Facilitating free flow of trade to and from the SADC region

SADC & Namport

Enhancing Economic

Collaboration in the new

Normal 8th April 2021 Erick Shimumbwe WALVIS BAY CORRIDOR G R O U P



Presentation outline

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Our commitment in addressing NTBs in the new normal
- 3. Challenges along our corridors
- 4. Opportunities
- 5. Collaboration in addressing NTBs amid covid-19
- 6. Issues for reflection & way forward



We are













NAMIBIA TRANSPORTERS ASSOCIATION

















A Public Private Partnership initiative

Walvis Bay Corridors

• TRANS KALAHARI

Botswana, Namibia SA,

Zimbabwe

• WALVIS BAY-NDOLA-

LUBUMBASHI

DRC, Zambia, Namibia

• TRANS CUNENE

Angola/ Namibia

• TRANS ORANJE

SA/ Namibia





WBCG Service profile / core functions

- Cross border trade & transport facilitation
- Business Development
- Corridor infrastructure development SDI
- Create network between stakeholders
- Serve as one stop facilitation center
- Wellness service
- Namibia Logistics Hub NDP 4 & 5
- Marketing & Communications



Wellness services



Footprint

Sao Paulo, Brazil • Undersky, Namibia opened in 2012 opened in 2012 • Johannesburg, RSA opened in 2008

Europe???

WBCG Business Development Offices

Shipping routes to Walvis Bay





Our commitment in addressing NTBs along our corridors in the new normal

- Despite the coronavirus pandemic, we continued to mobilize ourselves in a resolute & ambitious manner in attaining our mandate - in addressing various obstacles to trade - NTBs along our corridors.
- Advocacy roles in trade facilitation customs, immigration, police, health, agriculture, forestry, Roads Authorities, Councils etc.
- Promoting the integrated and seamless movement of goods and people in the region, entails the need to broaden the base for consensus & stakeholder engagements - Robust stakeholder network - resolution of covid induced NTBs
- Covid 19 calls for stronger strategic partnerships & Collaboration common areas of cooperation among regional, continental & international institutions as well as active engagements with governments.

Challenges

- Covid-19 induced NTBs (Covid 19 policy responses, travel restrictions, delayed covid19 test results, Quarantines for truck drivers, Relay truck driver system, protective equipment, lockdowns, curfews, essential goods, staggered border work force, covid check points - discretionary enforcement of covid-trade related regulations, stigmatization of truck drivers as vectors of covid - 19.
- Transporters experienced tremendous difficulties in import & export.
- Member states in the SADC region implemented a diverse raft of protocols and guidelines, with different costs of testing for PCR tests, as well as varied validity periods of negative test results for truck drivers, and cross border traders. Private sector not consulted.
- Lack of uniform procedures, regulations and standards on covid-19 trade and transport to minimize coronavirus spread, minimize supplychain disruptions & facilitate the movement of people, goods and services across borders.

Challenges

- Infrastructure Deficit / gaps reduces operational efficiencies along the corridor & impacts infrastructural integration.
- Covid-19 has exposed the vulnerability of African countries in their dependence on trading partners in the rest of the world.
- Border congestion & clearance delays (Hard & Soft infrastructure).
- Limited human & institutional capacities at the borders.
- Security challenges in increasing operating hours.
- Cumbersome police checkpoints & road blocks.
- Inadequate border infrastructure.
- Un harmonized Cross border fees, road tolls, inland toll gates, council levies.

Poor road infrastructure



Road safety & high repair costs



Border congestion



Simplified trade regime for informal cross border traders



Simplified trade regime for informal cross border traders



Inadequate border infrastructure



Regional infrastructure deficit



Opportunities

- SADC Tripartite Transport & Transit Facilitation Program TTTFP -(SADC- COMESA-EAC) - development of a more integrated, competitive & liberalized road transport market in the region.
- AfCFTA Operationalization & implementation Boosting Intra -African Trade - Larger market 1.3bn people.
- Rules of Origin for preferential tariff treatment of originating goods within the African continent. (electronic rules of origin).
- Capacity building in key institutions involved in transport operations.
- Business re engineering business processes with ICT.
- Online mechanism for monitoring, reporting and eliminating NTBs.
- Pan African payment and settlement mechanism.
- The need to integrate lessons learnt from covid-19 to enhance preparedness for future pandemics and natural disasters.

Opportunities

- Robust stakeholder networks / social capital forging stronger partnerships - stakeholder engagements / member states dialogue.
- PIDA 2 Integrated Development Corridor Approach PAP PIDA 2020
 -2030 Inclusiveness in infrastructure development.
- Strengthened involvement of the private sector & civil society in infrastructure development - investment regimes (PPPs) - Build Operate Transfer (BOT) models - durable & safe roads - tolling.
- 4th Industrial technological revolution Digital landscape/economy -Paperless environment - enhance trade facilitation - SMART borders for seamless trade, travel & transport - Secure, Measurable, Automated, Risk Management & Technology based.
- Electronic Cargo & driver tracking system, mutually recognized digital covid - 19 certificates via mobile phone application, enhance Corridor Observatory e.g. SADC CTMS, EAC RECDTS

Integrated Development Corridor Approach for Regional Integration







Walvis Bay new container terminal



Kazungula Bridge (Zambia - Botswana)



Way forward/Issues for reflection

- Implementation of international trade facilitation instruments (Accredited economic operators) - Digital trade - e - commerce - single window - mutual trust, digitalization - customs modernization, digital trade portals etc. - SMART border posts & smart corridors.
- Harmonization of road transport policies, regulations & standards for efficient cross border road transport, transit & logistics networks in the tripartite region - SADC TTTFP.
- AfCFTA Catalyst for industrialization and structural transformation Boosting Intra - African Trade (from 16% to 53%) - larger market.
- Protocol on the free movement of people curtail visa requirements.
- Covid tech travel vaccine passport system.
- The need for Africa to diversify its productive capacities through industrialization & structural transformation to boost intra-African trade & promote regional value chains.
- Political Will & support

Thank you !



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