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department of
economic, small business development,
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FREE STATE PROVINCE

MEDIA STATEMENT

FREE STATE LOOKS TO TURKEY FOR INVESTMENTS AND MARKETS

Team Free State has wrapped up the nine days outward trade mission and investment drive in Turkey. The punishing schedule kicked off with a very successful participation at the East Mediterranean International Travel and Tourism Exhibition (EMITT) followed by tough investment engagements led by the industrious MEC Makalo Mohale in Bursa and Istanbul, in Turkey.

The Free State delegation which was led by MEC Makalo Mohale, included government officials, a business delegation and enterprises who really took the opportunity with both hands. This is testimony to the commitment made by the department to expose Free State businesses to international markets.

The province participated in the investment drive to promote the Free State brand and products to over 50 000 visitors at the EMITT. The team embarked on networking, participated on business match makings as well as attending business sessions. This exercise is intended to expose Free State enterprises to different markets and contribute to economic growth.

To cement their spot at the EMITT, Team Free State was awarded the prestigious award for being “The Most Challenging and Best Organised Stand of EMITT 2020”. The organisers of the world class exhibition, thanked the Free State for their participation and excellent work.

Congratulating the Free State team for their win, MEC Makalo Mohale said, “Winning the prestigious award at this year’s exhibition surely spurs Team Free State on to do more in unlocking global investments.”



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During the second leg of the investment drive, MEC Makalo Mohale got the Free State Investment Express on top gear when he paid a courtesy call to the Leadership of Government in Bursa- Turkey to solicit their support. He also met with Tekfen Construction, Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Bursa and Istanbul to convince them that Free State is ready to do business.

There was no rest for Team Free State as they were engaged in the war to attract investments into the Free State. Negotiations were sector specific, particularly construction, tourism – hospitality, agro-processing, textile-clothing, manufacturing, automotive and ICT.

The team also, visited students that are currently studying in Bahcesehir University and paid a courtesy call to Nisantasi University to check the progress of the students and assure them about the continued support of the Free State Provincial Government.

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