

MEET THE SACU MINISTERS OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY



Hon. Mmusi Kgafela

Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry
Republic of Botswana

Honourable Mmusi Kgafela is the current Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry for the Republic of Botswana prior to that he was the Minister of Infrastructure and Housing Development.

Hon. Kgafela was an attorney of the High Court and all other Civil Courts of Botswana. Conveyancer and a Notary Public Jurisdiction of Botswana partnered with Former Cabinet Minister Mr. Sadique Kebonang before he became a sole practitioner. He is the Member of Parliament for Mochudi West Constituency.

Educational Background:

Bachelor of Law from the University of Botswana.



Hon. Senator Manqoba Khumalo

Minister of Commerce Industry and Trade
Kingdom of Eswatini

Honourable Senator Manqoba Khumalo is a proud national of the Kingdom of Eswatini who has a wealth of experience in the corporate world where he has held various positions at the Coca-Cola Company spanning 23 years. He is currently the Minister of Commerce Industry and Trade as well as Acting Minister of Information Communication and Technology in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

In 1995, Hon. Senator Khumalo began his career as a Lab Chemist at Conco Limited (Coca-Cola Swaziland). He moved up the ranks in various positions until he was offered the opportunity to head the Peterborough Juice Plant in Canada from January 2008 to June 2009. Upon his return to Eswatini he took up the reigns as General Manager, Conco Limited (Coca-Cola Swaziland), a position he held from July 2009 to January 2016, after which he travelled abroad once again to take up leadership of the Athy Concentrate Plant in Ireland from February 2016 up until his appointment as Senator in November 2018. He has excelled in heading various Operational Excellence Lead roles within The Coca-Cola Company across a number of continents namely North America, South America and Europe. In 2020, he was bestowed the African Trade Promotion Excellence Award and Hall of Fame medal by the renowned African Leadership Magazine for his outstanding leadership acumen.

Hon. Senator Khumalo has had the opportunity to serve in a number of high-profile Boards in the Kingdom of Eswatini namely the Royal Eswatini Sugar Corporation (RESC) as member and Chairman of the Risk Committee, Tibiyo Taka Ngwane as a Board member, Standard Bank Swaziland as a Board member, Eswatini Chamber of Commerce as an Executive member and Enactus Swaziland as Chairman. He has also held the position of Trustee and Public Officer to the Coca-Cola Africa Foundation an organisation steered towards the growth of African development. He is married with two children. A devout Christian, Hon. Senator Khumalo is an Executive member in his home-based church, Manzini Free Evangelical Assemblies.

Educational Background:

MBA from the University of Kwazulu Natal;

BSc (Hons) in Digital Technology from the Dublin Institute of Technology;

Bachelor of Biochemistry from the University of Eswatini (formerly University of Swaziland).



Hon. Dr. Thabiso Paul Molapo
Minister of Trade and Industry
Kingdom of Lesotho



Honourable Dr. Thabiso Paul Molapo was appointed as the Minister of Trade and Industry of the Kingdom of Lesotho on 28 May 2020. He is a Member of 10th Parliament representing Democratic Congress (DC) as Proportional Representation (PR). He is serving his first term as a member of parliament following snap elections on 3 June 2017. In 2012, Honourable Dr. Molapo contested for elections for the first time at Tsikoane Constituency during the General Elections in Lesotho, although his interest in politics commenced earlier.

Following completion of his studies, Hon. Dr. Molapo worked as a Medical Officer at Queen II Hospital and Machabeng Hospital between 1998 and 2000. However, the wealth of knowledge and experience he garnered in the civil service made him establish a Medical Arts Clinic at Maputsoe which was expanded to incorporate Medical Arts Pharmaceutical; a distribution company in 2002 to date.

Prior to pursuing a career in the medical field, Hon. Dr. Molapo graduated in Regional Technical College in Cork Ireland where he obtained Certificate in Electrical Engineering; and worked as an Electrician at Lesotho Electricity Corporation for two years from 1980 to 1982.

Educational Background:

Bachelor of Surgery and Medicine from the University of Guyana.



Hon. Lucia lipumbu
Minister of Industrialisation and Trade
Republic of Namibia



In March 2020, Honourable Lucia lipumbu assumed the position of Minister for Industrialization and Trade, charged with the responsibility of spearheading sustainable economic development and growth through the promotion of Industrialisation, to boost productive capacities and diversification of the economy and to provide clear and transparent Investment policy and legislative framework, including facilitating a conducive investment environment for a private sector which led to economic growth and employment creation.

Prior to her current position, from February 2018 Honourable lipumbu served as Deputy Minister of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development for two years with the mandate to drive economic development and promoting Namibia as the preferred investment destination to both local and foreign investors. Honourable lipumbu also served as the Deputy Minister of Economic Planning in the Presidency for a period of three years from 2015 - 2018, together with her team, they were responsible for planning National Priorities and directing the course of National Development. Her appointment as Deputy Minister at NPC came after her long career at the Government Institutions Pension Fund (GIPF) from 2001-2015 where she initially started as a Pension Administrator, later promoted to a Senior Benefits Administrator and eventually become the Head of Benefits Processing Unit.

Educational Background:

*Currently pursuing her LLB with the Southern Business School;
Bachelor of Administration and Master of Administration Degrees from the University of Namibia.*



Hon. Ebrahim Patel

Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition
Republic of South Africa



Honourable Ebrahim Patel was appointed as the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition on 29 May 2019. Prior to this appointment, he was the Minister of Economic Development since May 2009. During the 10 years as Economic Development Minister, Honourable Patel reshaped competition policy through negotiating far-reaching public interest commitments from companies in large mergers; supporting strong action by the regulators against cartels and collusion; and drafting new legislation to address economic concentration and abuse of dominance in the economy (adopted by Parliament during 2018).

He worked with a number of other ministries to lead the State's approach to infrastructure development (through the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission, the PICC, whose technical Secretariat he headed). His responsibilities since 2010 included overall strategic direction to the Industrial Development Corporation (the IDC), under whose leadership it expanded its approvals for new investment to R110 billion over the period, helping to create or save hundreds of thousands of jobs in South Africa, expand operations in the rest of Africa, support the development of renewable energy and focus on new industrial development (in areas such as food, car-making, steel production, clothing and textiles and the 4th Industrial Revolution). He directed the merger of separate small business funding institutions into the Small Enterprise Finance Agency (SEFA).

Honourable Patel coordinated the conclusion of a number of social accords between Government and other social partners on training, the green economy, youth employment and local procurement, in the period 2011-2013. Honourable Patel also contributed to social dialogue, labour and employment matters, having led organised labour's negotiations on economic policy in South Africa. He also served on the Governing Body of the UN Agency, the International Labour Organisation (ILO), and led global negotiations on matters as diverse as policy and standard setting on human resources development, cooperatives, the employment relationship, globalisation and social justice and the Global Employment Agenda.

He served as a nominee of President Nelson Mandela on South Africa's first Financial and Fiscal Commission. He also served on the National Economic Development and Labour Council (Nedlac), the Council of Higher Education (CHE) and the Council of the University of Cape Town for a number of years.

Educational Background:

He studied at the University of the Western Cape and at the University of Cape Town.

