying power was transferred into our initiative we should have a good future.

11. Well the bad news for you today, is that it is this same woman that will be directing the program today.....the good news is that I will not be doing the addresses, so you can relax and enjoy the esteemed speakers and event with us!

12. I would like, at this stage to express a warm word of welcome to the following:

- His Excellency the Minister of Transport and Communications in Mozambique, Mr Paulo Zucula,
- The Honourable Minister of Transport in South Africa, Mr Sbusiso Ndebele,
- Representatives of the Diplomatic Community
- Members of the Executive Councils of Provinces
- Mr Jorge Ferraz, Chairman of the Port of Maputo
- Our chairman from South Africa, Dr Mathews Phosa
- All our generous sponsors and donors for this event
- Honoured members, guests, ladies and gentlemen.

**13. I hereby declare that for the rest of this meeting all protocol is observed:**

14. I now ask Jorge Ferraz to welcome you our esteemed guests here in the Port of Maputo.

15. Jorge Ferraz is no stranger to this MCLI community. He was the first foundation and funding member of this Initiative, along with MMC, and also served a term as

chairman of our board. Since then, I am sure you know, many developments took place in this very exiting port environment of ours. At present Jorge wears many hats, from that of Managing Director at MIPS, to Chairman of the Board of MPDC to Caretaker CEO of the Port of Maputo with Ronnie Holzhausen of GRINDROD, while at the same time still retaining his passion for MCLI and the development of the Maputo Corridor and our region. So I believe it is appropriate for me to ask Jorge to welcome all our distinguished guests here in the Port of Maputo today.

16. Thank you very much Jorge

17. The Maputo Corridor is a true transport corridor, and hence we are very honoured today to have both the Mozambican and South African Ministers of Transport who will address us here today.

18. As protocol dictates, it is my pleasure to introduce to you the first of our keynote speakers today, the newly appointed South African Minister of Transport, Mr Sbusiso Ndebele.

19. It is greatly appreciated that he saw his way open to travel here and sacrifice close to two days out of his extremely busy schedule, in order to come and experience MCLI and the Maputo Corridor for himself and to endorse the work that we are doing.

20. Honourable Minister I want to assure you that the financial support and strategic participation at board level in MCLI, by your department has been one of our key success factors and we greatly appreciate this partnership. We are proud to have you here with us celebrating MCLI's 5th year anniversary in our port today and we trust that you will be invigorated and be an enthusiastic ambassador of our corridor in future.

21. Please put your hands together to welcome The Honourable Minister Sbu Ndebele, as he is fondly known, to address this gathering:

22. Thank you honourable minister for your words of acknowledgement, encouragement and support.

23. Now as you know, our next speaker is not 2nd best, it is merely protocol that dictates that since we are meeting here in Mozambique, His Excellency Minister Paulo Zucula do the follow up address:

24. Minister Zucula is no stranger to the Maputo Development Corridor – I remember so well when he was still heading up the SDI unit in South Africa, the day , late 2003, that I sat in front of him in his office at DBSA, very green (that was me not him)- with my humble sketch of constraints and stakeholders working together and not knowing where to start to raise funding and get this idea going. He was so excited and encouraging. His words to me were: “You bring us the exit strategy of the SDI program, namely for the users to take ownership and continue this drive to optimise the Maputo Development Corridor”.

Unfortunately he could not contribute to our operational costs, but committed to fund our first study, as he said it, to table our identified constraints on the corridor into a document that could be understood by the politicians – this became our launching pad. Later when His Excellency was appointed here in Mozambique as our Minister of Transport and Communication, and I visited him again he said: “Brenda, woman, what have you done on your corridor! You must help us to do the same on our other corridors!” What a memory!

25. Your Excellency your encouragement of that first meeting contributed to the birth of MCLI and it is a real honour for me to ask you to address this audience with I know, the same enthusiasm as then.

26. Ladies and gentleman, please put your hands together to welcome His Excellency Paulo Zucula, the Minister of Transport and Communication of the Republic of Mozambique.

27. Thank you honourable minister for your words of acknowledgement, encouragement and support.
28. It is now my privilege to invite all present to be witness of the 5th Annual General Meeting of the Maputo Corridor Logistics Initiative.
29. I am going to take the liberty of the Program director to turn the agenda around in order for us to complete the statutory requirements of our AGM and then to have our Chairman's address as the closing and cherry on the cake!
30. I would like to inform the chairman and meeting that we have the required quorum of members plus proxies present at the meeting and can declare the meeting as duly constituted.
31. The minutes of this meeting as well as the attendance register and list of apologies and proxies will be posted to the website for sake of good governance.
32. The minutes of the meeting of the 4th Annual General Meeting of May 29th, 2009, have been circulated to members and adopted by the board of directors as a true reflection of that meeting and I would like to call on two members present to move for the adoption of acceptance of these minutes as well as a member to second that. Kindly raise your hand and then identify yourself for record purposes. Thank you.
33. The full board of MCLI met this morning and also adopted the Audited Annual Financial Statements as well as budget for the next year and has requested our external auditor and partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers, Mr Andries Oosthuisen, to present and facilitate, on behalf of our chairman, the adoption of the Audited Annual Financial Statements for the period Ending February 2009 as well as the budget for the Year ending February 2010.
34. I now call on Andries Oosthuisen to come to the podium to present the Audited AFS

35. Thank you very much Andries – can we have a member to move for the adoption of the AAFS as well as the budget – can we have a member to second that.
36. The board has also resolved to recommend to this AGM to appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers for another year as the auditors of MCLI and we gladly accepted their highly subsidised fee of R11,000.
37. Can we have a member to move for the adoption of appointment of PWC for another year as the auditors of MCLI as well as the fee of R11,000.
38. Can we have a member to second that. Thank you
39. On behalf of the board and members of MCLI I would like to express our sincere appreciation to PWC for their unbiased approach to our audit, to HTS, our independent Accounting Firm as well as SOFTNET our internet service provider for securing such a high level of corporate governance in MCLI - at much reduced rates and for their commitment toward corporate social responsibility on our corridor – our partnerships are greatly appreciated.
40. Thank you very much Andries. With the statutory obligations delivered it is now my honour to invite our Chairman from SA Dr Mathews Phosa to the Podium.
41. While Dr Phosa is moving to the podium I wish to tender the apologies of Dr Antonio Matos, our Mozambique Chairman, who is currently in Europe. He extends his hearty well wishes from Europe to all of you.
42. Dr Phosa is fondly known on our corridor as the Father of our Corridor, and has shown unsurpassed passion and commitment since the inception of the Maputo Development Corridor and still daily dedicates some of his very valuable time to MCLI at NO cost, that in spite of his extremely important position as Treasurer General and member of the national Executive Council of The ANC as well as all his other very important commitments. A real pioneer and a man with a father heart for Africa.

43. I present to you our South African Chairman, Dr Mathews Phosa, to deliver his MCLI Chairman's address.
44. Thank you so much Dr Phosa.
45. It is now my privilege to ask Dr Phosa to present our distinguished speakers with a small token of appreciation and a memory of this milestone event.
46. I call on our Honourable Minister Sbu Ndebele, to receive our small token of appreciation
47. Followed by His Excellency Minister Paulo Zucula
48. And then our Chairman, Dr Mathews Phosa. Thank you so much your mentorship and guardian ship means the world to us and me personally.
49. Then a lady who literally has sweated blood, sweat and tears with us to make this event this huge success, Morven thank you so much! Is all I can say – you are a star and have been a real strength and support - and to all present - please make sure that you take her business card - she comes highly recommended from someone who has attended and presented many events!
50. Now, I want to ask you all to give a standing ovation to my small MCLI team.....who are simply amazing.....”Barbara, Ivor and Charisse (until recently) your are really passionately committed team members - well beyond the call of duty” – They have carried me through yet another year and daily supports me and our members as well as corridor stakeholders and have done such a wonderful job during the period of my ill health as well as my short sabbatical – not to even mention pulling this amazing event off today – I am sure you all agree with me – they are simply amazing!

51. The Port of Maputo Team also deserves a warm applause for making the impossible possible in order to host a celebration such as this – a huge thank you to Rui, Nigel, Ken, Fareeda, Luisa and all the other team members.
52. Thank you also to all the “volunteer team members” for the day – we appreciate your assistance as well as support before during and after the event.
53. Now the moment I am sure you have all been waiting for - our Promised Lucky Draw – 10 completed MCLI evaluation forms – will be drawn from the box and the lucky winners have to be here.
54. You will receive a beautiful colourful coffee table book on Mozambique to remind you of this MCLI 5th anniversary in the Port of Maputo – which was donated to us by the port of Maputo – thank you so much Jorge.
55. May I ask by show of hands for the last evaluation forms to be going into our lucky draw box, so that our team can collect them and add them to the box.
56. While the team is consolidating the final forms, it is a pleasure for me to thank each and every sponsor - as you see them well represented on our banners, communication and at their stands – their contributions has made this event possible. Thank you so much for putting your money where your mouth is and for entertaining us in such a unique manner.
57. Then to every other organisation, institute, member, participant and service provider who made this day possible through your participation– without your contribution this day could not have been.
58. Today here indeed - A clear demonstration of private and public sector organisations committed to work with us to ensure our corridor becomes first choice and is driven by supreme operational efficiency. Once again a huge thank you!

59. I would like to encourage you to continue your networking – visit the stands of the sponsors and optimise this opportunity to engage with your port, terminal, rail operators, transporters, agents, service providers, financial institutions and other users of our corridor and ensure that you go home with a handful of business cards and a commitment to follow up when you get back to your office – remember your next big deal may only be a handshake away.

60. Then especially for all our visitors from South Africa, we have arranged for you not to go home empty handed – please support the disabled workshop and buy some nuts and curios – you have a huge MCLI bag that you can fill with all your brochures, nuts, curios and coffee from Mozambique.

61. Morven please come and assist us to draw 10 completed event evaluation forms from this box

**The 10 lucky winners are:**

There will still be more lucky draws at the stands of which Barbara will announce so please ensure your business cards are in their boxes at their stands:

**Dana Tours**

**FPT**

**Grindrod terminals**

**Inyatsi**

**Rohlig Grindrod**

**Vodacom**

**MCLI from new membership applications (x3)**

62. And remember, please complete your MCLI membership application form (available at the MCLI desk) if you have not yet done so before – you simply cannot afford not to be part of this very exciting next phase of MCLI – we will have a lucky draw at the MCLI table from new membership applications at around 16:30 so please take your form there and be there for the lucky draw.

63. Please continue to network and to enjoy our MCLI and Port of Maputo - Mozambican hospitality here today or participate in the last of the port tours. And remember to keep on exchanging business cards.

64. On behalf of our two chairmen, our board and the MCLI team, I wish you safe travels – remember “Lights on” on our corridor save lives”.

**I THANK YOU.....TAKE CARE AND GOD BLESS!**