

TRANSCENDING BORDERS

The official Publication of the
Cross-Border Road Transport Agency
January 2019



The C-BRTA champions the eradication of obstacles impacting on the flow of goods across Southern Africa borders



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VISION

The champion of free-flowing Inter-State operations.

MISSION

We spearhead the unimpeded flow of Inter-State operations thereby facilitating sustainable social and economic development.

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FROM THE CEO'S DESK



Dear Readers

As we begin the last quarter of the Cross Border Road Transport Agency (C-BRTA)'s financial year and the beginning of 2019, let me welcome you to the second instalment of the Transcending Borders publication.

2018 was a significant year for the C-BRTA as we celebrated our 20th anniversary in the same year as the commemoration of 100 years since the birth of two of our two struggle icons Mama Sisulu and Tata Mandela. This milestone offered us an opportunity to reflect on what we have achieved since our establishment in 1998 to where we are currently and also what we aim to achieve going forward. One of the key achievement that we executed in the latter part of 2018, was a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Road Transport Union which will serve to boost the efficiency of international road transport in Southern Africa and put in place frameworks for regulating access to the regional transport market, to read more on this MoU go to page 2.

You will also read about our participation in the SADC Ministers for ICT, Information, Transportation and Meteorology Meeting, wherein the Cross-Border Road Transport Regulators Forum (C-BRTRF) Strategy and Action Plan, which the C-BRTA Chairs, was commended. We also held our bilateral meetings with the Democratic Republic of Congo and Eswatini to address challenges faced by operators on the different corridors. As the champions in facilitating the free flow of goods and persons in the region, the C-BRTA strives to ensure that we have a seamless working relationship with our stakeholders in both

the public and private sector. It is to this end that we hosted a Consultative Stakeholder Forum which serves to strengthen our relationship with stakeholders, more on this forum is on page 7

While on the issue of executing our mandate, this cannot be achieved without the dedication of the C-BRTA staff members and staff appreciation, an area in which I take pride. In 2018, we hosted the second Annual Performance Awards. This was a bigger and better event, which aimed to recognize exemplary staff members who demonstrated a dedicated commitment to the pursuit of excellence, this event was also special because we conferred the Albertina Sisulu award to two deserving employees.

In this edition of Transcending Borders you will find informative stories around our activities and interventions in the industry in the form of workshops, key meetings, gender appreciation and staff community activity.

I trust you will enjoy reading the Transcending Borders publication and your feedback matters as it will enable us to improve on this publication.

Wishing You a Prosperous 2019.

Regards,

Siphon Khumalo

CEO: Cross-Border Road Transport Agency

The C-BRTA signs a MoU with the International Road Transport Union (IRU)



The C-BRTA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Road Transport Union to cooperate on ensuring an efficient cross border transport. More to this to further explore the implementation of the Transport Internationalax Routiers (TIR) system, which will boost the efficiency of international road transport in Southern Africa and put in place frameworks for regulating access to the regional transport market. The Trans-Kalahari Corridor, which links Gauteng, the Province around South Africa's main manufacturing hub – Johannesburg, with markets in Namibia and Botswana, and the port of Walvis Bay in Namibia has been highlighted for possible TIR pilot operations.

Through this MoU the two institutions will establish a framework for cooperation in the area of road transport which aims to reduce obstacles to the movement of goods by road in Southern Africa. At this signing ceremony Umberto de Pretto, IRU Secretary General said, "Some of the world's highest trade costs can be found in Africa and IRU is working to support governments and the private sector to reduce these costs." In his statement Siphso Khumalo, the C-BRTA CEO mentioned that "this is the beginning of a relationship that will be beneficial to both parties and I look forward to working together with the International Road Transport Union on various cross border road transport initiatives with a view to improving the flow of goods across the Southern Africa borders"

Scope of Cooperation

- a. To collaborate on the possible implementation of TIR in cross-border corridors in Southern Africa;
- b. The C-BRTA to lead on facilitation of discussions with relevant Southern African stakeholders in order to obtain buy in and support for TIR;
- c. IRU to provide advisory and technical support on:
 - training and sensitisation on all aspects related to accession to the TIR Convention, and implementation of the TIR Convention;
 - leveraging TIR to achieve the objectives of the Linking Africa Plan (LAP) being championed by the C-BRTA;
 - enhancing the Operator Compliance Accreditation Scheme being championed by the C-BRTA by developing synergies with the TIR system;

- the SADC established Cross Border Road Transport Regulators Forum – currently chaired by South Africa (C-BRTA); and
 - Training on implementing OCAS and the MCBRTA, training of regulators, training of CBTRTF members through workshops.
- d. With respect to the TIR Convention, the C-BRTA will be the vehicle to setting up mechanisms for exploring the opportunity for driving TIR implementation in the SADC region;
 - e. At the level of SADC region, the cross-border road transport regulators forum would be engaged with a view to partner with IRU e.g. in setting up the capacity building institution for SADC. Such activities would build on IRU's experience of best practices elsewhere in Africa and throughout the globe;
 - f. CBRTA and IRU will jointly compile a programme of action that is built on the experiences of IRU. The programme of action will then be discussed at the CBTRTF;
 - g. the establishment of the National/ Regional Transport Training Academy;

Overview of the IRU

The IRU is the global industry association for road transport, driving the sustainable mobility of people and goods throughout the world. IRU is active in over 100 countries, with members ranging from national goods transport associations, chambers of commerce, major road transport service providers and manufacturers, through to key stakeholders in the collective passenger transport by road sector.

About the TIR

The TIR is a globally applicable international customs transit system, underpinned by the United Nations TIR Convention. It enables goods to be shipped from a country of origin, through transit countries, to a country of destination using a single customs guarantee and harmonised documentation and information exchange that is accepted in all countries that are parties to the Convention. Its objective is to cut the cost and time of moving goods across borders, whilst also providing Customs with a secure guarantee for the revenue owing, should the goods be diverted in transit.



transport

Department:
Transport
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



C-BRTA Cross-Alive 2018 Road Safety programme

South Africa continues to experience a high number of road carnages despite efforts set out to combat the scourge. These road carnages are exceptionally high during the festive period due to increased traffic volumes in the major routes resulting in increased traffic risk incidents. These risk areas require resolute intervention strategies aimed at increasing road safety awareness and education. It is to this end that the C-BRTA hosted the Minister of Transport, Dr Bonginkosi Nzimande at the 2018 Cross-Alive Road Safety Campaign programme, a C-BRTA's flagship project that aims to educate and create awareness on road safety issues which took place at the Beitbridge border post in Musina, Limpopo province, the busiest commercial port of entry into South Africa. The Minister, who did a walkabout of the Beitbridge border post, was accompanied by the Deputy Minister of Police Bongani Mkongi and the Deputy Minister of Small Enterprises Cassel Mathale.

During his walkabout, the Minister, noted the need to upgrade the current infrastructure at BeitBridge so as to ensure quick passage of vehicles and pedestrians.

"There are quite a number of challenges like these cars that are supposed to be in transition, but also a number of pedestrians who cross mainly from Zimbabwe side to come and buy in South Africa. It is a lot of people and this requires a huge infrastructure from government if we are going to properly manage our border post so we really need to pay attention," said the Minister.

The CBRTA partnered with other law enforcement authorities such as the South African Police Service (SAPS), the South African National Defence Force (SANDF), South African Revenue Service (SARS), Zimbabwe Vehicle Inspectorate Division, Malawi Road Traffic and Safety Services, the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC), Road Traffic Infringement Agency (RTIA), Road Accident Fund (RAF), South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL), Musina Provincial and local Traffic Police, the Department of Home Affairs as well as the National Traffic Police with a key objective of promoting road safety to all road users.

C-BRTA engages with the South West Gauteng College on a Knowledge Seminar

The C-BRTA hosted a Knowledge Seminar at the South West Gauteng College (SWGEC), Soweto Campus on the role of transport in boosting intra-Africa Trade and Industrialization. Attended by students and lecturers in the field of transport and logistics, this Knowledge Seminar, offered an opportunity for students to get a thorough understanding of cross border transport and its role and impact in the socio-economic development of countries in Southern Africa.

Lecturers who were in attendance, expressed their gratitude and indicated that this was an opportunity to boost the morale of students. They further requested frequent engagements with the C-BRTA where they can also be exposed to the operations of the Agency in the cross border road transport industry.



The SWGC George Tabor Campus, has about 150 students in the field of Transport and Logistics and this engagement paved the way for a further collaboration between the C-BRTA and the SWGC on research and developments in the cross border road transport industry.



C-BRTA Participates in the SADC Ministers for ICT, Information, Transportation and Meteorology Meeting

On September 27th 2018, a C-BRTA delegation led by the CEO, Sipho Khumalo attended the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministers for Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), Public Information, Transport and Meteorology meeting that took place in Windhoek, Namibia.

Hosted by the Government of the Republic of Namibia, this meeting, was attended by Ministers or their representatives from Angola, Botswana, Comoros, DRC, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The objective of this meeting was to deliberate on several issues of importance to the region in the four sectors in relation to Infrastructure in support of regional integration.

The SADC Ministers noted the progress on the implementation of the Tripartite Transport and Transit Facilitation Programme (TTTFP) which is assisting Member States to harmonise road transport laws, policies, regulations, systems and standards, and approved their programmes. The TTTFP is assisting with preparations to enable legislation to give effect to the provisions of the Vehicle Load Management Agreement and the Multilateral Cross Border Road Transport Agreement.

The SADC Ministers further noted the Cross-Border Road Transport Regulators Forum (C-BRTRF) Strategy and Action Plan, which seeks to identify and mitigate causes to Africa's triple challenges, namely the poor intra-continental transport system performance, the low levels of intra-Africa trade and stagnant industrialisation levels. Interventions to these challenges are anchored in the C-BRTA's Linking Africa Plan.

The recommendations of the Senior Officials meeting position the C-BRTA's Linking Africa Plan as a key pillar in the operationalisation of the C-BRTRF, a structure of the SADC region's cross-border road transport regulatory authorities.

The C-BRTA has been tasked to continue championing efforts toward the implementation of interventions and reforms that respond to the identified causes, with the Regulatory Practice Harmonisation agenda as a critical identified intervention.

The meeting was an affirmation of the C-BRTA's notable contribution toward the integration of the SADC region through the regulation of international road transport.

Cross Border Road Transport address Challenges on Different Transport Corridors



The C-BRTA regularly engages various route committees on matters pertaining to cross-border routes and related issues. It is in this light that the C-BRTA hosted two Joint Route Management Group (JRMG) and Joint Committee (JC) meetings with (1) Eswatini from the 25 to 26th of October 2018 in Pretoria and with (2) the Democratic Republic of Congo from 1st to 2nd of November 2018 in Pretoria.

30 passenger operators from both Eswatini and South Africa attended the Eswatini and South Africa JRMG meeting to engage on matters that affect these operators on the Eswatini South Africa route. Matters raised amongst others, focused on the establishment of the one stop border post at Oshoek border post and illegal cross operations between the two countries.

Matters raised at The Democratic Republic of Congo and South Africa JRMG that took place on the 1st of November 2018 amongst others focused on Visa requirements for DRC drivers, Law enforcement procedures and harmonisation of Regulatory requirements. About 20 cross border operators from both countries attended this meeting to highlight matters that affect these operators on the Democratic Republic of Congo South Africa route.

JRMGs, play a significant role in enabling the Agency to facilitate partnerships with SADC member states. These partnerships, serve to enhance the efficiency of the cross-border road transport agency as enshrined in the SADC Protocol on Transport, Communication and Meteorology in the

Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

Article 3.2, paragraph (a) of the protocol states that in supporting Road Transport Route Management Groups, “Member states shall apply the following principles, the right of freedom of transit for persons and goods” and paragraph (e) “the right of individual Member State to negotiate access and freedom of transit rights consistent with the principles in the Protocol, while negotiating the individual needs of Member States may require specific bilateral agreements”.

The JC meeting, follows directly after the JRMG. This meeting, which comprised of officials representing mainly Transport, Immigration, Customs, Trade and Industry, Environmental Affairs and Police Departments of South Africa and Eswatini was held on the 26th of October. The South Africa and Democratic Republic of Congo JC, was on the 2nd of November 2018. This meeting offers a platform for the officials to deliberate and make decisions on matters that were raised at the JRMG meeting by the operators.

The C-BRTA, regularly hosts JRMGs and JCs with other countries in Southern Africa who have signed bilateral and Multi-lateral agreements with South Africa in relation to cross-border road transport. The objective of these engagements is to facilitate transportation and trade in the SADC region, therefore fulfilling the mandate of the region as prescribed in the Protocol.

C-BRTA AWARDING STAR PERFORMERS



C-BRTA ANNUAL
PERFORMANCE
Awards
2018
RECOGNISING and REWARDING TOP ACHIEVERS



In its second year running, the Cross-Border Road Transport Agency (C-BRTA) held its annual Staff Performance awards on August 24th, to recognize exemplary employees who demonstrated a commitment to the pursuit of excellence and a level of performance that exceeds the values and standards of the C-BRTA. Established in 1998, 2018 marks the 20th Anniversary of the C-BRTA which is the same year as the centenary of the former President, Tata Nelson Mandela and ANC stalwart Mama Albertina Sisulu.



Deputy Minister of Transport, Honorable Sindisiwe Chikunga, in delivering the keynote address, encouraged participants to emulate the noble values of service by these two struggle icons and commit to giving themselves in mobilising all sectors of society to act against gender-based violence and discrimination in all its forms. The Minister, further emphasized the principle observed by Tata Nelson Mandela that what counts in life is not the mere fact that we lived, it is what difference we have made to the lives of others that determines the significance of the life we lead.

Minister Chikunga also alluded to the commendable growth of the agency “For those of us who witnessed the evolution of the C-BRTA, who were part of the journey of seeing this Agency emerge from a sorry state, once characterised as a sinking ship, to an entity that the South African government can be justly proud of! We say to you: Congratulations for a job well executed.”

In honour of the Albertina Sisulu’s theme of “A woman of fortitude”, the Albertina Sisulu Award was presented to two employees who demonstrated a high level of strength, power, audacity and resilience in overcoming their personal challenges.



The C-BRTA CEO, Sipho Khumalo noted that Mama Sisulu’s selfless sacrifice should never be forgotten and the C-BRTA should pledge to ease the burdens carried by women in the establishment of cross-border road transport businesses. “We should in her name ensure that financial institutions across the region are geared towards lowering the costs of funds for women businesses in road transport. In the name of this leader and stalwart, let us commit to reducing taxes and tariffs for women-run cross-border transport businesses in both freight and passenger transportation.”

The C-BRTA made a donation of R10 000 to the Albertina Sisulu Foundation in recognition of its strides.

Strengthening and Improving Relationships with Stakeholders



The success of the C-BRTA in executing its mandate depends on the continuous maintenance of excellent working relations with its multiple stakeholders at all levels in both the private and public sectors. These relationships in one way or the other contribute to the reduction of cross border constraints and improvement of the flow of cross-border traffic across borders.

Consultative Stakeholder forums, which were established as per the Cross Border Act 4 of 1998 and stipulates under Part 7 section 36, the requirement to develop and maintain appropriate stakeholder consultative networks and establish appropriate stakeholder consultative forums, are conducted quarterly and strive to engage stakeholders who firstly fall into the categories of all levels of State Departments or Agencies and the three spheres of government being, national, provincial and local. Secondly, the entities that play a key role in the cross border value chain.

The C-BRTA, held a Consultative Stakeholder Forum on September 12th 2018 and had in attendance and amongst others representatives from The Departments of Home Affairs, Trade and Industry, Environmental Affairs and Tourism and the South African Revenue Service, Bojanala District Municipality, Free State Provincial Department of Transport, Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport, Eastern Cape Department of Transport, City of Tshwane, SABS, RSR, SALGA, Limpopo Department of Transport, Matatiele Local

Municipality, City of Mombela local Municipality and the Emalahleni local Municipality.

This forum, discussed (1) Border Town Initiative, which is a C-BRTA initiative designed to improve regional and economic integration between neighbouring countries to South Africa through a collaboration between the C-BRTA and Municipalities with an objective of creating awareness of business opportunities in the cross border industry for Youth and Women; (2) Border Management Agency Project Management (BMA PMO) and (3) solutions to problems faced by the industry in conducting cross border road transport business.

The C-BRTA also has in place Operators Forums that are held quarterly, which provide a platform to engage with stakeholders who are in the cross border road transport industry, operating in the cross border freight, buses, taxis and tourist industries. Each category of operators being taxi, freight, bus and tourist were provided a platform in the form of operator forums to discuss pertinent issues relating to (1) operator needs, (2) challenges faced by operators (3) issues affecting the industry and (4) challenges with regards to the permits

These stakeholder engagements, offer an opportunity for the C-BRTA and its stakeholders to have a cemented relationship that is beneficial for both stakeholders and the C-BRTA and which adds value to the cross border road transport industry value chain.



Keeping Nelson Mandela's Legacy Alive



The International Mandela Day Campaign was launched in 2009 in recognition of Nelson Mandela's birthday on 18th July, via a unanimous decision of the United Nations General Assembly in November of 2009. It was inspired by a call Nelson Mandela made a year earlier for the next generation to take on the burden of leadership in addressing the world's social injustices when he said that "it is in your hands now".

Nelson Mandela day, is more than a celebration of Nelson Mandela's life and legacy, it is a global movement to honour his life's work and to change the world for the better. This day further offers an opportunity to each and every one of us to spare 67 minutes of our time and engage in a community activity that ascribes to Mandela's values and his dedication to the service of humanity.

2018, marks the 20th anniversary of the C-BRTA and also the centenary celebration of Nelson Mandela, who believed that by giving a little of one's time to make a difference to the life of someone else, you can start changing the world around you. The CBRTA employees took heart of Mandela's principle and took part in the Mandela Day campaign by cleaning, cooking and spending time with the Aged at the Norma Care Center for the aged in Garankuwa, north of Pretoria. This Center, was founded by Nomalanga Mogomotsi in 2003 and houses more than 80 aged persons from the age of 60 years and supported by a staff of more than 30.

The CBRTA employees came prepared with all the gadgets required for cleaning, cooking a scrumptious lunch, donated fleece blankets and perishables. Employees further spent some quality time with both the staff and the aged.

"Mandela Day is about changing the world for the better and this is exactly what the Cross Border Road Transport employee set about doing on this day, we believe in what Mandela said that what counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived, it is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead. By employees rolling up their sleeves for 67 minutes of cleaning, cooking and spending time with the Aged we can proudly say that we lived up to what Mandela Day stands for" said Gugulethu Zwane, C-BRTA Executive in the Office of the CEO.

Nelson Mandela was and is still is an inspiration globally. His values that he lived by, his belief that we must live to serve each day in whatever we do, his promotion of a culture of peace and democracy and his dedication to the service of humanity is entrenched in history. These beliefs he lived by and actioned on came at a great personal sacrifice. This activity by the CBRTA employees is a continuous effort to leave our mark in uplifting the community and honouring Nelson Mandela.



CELEBRATING WOMEN OF FORTITUDE

August 9th is Women's Day and this day presents an opportunity to celebrate Women's achievements, challenges and leadership roles that women of all races and religions have played and continue to play in South Africa. On this day in 1956, more than 20 000 women from all walks of life united in a mass demonstration to the Union Buildings in Pretoria. They protested against the unjust pass laws enforced on women in South Africa.

Wathint'Abafazi Wathint'imbokodo! (Now you have touched the women, you have struck a rock.) This phrase rang true as Women of the C-BRTA, turned out in numbers, to celebrate their successes and draw strength and courage from the four women (Helen Joseph, Rahima Moosa, Sophy Williams and Lilian Ngoyi) who led the Women's march which had been

organized by Fedsaw (Federation of South African Women) on the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

In recognition of this day, the C-BRTA hosted a Women's Day forum which provided a platform for C-BRTA female staff to share their challenges and how they overcame them, it also provided a space for women to learn from each other and gain encouragement from each other in order to tackle challenges that they are facing.

"I was very inspired by this forum since it gave us all an opportunity to share and draw inspiration from each other. Forums such as these uplift us as Women as we stand proud and celebrate this special day of ours, said Mpho Nkwana one of the attendees at this forum.

Women leading THE WAY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT



Women in law enforcement from the Cross Border Road Transport Agency, South African Police Service (SAPS), Road Traffic Management Cooperation (RTMC), and the local and provincial traffic authorities led a Women's only operation at the N1 Capricorn Plaza, to highlight the crucial role that women play in the road transport industry. The N1 route is considered as the busiest route used by all types of cross-border transport.

"Government should create initiatives that will promote and develop women empowerment Initiatives such as women network structures, where a network is created to advance women in Law Enforcement and creates a platform for engagement of women. Such initiatives inspire young women entering the industry but also create a platform for women to engage, share problems and create innovative solution to solve challenges they may encounter" said Brenda Mtshweni who led the C-BRTA/ RTMC joint women's operation 28 women took part in this operation which was held in from 30th to 31st of August 2018, which is recognised as National Women's Month in South Africa.

The objective, was to launch the celebration of woman's month by creating public awareness of the importance of women in their communities and to also empower women in law enforcement and different stakeholders. During this two days operation, 89 cross border vehicles were inspected and it was discovered that out of the 123 verified permits, 11 permits had expired, 2 permits had been cancelled and 01 permit was fraudulent which resulted in the arrest of the operator.



This Women only Law operation is indicative that Women improve the overall quality of law enforcement and also bring a significant difference to the job, including offering different ways of dealing with conflict and misunderstandings. Women may lack the physical strength of men, but their courage, inventiveness and communication skills enable them to offer a seamless approach to law enforcement.