20 June 2025



1 DEAD IN MATJHABENG BUILDING FIRE

WELKOM CARGO AIRPORT PROJECT TAKES FLIGHT WITH OFFICIAL SITE HANDOVER

The Welkom Cargo Airport project has reached a significant milestone with the ceremonial handover of the site, ushering in an ambitious R5 billion development aimed at transforming Welkom Airport into a major cargo hub. This pivotal event took place on Wednesday and was attended by prominent figures, including Thanduxolo Khalipa, the Mayor of Matjhabeng Local Municipality, and representatives from Sébastien Investissements and Logistique, the firm appointed to lead the transformation.

During his address, Mayor Khalipa expressed his enthusiasm regarding the project, highlighting the potential economic opportunities it will bring to the region. "I am pleased to announce that plans surrounding the airport are taking shape. An impressive R5 billion will be invested in its development, which is expected to drive economic growth and create jobs in our community," stated Khalipa.

The Mayor further underscored the government's dedication to infrastructure development, calling upon contractors and all stakeholders to ensure the project's successful execution. "The airport is more than just a structure; it represents a promise of prosperity, and we must collaborate to turn this vision into reality," he affirmed.

Mr Mark Brummer, CEO of Sébastien Investissements and Logistique, echoed the Mayor's sentiments, expressing enthusiasm for the project while outlining the significant milestones ahead. "After extensive planning, engineering, and discussions, we are poised to initiate the next phase. Formal site inspections are scheduled to commence on June 24," Brummer confirmed.

The transformation of Welkom Airport will facilitate the establishment of an international cargo facility, complete with a 5 km runway designed to accommodate large cargo aircraft transporting gold and other valuable commodities. In addition, the facility will support passenger and private aircraft, providing versatile infrastructure catering to diverse aviation needs.

Brummer emphasized the project's commitment to community development, noting that training facilities would equip residents with the skills necessary to replace contract workers, fostering long-term employment and empowering the community. "We are dedicated to building a sustainable workforce from within the local population," he added.

The ceremonial handover is particularly significant as it coincides with Youth Month, a period dedicated to celebrating the spirit of June 16, a day symbolising the struggle for youth empowerment. Mayor Khalipa utilized this occasion to reinforce the municipality's commitment to offering meaningful opportunities for young people. "In the spirit of June 16, we reaffirm the right of young individuals to a future defined by opportunity and purpose," he remarked.

The Welkom Cargo Airport project represents more than just an enhancement of transportation infrastructure; it is an integral part of a broader vision for a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in the area. This initiative aims to revitalize the local economy, promote clean energy industries, and foster sustainable employment opportunities.

As part of this project, the municipality will oversee essential Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), geotechnical studies, and regulatory compliance processes, ensuring adherence to South Africa's stringent environmental and developmental guidelines.

The landmark event was attended by various dignitaries, including councillors, members of the Municipal Executive Committee (MAYCO), the acting Municipal Manager, municipal officials, business leaders, and other stakeholders. It signifies a clear commitment to transparency and sustainable growth, inviting further regional investment.

As the project progresses through its implementation phases, additional announcements regarding stakeholder engagements and investment updates are anticipated.

For the residents of Matjhabeng, this handover marks the dawn of a brighter, more prosperous future.



NOTICE - DMR REF. NO. FS 10430 MP

APPLICATION FOR MINING PERMIT FOR DIAMONDS (ALLUVIAL AND IN KIMBERLITE), IN RESPECT OF A PORTION OF PORTION 31 OF THE FARM RORICH'S HOOP 191, IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF KOFFIENTEIN, FREE STATE.

Notice of public participation process is hereby given of the intent of ALENGERM PROJECTS JV (PTY) LTD to mine Diamond (Alluvial and in Kimberlite) on the above mentioned property. An application for a mining permit and Environmental Authorisation was simultaneously lodged in terms of Section 27 of the Mineral Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) read together with Chapter 4 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation, and it has been accepted and acknowledged by the Department of Mineral Resources, Free State Province.

In terms of the 2014 Environmental impact Assessment Regulation, Listing notice 1, activity no. 21 promulgated in terms of Section 27 and 44 of the national Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998 as amended), read together with Chapter 6 of Environmental Impact Assessment regulation, 2014. The landowner or lawful occupier of the land, as well as any interested and affected parties must be notified and consulted regarding the proposed operation. The basic assessment report (BAR) must be submitted to the department of mineral resources and the copies of the draft BAR is available at the local library for reviewing and comments. You're hereby invited to address any comment to support / objection to the proposed operation to ENGEDI MINERALS AND ENERGY (PTY) LTD within 30 DAYS from date of this publication. Please feel free to contact the undersigned on the following contact details:

Physical address 2ND Street Bloemfontein Cent/9001 Email: info@engedime.com Phone: 051 430 174 Fax: 086 556 2568

If no correspondence is received from you within the stated period, it will be accepted that you have no objections against the proposed mining activities.

Much blessings,

Wind

T. Mulaudzi (Consultant)





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Data Protection in Digital Age: POPIA's Growing Importance for Businesses

By Advocate Sephiri Moshodi Executive Director: Justice Equality Foundation

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The Information Regulator took a methodical approach in the early years after the Protection of Personal Information Act No. 4 of 2013 (POPIA) went into effect, concentrating mostly on awareness-raising, education, and cooperative engagement with responsible parties. During this time, organisations were more eager to be guided towards conformity than to be punished for mistakes.

However, in recent years, this strategy has changed dramatically, with the Information Regulator adopting a more assertive stance and enforcing the Act more aggressively. Businesses would do well to change their approach from considering POPIA as a compliance checkbox to considering compliance as a regulatory priority in light of the latest developments. The costs of complacency are increasing as POPIA changes, therefore it's imperative that companies stay current and review their policies and procedures as quickly as feasible.

Below is a discussion of some of the most significant POPIA developments and their implications for South African companies:

1. The data subject owns the data.

POPIA imposes certain requirements on enterprises to manage such personal information responsibly by enforcing the idea that personal information belongs to the individual, not the company that processes it. Even information created by a corporation based on a person's involvement in a health or loyalty program is regarded as that person's property, as the Gauteng High Court affirmed in Discovery Ltd v. Liberty Group 2020 (4) SA 160 (GJ). Organisations must follow their obligations under POPIA and be mindful of the possible repercussions if personal information is not treated legally. They must not approach personal information as a commodity to be freely exploited.

2.Examining direct marketing

In February 2024, the Information Regulator sent out its first enforcement warning for noncompliance with direct marketing. Even though the data subject repeatedly opted out and asked to be taken off the company's mailing list, FT Rams Consulting was accused of sending unsolicited direct marketing emails. By interfering with the protection of the data subject's personal information, the company violated the requirements for the lawful processing of personal information, according to the Information Regulator. Additionally, the company violated section 69 of POPIA, which governs direct marketing through unsolicited electronic communications.

FT Rams Consulting was mandated to stop sending unsolicited emails, use the consent form provided by the Information Regulator, and create a database of data subjects who had previously opted out and not consented to direct marketing. If the enforcement notice is not followed, there could be fines of up to R10 million or a maximum ten-year jail sentence.

The Information Regulator released a Guidance Note on Direct Marketing in December 2024, emphasising the need to get the informed, specific, and voluntary consent of the data subject before sending direct marketing using electronic channels (such as email, SMS, or automated calls). Furthermore, according to the Guidance Note, a single unsolicited communication may be sent to get such consent, and if no response is obtained, no more messages may be sent until the data subject opts in.

3.Cybersecurity and data breaches

An e-Services Portal for mandatory data breach notification was introduced by the Information Regulator in April 2025. Notifications of security breaches experienced by enterprises are now officially submitted through this internet portal. By facilitating quicker and more open regulatory scrutiny, it helps South Africa get closer to international best practices. The Department of Justice was fined R5 million in July 2023 for failing to renew critical cybersecurity software, which resulted in the exposure of sensitive personal data. This was the most serious enforcement action to date. POPIA compliance necessitates proactive investment in security measures to safeguard the integrity and confidentiality of personal information in a business's possession or under its control, as this case makes evident.

accused of sending unsolicited direct 4. Information officers' new

responsibilities and powers

Changes to POPIA's regulations, which go into effect on April 17, 2025, make it easier for individuals to request the erasure of their personal data, object to its processing, or choose not to receive commercial communications. The reforms also acknowledge budgetary realities while upholding accountability by allowing administrative fines to be paid in instalments and imposing new duties on information officers.

5. Finding a balance between transparency and privacy

In Arena Holdings (Pty) Ltd t/a Financial Mail and Others v. South African Revenue Service and Others 2023 (5) SA 319 (CC), the Constitutional Court declared that some clauses restricting the public's access to tax records were unconstitutional. This ruling restates the need to weigh the public interest against the right to privacy, which is not unqualified. Because of this, businesses shouldn't trust that POPIA automatically protects all information from being disclosed.

6. Ethics, AI, and the limits of digital

The Information Regulator revealed plans to address automated decision-making and the ethical usage of AI in April 2025. This suggests that new technologies that use personal data in intricate, opaque ways are receiving more attention. Companies that use AI technologies for marketing, consumer profiling, or hiring should get ready for future compliance requirements unique to algorithmic data processing.

The writer is the Executive Director of Justice Equality Foundation.



Conclusion:

Given the Information Regulator's more proactive approach, POPIA compliance must be a top priority for South African enterprises. New rules, fines, and enforcement notices are just a few recent developments that highlight how crucial proactive compliance is. In a fast changing data privacy context, businesses must assess and update their data governance frameworks to guarantee accountability, openness, and protection of personal data, eventually promoting public trust.

This development shows how South Africa's data privacy laws are developing, with accountability and enforcement replacing support and education. It is essential for businesses' to evaluate, modernise, and future-proof their data governance frameworks in light of these developments. This is required not merely to satisfy legal requirements but also to foster public confidence in a market that is becoming more and more privacy-conscious.







AT THE VIRGINIA UNIT: MATJHABENG MUNICIPALITY

You are hereby advised that the electricity supply to the following Unit of the Matjhabeng Municipality will be interrupted on the following date:

DATE:	TIME:	AREAS IMPLICATES:
26 June 2025	24	Vir <mark>ginia Town:</mark> Areas Implicates: Virginia, Merriespruit, Kitty, Industrial Area Panorama

The interruption is necessitated to enable the Matjhabeng to conduct Annual Maintenance on the electrical intake point supplying the indicated areas.

ALL POWER SUPPLY POINTS MUST BE TREATED AS LIVE AND DANGEROUS AT ALL TIMES AS THE POWER WILL BE RESTORED WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING.

Contact Information: Matjhabeng Municipality, Electrical Engineering Services • Mr WE Sephton Manager Electrical Department

TEL: (057) 391 3116 • FAX: (057) 391 3427 • Email: williamsephton@Matjhabeng.co.za

MA Pobe: Senior Manager Electrical Department



NOTICE OF ELECTRICITY INTERRUPTION:

AT THE RIEBEECKSTAD UNIT: MATJHABENG MUNICIPALITY

You are hereby advised that the electricity supply to the following Unit of the Matjhabeng Municipality will be interrupted on the following date:

DATE:	TIME:	RIEBEECKSTAD SUBSTATION AREAS IMPLICATES:		
24 June 2025	08H30 until 16H00	Riebeeckstad		
The interruption is necessitated to enable the Matjhabeng to conduct Annual Maintenance on the electrical intake point supplying the indicated areas.				
ALL POWER SUPPLY POINTS MUST BE TREATED AS LIVE AND DANGEROUS AT ALL TIMES AS THE POWER WILL BE RESTORED WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING.				
Contact Information: Matjhabeng Municipality, Electrical Engineering Services Mr WE Sephton Manager Electrical Department TEL: (057) 391 3116 • FAX: (057) 391 3427 Email: williamsephton@Matjhabeng.co.za				
MA Pobe: Senior Manager Electrical Department				

NOTICE – DMR REF.NO. FS 10090 MR

RE: APPLICATION FOR A MINING RIGHT TO MINE FOR AGGREGATE, GRAVEL AND ONE AGGREGATE GRAVEL SITUATED ON PORTION OF PORTION 36 OF THE FARM SUNNYSIDE 2620 IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF BLOEMFONTEIN, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

Notice of public participation process is hereby given for the intent of BENE TECH CC to mine Aggregate, Gravel and One Aggregate Gravel on the above mentioned property. An application for a Mining Right and Environmental Authorisation was simultaneously lodged in terms of Section 22 of the Mineral Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) read together with Chapter 4 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation, and it has been accepted and acknowledged by the Department of Mineral Resources in the Free State Province.

In terms of the 2014 Environmental impact Assessment Regulation, Listing notice 2, activity no. 17 promulgated in term of Section 24(5) and 44 of the national Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998 as amended), read together with Chapter 6 of Environmental Impact Assessment regulation, 2014. The landowner or lawful occupier of the land, as well as any interested and affected parties must be notified and consulted regarding the proposed operation. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) must be submitted to the department of mineral resources and the copies of the draft EIAr are available at the Local Public Library for reviewing and comments. You're hereby invited to address any comment to support / objection to the proposed operation to ENGEDI MINERALS AND ENERGY (PTY) LTD within 30 DAYS from date of this publication. Please feel free to contact the undersigned on the following contact details:

Physical ddress5 2nd Street Bloemfontein, 9301 Email: info@engedime.com Phone: 051 430 174 Bax: 086 556 2568

If no correspondence is received from you within the stated period, it will be accepted that you have no objections against the proposed mining activities.

Much blessings,

Duna

T. Mulaudzi (Consultant)

CONTACT :

SAM THE REGEN

083 250 6852

"BE YOUR OWN BOSS"

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MORE PER MONTH

MAKE YOUR OWN SALARY



10.0

NOTICE – DMR REF.NO. FS 10089 MR

RE: APPLICATION FOR A MINING RIGHT TO MINE FOR AGGREGATE. GRAVEL AND ONE AGGREGATE GRAVEL SITUATED ON PORTION OF PORTION 1 OF THE FARM USHERWOOD 2412 IN THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF BLOEMFONTEIN, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

Notice of public participation process is hereby given for the intent of ROCK SHARE MINING CC to mine Aggregate, Gravel and One Aggregate Gravel on the above mentioned property. An application for a Mining Right and Environmental Authorisation was simultaneously lodged in terms of Section 22 of the Mineral Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No 28 of 2002) read together with Chapter 4 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation, and it has been accepted and acknowledged by the Department of Mineral Resources in the Free State Province.

In terms of the 2014 Environmental impact Assessment Regulation, Listing notice 2, activity no. 17 promulgated in term of Section 24(5) and 44 of the national Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998 as amended), read together with Chapter 6 of Environmental Impact Assessment regulation, 2014. The landowner or lawful occupier of the land, as well as any interested and affected parties must be notified and consulted regarding the proposed operation. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) must be submitted to the department of mineral resources and the copies of the draft EIAr are available at the Local Public Library for reviewing and comments. You're hereby invited to address any comment to support / objection to the proposed operation to ENGEDI MINERALS AND ENERGY (PTY) LTD within 30 DAYS from date of this publication. Please feel free to contact the undersigned on the following contact details:

Physical address 2nd Street Bloemfontein, 9301 Email: info@engedime.com Phone: 051 430 174 Fax: 086 556 2568

If no correspondence is received from you within the stated period, it will be accepted that you have no objections against the proposed mining activities.

Much blessings,

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Duncent



T. Mulaudzi (Consultant)



16 Ridge Road, Elangeni Village, Hammersdale, 3700







Matjhabeng Commemorates Youth Day with a Celebration Led by Executive Mayor Khalipha

Matjhabeng Local Municipality held a MEC Leeto delivered the keynote significant commemoration of Youth Day at the Thabong Community Centre the 1976 generation while in Welkom on June 16, 2025. The Executive Mayor, Councillor Thanduxolo Khalipha, led the event, setting a tone of hope, progress, and opportunity for the youth in attendance. Honourable Mathabo Leeto, Member of the Executive Council (MEC), and Honourable Olga Seate, Member of Parliament, graced the celebration. Their participation underscored the importance of honouring the legacy of the youth from the 1976 uprising.

In his keynote remarks, Mayor Khalipha reflected on the historical importance of Youth Day and highlighted several transformative initiatives to empower young people. He announced significant investments in renewable energy, mining, and tourism sectors, alongside plans to revive the Welkom Airport. These multi-billion rand projects are anticipated to drive economic growth and prioritise employment opportunities for the youth.

Following Mayor Khalipha's remarks,



MEC Leeto also addressed critical social issues affecting the youth, including gender-based violence, malnutrition, unemployment, substance abuse, and teenage pregnancy. She cautioned that these challenges could hinder the potential of young individuals, emphasizing the need for a collective commitment to overcoming these obstacles.

The event provided young attendees with valuable career guidance, health services, and opportunities for direct engagement with government officials. It served as a potent reminder that youth development remains a central focus of the Municipality's agenda, underscoring the belief that the future relies on a proactive, innovative, and responsible generation.





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2 hathrooms

1 car garage

• 833 sg. meter

Newly built modern 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house in Riebeeckstad. This property features a spacious open layout, built-in closets, a master en-suite, a car garage for 2 cars, and a veranda. Located near essential amenities, it's perfect for families and pets.

Sam Khamali

+27 72 178 2772

sam.khamali@expsouthafrica.co.za



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Komiti ya Tshebetso ho tsa Metsi le Bohlweki

Ho latela maikemisetso a mantlha a Palamente a ho thusa setjhaba ho ba le seabo le ho kenya letsoho ditshebetsong tsa ketso ya melao, Komiti ya Tshebetso ho tsa Metsi le Bohlweki e o mema ho fana ka ditshwaelo tse ngotsweng le ho bontsha thahasello ya ho etsa tlhahiso ya molomo mabapi le Bili ya Phetolo ya Ejensi ya Naha ya Meralotheo ya Mehlodi ya Metsi ya Afrika Borwa SOC Limited (B 13 - 2025), jwalokaha e hlahisitswe ka hara Seboka sa Naha (bili ya karolo ya 75 e sisintsweng) hammoho le kakaretso ya Bili ena le tsebiso ya pele ya ho hlahiswa ha yona e phatlaladitsweng Koranteng ya Mmuso No. 52455 ya la 04 Mmesa 2025.

Bili ya Phetolo ya Ejensi ya Naha ya Meralotheo ya Mehlodi ya Metsi ya Afrika Borwa SOC Limited ya 2025 ("Bili"), e batla ho fetola Molao wa Ejensi ya Naha ya Meralotheo ya Mehlodi ya Metsi ya Afrika Borwa SOC Limited wa 2024 (Molao wa 34 wa 2024) ("Molao") ka ho tloswa ha karolo ya 3(2). Bili ena e batla ho fetola Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba wa 1999 (Molao wa 1 wa 1999) ("Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba") ka ho lokisetsa ho thathamiswa ha Ejensi Shejuleng ya 2 ho Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba. Bili ena e boetse e lokisetsa ho hlakolwa ha Bolaodi ba Trans-Caledon Tunnel ("TCTA") ho Shejule ya 2 ho Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba hang ha bo ghalwa ho latela karolo ya 37(2) ya Molao ona.

Ditlhahiso di ka imeilelwa ho Mongodi wa Komiti - Mof Nosipho Bavuma ho PCWS@parliament.gov.za pele ho la 15 Phupu 2025. Dipatlisiso di ka lebiswa ho Mongodi wa Komiti ho sele ena: 0605509892.

E hlahisitswe ke: Modulasetulo wa Komiti ya Tshebetso ho tsa Metsi le Bohlweki, Mohlomphehi Mong L Basson

20 June 2025 7 FREE STATE SUN NEWS AWARENESS MARCH AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE









By Ntshebo Mhlambi

An awareness march against genderbased violence (GBV) was successfully held in Virginia, beginning at Quest Garage in the morning and concluding in Havana on Saturday. Ms. Katleho Mpuru, Deputy of the Virginia Business Youth Chamber, thanked all participants for their support in making the event a success. She extended special thanks to the owner of Quest Garage for providing the venue and contributing to the community of Meloding and Virginia.

The march was organized in collaboration with various local entities, including SAPS, Matjhabeng Traffic, MUSCLES, and Fitness Virginia, supporting AFORE YE GO SOCIETY, a group dedicated to empowering men in Meloding. This initiative was inspired by the alarming increase in violence against women and children across the country, which has also affected the Virginia community. Participants made a strong statement against GBV, emphasizing that they do not condone such acts and are committed to preventing any further tragedies.

The event served as a platform for community solidarity, highlighting a collective resolve to combat violence and promote safety. The Virginia Business Youth Chamber aims to support unemployed youth by providing entrepreneurship and business development resources. In partnership with Quest Garage, they have initiated a soup kitchen and community outreach programs to uplift the local youth.

Mr. Thatelo Lekaota, chairperson of AFORE YE GO SOCIETY, reflected on the group's establishment in 1991, noting their commitment to fostering community development and addressing GBV. He reiterated that the members of AFORE YE GO SOCIETY stand firmly against the abuse of women and children, declaring that they are not associated with such actions. The march concluded with a fitness event, fostering a spirit of unity and determination among attendees to work alongside SAPS in reducing crime and gang violence in their community.



Father's Day Market Tea Garder

On June 14, the Father's Day Market Tea Garden showcased a delightful array of performances by members of the Drama Club, who convene every Tuesday at Rovers Squash at 11:30 AM. The event began with the sale of raffle tickets, with proceeds benefiting the 4FeralCats organization, highlighting a commitment to community welfare.

Following the fundraising efforts, the performers captivated the audience with an engaging program that included children's stories, poetry, dance, and motivational monologues. These performances also aimed to support the Moths, an initiative linked to a coffee shop within the Tea Garden, further enriching the community's cultural landscape.

In addition to their artistic contributions, the performers wished various fathers a happy Father's Day, enhancing the festive atmosphere. All participants donned "manly" costumes to mark the occasion, adding a playful touch to the event.



Picture from left to right: Bonolo Kokoana, Zandi Dolophe, Thandi Grace, Daniel Raymond, Puleng 'Miss P' Morobe.



Picture from left to right: T-Bone Hlahane, Jan Barnade, Oratilwe Sesing, Miss P Morobe, Thandi Grace, Daniel Raymond, Thandeka Simbine.

8

SPORT POST COMRADES MARATHON CELEBRATIONS

In a time-honoured tradition, the Welkom Runners gathered this past weekend to commemorate their achievements in the Comrades Marathon with a celebratory meal followed by a Thanksgiving service. This annual event recognizes their hard work and provides a platform for sharing advice and motivation, ensuring even greater performances in the next marathon, a gathering affectionately dubbed the "Postmortem." The festivities kicked off with a meal where runners exchanged insights and encouragement, fostering a sense of

camaraderie and collective ambition for the upcoming year.

On Sunday morning, the team attended a church service, where they received blessings just a week before the ultramarathon. During this heartfelt gathering, participants prayed for mercy, protection, and good health for their travels to and from Durban and a successful stay. In a spirit of gratitude, the Welkom Runners also donated nonperishable items to the church, embodying the community spirit that defines their journey.



Proteas Men Celebrate Historic ICC Test Championship Victory

After a 27-year wait, South Africa's national men's cricket team, the Proteas Men, has finally claimed the International Cricket Council's Test Championship title, igniting hopes of a new era of winning. In a nail-biting final at Lord's, England, the Proteas triumphed over Australia with a five-wicket victory on day four, marking their first major trophy since the 1998 ICC Knockout.

Captain Temba Bavuma expressed optimism for the future, stating, "We hope this can be the start of many more trophies. As much as we have achieved in the past 18 to 24 months, this is not a big legacy yet. We want to start a culture of winning trophies for the country." Upon their return to OR Tambo International Airport, the team was met with an electrifying welcome from enthusiastic

electrifying welcome from enthusiastic supporters, contrasting with their previous homecoming from the 2023 World Cup. Bavuma noted the overwhelming emotions, emphasizing the team's pride in representing their nation.

This victory is particularly significant as it marks South Africa's first appearance in a World Test Championship Final, solidifying their place among the world's elite cricket teams. Despite facing the top-ranked

After a 27-year wait, South Africa's national Australians, the second-seeded Proteas men's cricket team, the Proteas Men, has delivered a remarkable performance.

Bavuma reflected on the journey to this achievement, acknowledging the challenges the team has overcome. He expressed hope that their success would inspire young cricketers across the nation. "There was always that belief that at some point the harder we knock on that door, the

point the harder we knock on that door, the harder it was going to happen," he said. Looking ahead, Bavuma emphasized the

continuous pursuit of excellence, with upcoming tournaments on the horizon. Cricket South Africa's head of national teams, Enoch Nkwe, affirmed that this victory would inspire future generations. At the same time, the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture, Gayton McKenzie, highlighted the unifying power of sport in South Africa.

Head coach Shukri Conrad shared in the excitement of the team's warm reception, stating, "It makes this win even more special. The guys have been great, but the fans have been better." As the Proteas look to build on this success, the nation rejoices in a moment that could redefine the future of South African cricket.



