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**Press Statement**

**Ports Regulator**

**13/09/2011**

The recent press article in the Cape Times(7 September 2011)which has only recently come to our attention, appears to quote Mr Tau Morwe, the CEO of the National Ports Authority(NPA) as having made certain statements indicating an agreement with the Regulator around certain issues. It is hoped that Mr Morwe has been misquoted as the report incorrectly states the Regulator as having agreed to a range of things.

To correct the report:

- There was a meeting with NPA on Thursday 1 September 2011
- At the meeting the Regulator agreed to consider a co-operative research programme request made by NPA, on condition that industry was also involved in such a programme, and that the Regulator's independence is not constrained in the process
- NPA requested this as they indicated that they had certain internal capacity challenges and were to issue an international tender for consultants to assist them
- Such research programme was not related to port pricing as indicated in the article and the Regulator did not discuss differing research methodologies with NPA
- The area of research co-operation requested by NPA was on tariff methodology and tariff strategies, not on comparative port pricing and benchmarking

We trust that this will clear up any misunderstanding created by the report or clarify any misconception as to the engagement referred to.

Ports Regulator CEO

Riad Khan

13/09/2011