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South Africa contact group

The Honorable Barbara Creecy
Department of Transport
159 Struben Street
Forum Building, Pretoria

12th May 2025

Dear Minister,

Re: Luxembourg Rail Protocol to the Cape Town Convention

We write to you, as representatives of the South African rail and rail finance industries meeting today, to congratulate your government on its commendable decision to ratify the Luxembourg Rail Protocol (the Protocol) earlier this year. We are convinced this will make a significant positive contribution to your department's visionary rail reform programme helping deliver a more dynamic, efficient and cost-effective rail sector, for the benefit of South African citizens both as taxpayers and as consumers.

The Protocol is binding on the Republic of South Africa as from 1 May 2025 as an international treaty. However, legislation implementing the Protocol as a matter of domestic law has yet to pass through Parliament. This means that the significant benefits to be delivered by the Protocol, both for the private and public sectors, making it easier and cheaper for the private sector to provide finance for railway rolling stock, cannot currently be realised. We strongly urge you and your government to move forward with the necessary legislation at the first possible opportunity.

Yours truly,

Howard Rosen
Chair
Rail Working Group

James Holley
Board Member
Rail Working Group
CEO Traxtion

Mesela Nhlapo
Director Africa,
Rail Working Group
CEO Africa Rail Industry
Association

Unathi Tete, Shulami Qalinge
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Vivien Chaplin
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Scott Edmundson
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The Rail Working Group is a not-for-profit association constituted under Swiss law
representing a broad cross section of the global railway community.

For a complete list of our members and more about us, please visit our website at www.railworkinggroup.org