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SAASOA Media Release
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POSSIBLE TRANSNET EMPLOYEES STRIKE

SAASOA has noted the possibility of a wide ranging strike by the Transnet unionised members from Monday 10 May 2010. The consequences of a protracted strike at this time will have dire consequences for our members and the greater logistics chain, and indeed, our economy, because recovery within the port terminal operations after such events takes a long time. The negative impact of the strike will also inevitably flow into our local economy by way of higher prices, which will hurt all citizens including those that may participate in the strike, well after the strike is resolved.

SAASOA has therefore written to the Minister of Public Enterprises with a copy to Transnet and their operating division CEOs as well as the unions concerned (SATAWU and UTATU), with a request for the Minister to intervene urgently in order to try and assist in avoiding the strike, in the best interests of our country and its people, and we are hopeful that this can be achieved.

The objective of economic growth is equally important for the economic well-being of a vast majority of our citizens, and trying to avert costly strikes seems only reasonable. As noted in yesterday newspapers, the impact of the recession had a negative impact on unemployment and the strike will indeed place a strain on the employment activity within the supply chain.

ENDS

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