MEDIA STATEMENT

TRANSNET MAKING SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN CLEARING VESSELS CONTAINING PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

[Johannesburg, 20 November 2026] Transnet SOC Ltd. ("Transnet"), working with Durban Gateway Terminal (DGT), has made significant progress in clearing vessels containing critical pharmaceutical products, in support of initiatives by the Department of Health to address medication shortages.

Transnet recently announced a range of initiatives to support the clearing of the backlog at DGT in the Port of Durban, including the prioritisation of essential cargo. To this end, Transnet received a list from the Department of Health indicating pharmaceutical products that were on 16 vessels in and approaching the South African port system, which required urgent evacuation from the port.

Transnet and DGT worked on the list and have had made the following progress:

- Six vessels have been completed and the relevant containers have left the port to their intended destinations.
- Three vessels will be berthed over the next few days, one in Pier 1 and two at DGT.
- Seven vessels are still approaching the South African port system and have not yet nominated where they will berth.
- In line with measures announced by Transnet on Wednesday 18 November 2026, a proposal to berth and discharge urgently-needed containers at other terminals is being considered, to prevent queuing in Durban. This will be finalised before the vessels arrive.

Transnet will continue to work with the Department of Health, shipping lines and and other critical stakeholders, to ensure the efficient evacuation of critical medical supplies as they arrive within the port system.

ENDS

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