



**PRESS RELEASE
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MEGA ACHIEVEMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE

MEGA's SUCCESS AT FACIM 2009

The Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency (MEGA) hosted the Mpumalanga Provincial Pavilion at the annual Maputo International Trade Fair (FACIM) 2009, during the first week of September.

FACIM is regarded as the most important international trade event of its kind in Mozambique and attracts National Pavilions from more than 15 countries including Portugal, Brazil, India and China. The event displays the intra-regional economic potential and is visited by a large number of local and foreign businessmen.

The “Feira Internacional De Maputo” or FACIM first began in 1963 and now has the reputation of being the annual meeting place of businessmen and enterprises from all the different regions of the country.

MEGA won the award for the 3rd best international pavilion, out of the 15 international pavilions at the event. Portugal won first place followed by Italy in second.

MEGA hosted 20 SMMEs from various sectors including industrial and commercial suppliers, tourism, property, interior décor, agriculture and IT and regions from across the Province.

Nosizwe Nokwe, MEGA CEO said that “Awards are great for the recognition of the MEGA teams effort, but the reason we participate in FACIM every year is to generate export sales for the 20 SMME’s from Mpumalanga we take to Maputo. In this regard FACIM 2009 was also a great success with over R50m in potential business being generated amongst the 20 exhibitors”

This year MEGA received an overwhelming response for participation in the provincial pavilion, over 60 applications for the 20 available spaces were received. This is testament to the effectiveness of MEGAs Trade Promotion activities over the past 3 years to promote Mozambique as a viable export market. MEGA as the catalyst for economic growth is starting to resonate amongst the provincial business community.

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Images Attached

For your convenience we have attached images of the event:

- 1) The Mpumalanga Pavilion at FACIM 2009
- 2) President Armando Guebuza of Mozambique, accompanied by Ms. Azwinnadini Tshavhungwa of MEGA, meets Mr. Mukesh Patel and Mr. Patel Snr. of Banco Bedding International from Kabokweni.
- 3) Exhibitors Susan Thevenau and Frank Mbalane of Ekethu Interiors in Rocky's Drift meeting with potential business partners from Portugal.
- 4) Exhibitor Ms. Denio Letswele from Dee-Vine Health and Beauty of Nelspruit gives a potential Mozambican client a head massage.
- 5) Exhibitor Mr. Pillay Tshabangu of Mbhele Loluhlata Exports greeting a potential Mozambican client.
- 6) Exhibitor Mr. Israel Khoza from Cosmic Paints of Kabokweni demonstrates his range of products to Mozambican clients.
- 7) The MEGA Team – Ms. Azwinnadini Tshavhungwa and Ms. Sanet Golding with one of the exhibitors Ms. Brenda Horne of MCLI.
- 8) The Lowveld Tourism team at FACIM 2009 – Ms. Momkhosi Dlamini, Ms. Kholeka Msane and Ms. Zodwa Mpanza.

Editors Notes

The Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency was formed in terms of the MEGA Act (Act No. 4 of 2005) through a merger of the Mpumalanga Economic Empowerment Corporation and Mpumalanga Investment Initiative. The Act was promulgated in phases to facilitate a smooth transition to the new legal entity. MEGA became fully operational, and commenced its business activities, on April 1st, 2006. MEGA is accountable to the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development and Planning.

In terms of Section 3(1) of the Act, the legal mandate of MEGA incorporates the following broad objectives:

- To promote trade and investment
- To support enterprise development;
- To provide funding in respect of approved enterprise development focusing on HDIs within the province; and
- To focus on project management, development and management of immovable property.

MEGA is a Schedule III entity governed by a duly elected Board of Directors, acting as the Accounting Authority, in terms of Section 5(1) of the Act, and as contemplated in Section 49(2)(a) of the PFMA. Section 5(3) of the Act stipulates that the Board shall consist of not fewer than nine (9) members and not more than eleven (11) members eligible to vote at Board meetings. In addition, the Head of the Department (HoD), as the Accounting Officer of the Agency, or any other person so designated by the HoD, is an ex officio member of the Board without voting powers.

The Board is accountable to the Member of the Executive Council in the execution of its powers, functions and duties through a mutually agreed Shareholder's Compact.

MEGA's central role is to assist the Provincial Government in its drive to grow the economy in a manner that reduces unemployment and poverty, and facilitates the systematic and sustainable entry of HDIs into the formal economy. MEGA is, therefore, envisioned to play a pivotal role in the implementation of the Government's Provincial Growth and Development Strategy (PGDS).