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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **MINISTER DEAN MACPHERSON WELCOMES MAJOR STEPS BY INFRASTRUCTURE SOUTH AFRICA TO TURN SOUTH AFRICA INTO A CONSTRUCTION SITE**

- Public Works & Infrastructure Minister Dean Macpherson welcomes the two major steps by Infrastructure South Africa in the past week to accelerate infrastructure delivery.
- Last week, Infrastructure South Africa launched Bid Window II for project preparation support for public infrastructure projects, and today signed a landmark agreement with Afreximbank in Algeria to establish a Joint Project Preparation Facility.
- Minister Macpherson said these wins prove the importance of Infrastructure South Africa and the work they are doing, and the expanded role the entity could play in infrastructure delivery.

The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Dean Macpherson, welcomes the two major steps taken by Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) over the past week to accelerate infrastructure delivery and attract additional investment into South Africa's economy. ISA first launched the second bid window for project preparation last week, which will assist in ensuring that public projects are ready for implementation, and secondly today signed a framework with the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) to establish a Joint Project Preparation Facility.

The Bid Window II for project preparation support, launched by ISA on Thursday, enables National and Provincial departments, State-Owned Entities, public entities, and municipalities to apply for funding that will prepare projects to become bankable and ready for implementation. Building on the success of Bid Window I, which culminated in the unveiling of the Top 7 infrastructure initiatives at the Sustainable Infrastructure Development Symposium South Africa (SIDSSA) earlier this year, Bid Window II will provide financial, technical, legal, and governance support to qualifying projects.

Meanwhile, the landmark Framework Agreement signed between ISA and the Afreximbank in Algeria on Monday will establish a Joint Project Preparation Facility (JPPF). Afreximbank has committed USD 5 million (roughly R87 million) to this collaboration, which will focus on advancing projects in critical sectors such as energy,

transport and logistics, and digital infrastructure. The JPPF brings together Afreximbank's financial expertise and ISA's strategic oversight to accelerate the preparation of high-quality, bankable projects that can unlock investment, stimulate growth, and close South Africa's infrastructure gap.

Minister Macpherson congratulated ISA's acting head, Mameetse Masemola, on implementing these measures as they will strengthen South Africa's project pipeline and help crowd in funding from Development Finance Institutions and private investors. He said these wins prove the importance of Infrastructure South Africa and the work they are doing, and the expanded role the entity could play in infrastructure delivery to help turn the country into a construction site, which will help grow the economy and create jobs.

"These two steps taken by Infrastructure South Africa represent an important move to turn our country into a construction site. Bid Window II will ensure that more projects are properly prepared, de-risked, and ready to attract investment, while the Joint Project Preparation Facility with Afreximbank is a vote of confidence in South Africa's infrastructure programme and its potential to drive economic growth and job creation," Minister Macpherson said.

"I want to commend ISA and our partners for taking these bold actions to ensure that South Africa has a credible, bankable, and investment-ready pipeline of infrastructure projects. This is how we will get shovels in the ground, stimulate economic growth, and create thousands of jobs for our people."

## **Enquiries**

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