



**REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**  
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**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION**

**THE MCLI**  
**6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**OPENING SESSION**

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY Dr. EUSÉBIO SAÍDE THE VICE-MINISTER OF  
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION**

**Maputo, 29<sup>th</sup> of September, 2010**

MISTER REPRESENTATIVE OF SWAZI RAIL;

MISTER DIRECTOR OF PCA FROM MPDC;

MISTER ADMINISTRATOR OF CFM, E.P

ESTEEMED GUESTS AND DELEGATES,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

With great honour and pleasure I address this grand audience and express my sincere and profound gratitude for the decision made to hold the Annual General Assembly Meeting of MCLI in Maputo.

We welcome all guests and delegates who have come from different places in the region, wishing you all enjoy your stay and participation in this Meeting which has the objective of reflecting upon the usage of the development of logistics and infrastructure of the Maputo Corridor.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,  
ESTEEMED GUESTS

Allow me to convey the Mozambican Government's message to this meeting, which is that the Maputo Corridor be guaranteed the continued deserving highest priority for the country, given the vital importance this infra-structure has in the promotion of trade and trans-border investments, regional integration and economic cooperation.

To the Mozambican Government, the Maputo Corridor continues to be a development hub for many of our people who find their livelihood, not only as drivers of the fleets of vehicles along the border, but also in the circulation of people crossing the borders with the objective of carrying out various economic activities.

As a transport and trade route, the Maputo Corridor is crucial to our developing economy. This Corridor is an artery that feeds both countries and serves as an important example of facilitation in trade and trans-border investments, guaranteeing the flow of goods, acting as an agent of poverty reduction and guaranteeing economic benefits for both nations.

It is worrisome that the highest transport costs in the world occur in Africa, where people have lesser power of acquisition. When faced with such realities, the Maputo Corridor offers excellent infra-structure and a transport network which is being challenged to become the direct access point for local and regional business as well as business abroad.

For this reason, with regards to the crucial role the Corridor has, a lot still needs to be done in terms of sensitizing those who render services to the public. We must aim to guarantee reliability within the logistics chain, particularly when it comes to transit imports.

We are confident the programs Mozambique and South Africa have embarked on to modernize Customs, as well as the transition to a One Stop Shop System in Mozambique, will in some ways help resolve such inefficiencies.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN  
ESTEEMED DELEGATES

The Maputo Corridor Logistics Initiative will continue to have a crucial role in guaranteeing that the Maputo Corridor becomes competitive and of a world class standard, consolidating its functions to support regional integration, economic growth and the continued development of our region.

In this regard, it is important that the One Stop Border Post operates 24 hours a day which has been one of MCLI's objectives over the past few years. Such an example of uninterrupted functionality was noted during the 2010 FIFA World cup, an experience we need to value and maintain.

For this reason the Government wishes to continue to provide a favourable climate for the development of the Private Sector activity, working towards eliminating practices which prejudice the growth of the logistics chain, so that our region may be placed in a position of excellence in international trade operations and in order to guarantee regional integration and the economic growth of both countries.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN  
ESTEEMED DELEGATES

We are aware time availability can be scarce but we do expect improved usage of the Corridor and believe at the end of this time together we will have found further ways to make the use of our Port and transport infra-structure more effective, so that the services rendered on the Maputo Corridor are referred to as having an efficiency level comparable to that of the region and world.

With these words I pronounce the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Maputo Corridor Logistics Initiative now open.

Thank you for kind attention.

Maputo, 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2010