



transport

Department:
Transport
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

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Attention: News Editors / Transport Reporters

For Immediate Use

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO CLAMP DOWN ON SMALL BOATS

Pretoria: The National Department of Transport (NDoT) is set to crack the whip on boats operating in the country's dams. This follows an increase in a number of freak accidents involving these boats where fatalities were even recorded.

Currently, the country has 1, 2 million boats which are operated in the country's 7 115 dams. The absence of adequate enforcement measures to ensure legislative compliance of boat owners and skippers led to a number of accidents, pollution of dams as well as illicit activities in the past.

It's against this background that cabinet approved the Inland Waterways Strategy to strengthen the regulation of these boats and their operations in the Country's dams and rivers. Some of the factors to be addressed include among others;

- the waterworthiness and registration of boats,
- fitness of skippers,
- the boats to be required to install tracking devices, in the case of accidents
- The information reporting systems regarding all incidents involving boats

The Strategy was approved by Cabinet on 24 May 2017 following an extensive consultation process with stakeholders. The NDoT will partner with various

stakeholders in implementing the strategy including among others the law enforcement agencies.

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