



THE LEADERSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE MEETS WITH INFRASTRUCTURE SOUTH AFRICA (ISA)



By Fanisa Makhubela

"We cannot grow the economy without an infrastructure boom in this country." These are the words uttered by Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Dean Macpherson when he formally met with Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) at the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) headquarters in Johannesburg Gauteng on Friday, 12 July 2024.

The Minister, alongside Deputy Minister Sihle Zikalala and DG Sifiso Mdakane met with ISA to talk about the implementation of the National Infrastructure Plan while also discussing the future of infrastructure in South Africa. The meeting also served as a platform for Minister Macpherson to meet the ISA team that is led by Acting Head Ms. Mameetse Masemola.

Minister Macpherson reiterated his commitment to **turn South Africa into a massive construction site** in order to create jobs and support economic growth. He said he wants infrastructure to become the pride and place of economic growth in South Africa. "We cannot create jobs if we don't have a growing economy," he said. The Minister expressed his support for the ISA team, adding that the qualifications, experience and dedication that the team presented would continue to contribute towards the success of infrastructure in South Africa.

Deputy Minister Sihle Zikalala branded the meeting as a way of ensuring that as the 7th administration, they hit the ground running and ensure that the strategic vision of the Department is continuing and reviewed where necessary. During the discussions, the Deputy Minister said he had noticed the awarding of construction projects to nations out of the country. He questioned the skills that South Africans lack in the construction sector, saying that the industry should not fall in the trap of not affording South Africans a chance to carry out construction jobs that they are able to and qualified to perform.



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