

Ensuring a corridor of choice

NELSPRUIT - The Maputo Corridor Logistics Initiative (MCLI) recently had the privilege of both attending and presenting at the CFM (the Mozambican Ports and Railways Company) and Swaziland Railways Goba Corridor train trip to the port of Maputo.

The trip started with an introductory session at the Royal Swazi Sun in Swaziland, hosted by Swazi Rail - one of the highly valued members of MCLI. This event was well attended by captains of the industry as well as the Mozambique High Commissioner in Swaziland, the CEO of the South African Reward Association (Sara) and senior staff members of both the rail operators.

The opening remarks and a presentation were delivered by the CEO of Swaziland Railways, Dr Gideon Mahlalela, informing the meeting of the extensive investment in the Goba rail line and its potential

importance to the economy of Swaziland. This was followed by a joint presentation by the executive director for CFM South Railways, Dr Joaquim Zucule and Mr Fernando Mause, who discussed the commitment and cooperation of the two railway partners to the Goba Rail Service to and from the port of Maputo.

Presentations were made by the financial director for the Matamata-Piako District Council, Mr Camilo Abdul.

He spoke about the recent developments in the port. His speech was followed by a presentation by the new business development manager for MIPS (Mozambique International Port Services), Mr Jan Bekker, who presented the container terminal capacity and cost savings in using the port as a preferred choice.

Ms Brenda Horne, CEO of the MCLI, delivered a presentation highlighting the



Ms Brenda Horne, chief executive officer of the Maputo Corridor Logistics Initiative.

institutional framework for public and private sector stakeholders to work together to ensure a corridor of choice. She encouraged participants to support to ensure it reached its full potential.

The concluding remarks were given by the director of operations and marketing for Swaziland Railways, Mr Stephenson Ngubane, who invited all guests to the rail trip from Mpaka to Maputo the following day.

The more than 120 participants in the rail trip, commented that their expectations were exceeded and that follow-up meeting would take place to look at potential cargo flows on this rail line to the port of Maputo.

MCLI looks forward to see increased cargo volumes on this extremely important corridor running into the Maputo Corridor and the port in Maputo.