

MEDIA ADVISORY

21 APRIL 2011

LAUNCH OF KRAFT PAPER FACTORY IN FRANKFORT

The communities of the Free State will descend on Frankfort in Phumelela Local Municipality to celebrate Freedom Day on the 27th April 2011. The day will be celebrated in a festive and carnival mood with the Free State Provincial Government giving further impetus to the initiative of job creation as espoused in the New Growth Path. Celebrating the day under the theme "Working Together to Unite the Nation, Promote Democracy and Protect Freedom", the people of the Free State will congratulate the small community of Namahadi with the launch of the Kraft Paper Factory in Frankfort.

Making this announcement during his budget speech, the MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, MEC Mxolisi Dukwana said, "We will use this platform to launch our onslaught on unemployment and poverty as this will create 1000 permanent jobs as well as 200 jobs during construction".

The Kraft Paper mill will be a world class facility with the latest technology and will have a catalyst effect on industrial and economic development in and around Frankfort. Initiated with a R48 million grant from the Department of Trade and Industry (dti) through the Employment Creation Fund, this investment will unlock a further R600m from the IDC for the packaging raw material facility in Frankfort. This will create further opportunities of the establishment of a central collection centre in and around Frankfort with a minimum turnover of R46, 875 million. This will have a positive and multiplier effect on entrepreneurial development, salaries, taxes, local purchases of goods and services support for local community initiatives and general development for the area.

The launch will be marked with a ground breaking ceremony at the Phumelela Industrial Park at 09:00 on the 27th April where the Free State Provincial Government and Phumelela Local Municipality will hand over the land to the FDC and its strategic partners to convert it into industrial land. The construction work will take between 18 to 24 months

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