

CABINET STATEMENT

on the Special Cabinet meeting of 13 May 2026 and Cabinet meeting of 3 June 2026.

ISSUES IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Tourism growth, expanded air transport and tourist safety measures

Cabinet welcomed the strong performance of the tourism sector, which according to Statistics South Africa's International Tourism Report, recorded 989 329 tourist arrivals in April 2026. This marks the highest monthly year-on-year growth ever recorded, reflecting South Africa's enduring appeal as a global tourism destination. To sustain this momentum, government is expanding international air connectivity. Recently, LATAM Airlines brought forward the launch of its three weekly direct flights between São Paulo and Cape Town to July 2026, ahead of its original September schedule. In addition, on 24 June 2026, Air Europa launched its direct flight between Madrid and Johannesburg which will strengthen connectivity with Europe and support growth across the tourism and hospitality sectors. The rise in tourism arrivals coincides with a reported drop in crime statistics in key categories and faster turnaround times by law enforcement to resolve criminal cases.

Celebrating Telkom's outstanding financial and operational performance

Cabinet congratulated Telkom, a majority government-owned company, for its strong financial and operational performance for the financial year ended 31 March 2026. Telkom's achievements include the support of 362 SMMEs through R593 million procurement opportunities, the

creation of 74 114 jobs through the SMME development programme and the training of 1 524 unemployed youth through ICT learnerships. In addition, Telkom's subscriber base exceeded two million.

Government will receive approximately R559 million in dividend income (excluding dividends to other government-owned shareholder entities). This income will support the state's developmental priorities and public service delivery. Cabinet further acknowledged the role the company plays in bridging the digital divide and supporting economic growth and inclusion. Cabinet is confident that Telkom, under the leadership of Group CEO Mr Serame Taukubong and the Board of Directors will continue operating effectively in a challenging economic environment.

Fight against illicit drug syndicates

Cabinet commended the Border Management Authority, the Hawks, SAPS K9 units and other law enforcement agencies involved in the intelligence-driven operation of a drug consignment worth nearly R1 billion at the Beitbridge Port of Entry. The operation on 27 May 2026 led to the interception of a truck travelling through Zimbabwe into South Africa. An extensive physical search uncovered approximately 713 kilograms of methaqualone, commonly known as ABBA, a substance widely used to manufacture Mandrax. Furthermore, Cabinet commended the South African Police Service for arresting 11 suspects,

including four Mexican nationals, following the discovery of a multimillion-rand drug manufacturing laboratory on a farm in Swartruggens in the North-West Province.

SA supporting the continental fight against Ebola

Cabinet supported the country's pledge of US\$5 million to a US\$319 million continental preparedness and response plan following the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda. Although the World Health Organisation has declared the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, there is currently no immediate threat to South Africa. Ebola is not endemic to South Africa and human-to-human transmission occurs through direct contact with the bodily fluids of an infected, symptomatic person.

SA-Botswana Bi-National Commission

South Africa and Botswana successfully concluded the sixth Bi-National Commission (BNC) during President Cyril Ramaphosa's recent two-day State Visit to Botswana. The BNC reaffirmed the long-standing bilateral relations between the two countries and advanced cooperation in areas such as science, technology, innovation, trade, tourism and regional development. The BNC culminated in the signing of four new bilateral instruments aimed at advancing sustainable economic growth and regional integration; this is in addition to the 28 legal instruments



R82 BILLION TRADE RELATIONSHIP

South Africa is Botswana's biggest trading partner. Trade reaching R82 billion in 2025

#SABotswanaBNC #StrongerTogether

that are already being implemented.

The four new bilateral instruments include: A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on the Joint Management of Water Quality and Aquatic Invasive Species in the Upper Limpopo River Basin; An agreement on the Co-ordination of Aeronautical Search and Rescue Services; An agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Energy; and A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on Cooperation in the Field of Correctional and Prison Services.

Kenya State Visit to South Africa

President Cyril Ramaphosa hosted President William Ruto of the Republic of Kenya on a State Visit from 3 to 5 June 2026. The State Visit advanced trade, investment and cooperation resulting in the signing of six agreements at the Union Buildings in Tshwane. The signed agreements relate to: Facilitation of Trade through Cooperation in the Areas of Standardisation, Technical Regulation, Conformity Assessment, Accreditation, Metrology; Shipping and Maritime Cooperation; Technical

and Vocational Education and Training; Promotion of Partnership on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment; Arts, Culture & Heritage; and Sports & Recreation.

The State Visit included a Business Forum consisting of representatives of the private sectors of South Africa and Kenya, where participants shared business experiences and insights and explored opportunities to expand bilateral trade and investment.

Deputy President's working visit to India

Deputy President Paul Mashatile undertook a working visit to New Delhi, India. The visit strengthened cooperation in multilateral forums such as the UN, BRICS and G20. It also enhanced collaboration in trade, investment, research and technology transfer while supporting small enterprises. The Deputy President participated in a bilateral meeting with Vice President Shri Chandrapuram Ponnusami Radhakrishnan, and paid a courtesy call on Her Excellency Smt. Droupadi Murmu, President of the Republic of India.

CABINET DECISIONS

Comprehensive approach to managing migration in South Africa

Cabinet approved a comprehensive approach to managing migration in South Africa, developed by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Migration. Cabinet also approved the National Action Plan Country Report on Migration in South Africa. The President has addressed the nation on the approach to migration.

Revised Industrial Development Strategy (IDS)

Cabinet approved the Revised Industrial Development Strategy. Developed through consultation, the strategy focuses on industrialisation that promotes the growth of South Africa's economy. The strategy supports the policy priorities of the 7th Administration and is anchored in three key pillars to drive industrial growth and transformation, namely decarbonisation, digitalisation and diversification. The IDS prioritises the protection of critical sectors such as

steel, automotive, manufacturing and mining. It also promotes expansion in future growth areas including agro-processing, the digital economy and the green economy. The strategy also targets sectors with strong potential for economic growth and job creation, especially for young people, including tourism and global business services. The IDS is expected to create thousands of jobs each year, with a strong focus on skills development and preparing unemployed people for high-demand sectors such as renewable energy and manufacturing. A Committee of Ministers, chaired by the President, will oversee the implementation of the strategy to ensure coordinated delivery and impact. The full document is available on the dtic website: www.thedtic.gov.za.

Closure of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project (GFIP)

Cabinet approved SANRAL's closure of the GFIP, including the orderly resolution of OUTA

Managing Migration Together

Our plan to tackle illegal migration

- Crack down on violations of immigration and labour laws
- Secure our borders
- Strengthen our immigration system
- Close the gaps in our laws and policies
- Work with other countries in Africa

litigation, the treatment of any residual litigation exposure, and the closure of all matters associated with the historical recovery of e-toll debt. This follows the government's decision to discontinue the electronic tolling system on the GFIP, which took effect on 12 April 2024. Cabinet noted the recommendations made by SANRAL to write off debt owed by road users who did not pay, that National Treasury would service this debt, and that the road users who paid tolls would not be refunded because this was the law at the time.

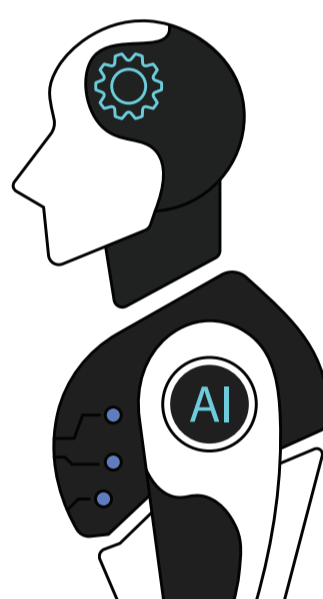
Bi-annual progress reports on the Medium-Term Strategic Framework

Cabinet received and considered the bi-annual progress reports on the implementation of the 2024-2029 Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP) for the period October 2025 to March 2026. The reports provide an overview of departmental performance against government's national priorities, highlighting key achievements, progress made and implementation challenges. Cabinet noted strong progress in the implementation of the MTDP

across key priorities. The Minister for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, together with the Chairpersons of Cabinet Clusters, will provide further details on the bi-annual progress reports for October 2025 to March 2026. GCIS will provide the details of the briefing.

Withdrawal of the Draft Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

Cabinet approved the withdrawal of the draft AI policy, which was published for public comment in March 2026. The withdrawal will allow the revision of the AI policy to ensure it achieves its intended goals and that it establishes national standards on the ethical use of AI.



BILL

Repeal of Certain Pre-1994 Justice Laws Bill, 2026

Cabinet approved the submission of the Repeal of Certain Pre-1994 Justice Laws Bill, 2026 to Parliament for further consideration. The Bill seeks to review and repeal outdated colonial and apartheid-era legislation that is no longer aligned with the values of the democratic constitutional order and no longer serves a practical purpose. Once finalised by Parliament, the Bill will repeal 149 apartheid-era justice laws that had remained in force and operation during the democratic era. The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development has already started working on additional apartheid-era justice laws for their repeal.

UPDATES TO CABINET

Hosting of the SADC Summit 2026

Cabinet received a briefing on South Africa's preparations to host the 46th Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit from 16 to 17 August 2026. The summit will mark the beginning of South Africa's 12-month tenure as Chair of SADC. A SADC Foreign Ministers' Retreat was held from 22 to 24 May 2026 in Skukuza, Mpumalanga, where delegates discussed strategies to strengthen regional cooperation. The retreat deliberated on five thematic areas, namely Financing Regional Integration, Investment, Public Debt Management and Domestic Revenue Mobilisation, Industrialisation, Value Chains and Trade; Infrastructure, Transport and Logistics and the Free Movement of People, Goods and Services; Energy, Oil and Gas and Mineral Resources; and Agriculture, Agricultural Inputs, Supply Chains, Markets and Food Security, and identified priority measures for collective action.

Hosting the SADC Summit and assuming the role of Chair are critical as they will enable South Africa to lead regional structural economic transformation, drive industrialisation, and boost both political and economic integration across the region.

The National Conventional Arms Control (NCACC) Annual and 1st Quarter reports

Cabinet received a report on the NCACC 2025 annual report as well as the 2026 first quarterly report on authorised transfers of conventional arms. For the year ended December 2025, the NCACC approved 582 munitions export permits to the value of R10 billion, 197 registration certificates, and 183 contracting permits amounting to R41 billion. Munitions import permits approved totalled 366 at the value of R269 million while 132 Dual-Use Export Permits valued at R600 Million were approved during the period. South Africa imported R269 million worth of equipment.

The report further notes that, in 2025, 5% more companies were registered when compared to 2024.

Rationalisation of courts

Cabinet was briefed on the work done to rationalise the areas of jurisdiction of the Divisions of the High Court. Cabinet supported the implementation of the immediate recommendations of the Rationalisation Committee regarding the magisterial districts and sub-districts over which the main and local seats of the Divisions of the High Court will exercise jurisdiction. This is intended to enhance access to justice and supports the phased approach to increasing judicial posts to address capacity constraints within the judiciary, as well as the establishment of additional local seats in identified divisions. Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development Mmamoloko Kubayi will provide further details on this matter. GCIS will provide details of the briefing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Launch of Lenacapavir roll-out

President Ramaphosa, supported by Health Minister Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, launched the rollout of Lenacapavir, a groundbreaking HIV prevention injection, administered twice a year. The launch took place on 5 June 2026 at the Lilian Ngoyi Stadium in Secunda, Mpumalanga. The intervention expands HIV prevention options, especially for people who struggle to take daily oral PrEP. The rollout forms part of South Africa's combination HIV prevention strategy aimed at reducing new infections and improving quality of life.

Youth Month

This month South Africa marks the 50th anniversary of the 1976 Soweto Uprisings, a powerful reminder of the immense sacrifice of our young people in the struggle for freedom, justice and equality. To honour the enduring legacy of the Class of 1976, Youth Month will be commemorated under the theme "RESET@50 - The Future Calls". In celebration of the milestone, government will roll out a year-long programme aimed at linking the struggle for liberation with today's youth empowerment efforts. The programme will focus on equal education, inclusive economic participation, skills development, and active citizenship. Cabinet calls on all sectors of society to partner with govern-

ment on interventions that drive youth employment, boost entrepreneurship and restore hope to young people. Through these collaborative efforts, the nation will continue to strengthen youth participation in nation-building and economic transformation.

Celebrating the Milestones of Freedom

Government will launch the Milestones of Freedom Campaign under the theme "Honouring the Past, Delivering the Future" on 18 June 2026 at the Union Buildings. Cabinet will support the launch of the 70th commemoration of the 1956 Women's March that forms part of the National Milestones of Freedom events, marking the beginning of a national programme of activities commemorating the historic milestones.

Commemorative circulation coins

Cabinet approved the reverse designs of the commemorative circulation coins that will be issued by the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) in 2026 under the education theme. The series will include R2 coins commemorating the 125th anniversary of the graduation of struggle stalwart Charlotte Maxeke, the first black South African woman to obtain a university degree. Commemorative R2 coins will also be issued by the SARB to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1976 Soweto Uprisings, the 30th anniversary of the

50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1976 YOUTH UPRISINGS Commemoration

16 JUNE 2026
10:00 - 12:00
FNB Stadium Open Field
Nasrec, Johannesburg

Our National Commitment to the Future, for Freedom Lives in Every Generation.

Constitution of South Africa, and the 70th anniversary of the 1956 Women's March to the Union Buildings. In addition, R5 coins will feature the symbols on the R2 coins. These commemorations highlight the role of education in advancing constitutional values and promoting inclusive social and economic participation.

2026 Local Government Elections Voter Registration Weekend

Cabinet reminds all eligible voters to register for the upcoming

Local Government Elections on 4 November 2026.

The first voter registration weekend is taking place on Saturday, 20 June 2026, and Sunday, 21 June 2026. Voters are encouraged to register at their nearest voter registration centre, at their local Electoral Commission offices during working hours or by visiting registertovote.elections.org.za.

Citizens are reminded that they can only vote where they have registered and can also locate their closest voting station at maps.elections.org.za/vsfinder.

Cabinet calls on young people, in particular, to shape the future of their communities by participating in the elections.

SASSA cards

Cabinet urges all social grant beneficiaries using SASSA Gold Cards to replace them with the new Postbank Black Cards before the deadline of 31 August 2026. The replacement process is free of charge and can be completed at designated Postbank service points in participating retail outlets nationwide.

MESSAGES

Condolences

Cabinet expresses condolences to the friends and family of:

- Respected journalist **Baldwin Ndaba**, whose distinguished career spanned across several publications over many years. He will be remembered for his love for our country, his professionalism and commitment to the truth.
- Ma Griet Margaret Messelaar**, the matriarch of the Griqua Royal House, who passed away at the age of 106. She will be remem-

bered as an advocate for the Griqua language and heritage, as well as for her immense dignity and wisdom.

Dina and Ernest Marais, the couple who were killed in Kruger National Park. Cabinet commends the SAPS and other law enforcement agencies for the speedy arrest of the suspects in these murders.

Congratulations

Cabinet extends its congratulations and well wishes to:

- The national soccer team

Bafana Bafana as they represent the country at the 2026 FIFA World Cup in the United States. Cabinet wishes the team strength, unity and success on the world stage. Make the nation proud!

Mamelodi Sundowns (Masandawana, Kabo Yellow) on being crowned the 2026 CAF champions. The team has made our nation proud on the continental stage, once again demonstrating their status as a true powerhouse in African football.

Orlando Pirates (The Buccaneers, Ezimnyama Ngenkani) on being crowned the 2026 PSL champions.

Iconic South African DJ Black Coffee for his sold-out performance at London's 20 000-capacity The O2 Arena, becoming the first DJ from Africa to achieve this feat. Black Coffee has brought South African dance music to global mainstream audiences. He has played at iconic venues like Ibiza, Coachella and Madison Square Garden.

Issued on behalf of Cabinet by:
Minister in the Presidency, Ms Khumbudzo Ntshavheni

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SOUTH AFRICA YAMA SHOKI 2024/25