



the sandf

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 07 December 2015

Embargo: None

UPGRADING OF NAVAL STATION DURBAN TO NAVAL BASE DURBAN: 08 DECEMBER 2015

The South African Navy Naval Station in Durban is undergoing a major upgrade to a fully fledged Naval Base Durban. A SOD Turning Ceremony to launch the project will take place at Salisbury Island in Durban on 08 December at 11:00. The Commander-in-Chief of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF), President J.G. Zuma is expected to officiate at the ceremony.

This milestone will provide a maritime capability that will ensure the realization of Maritime Security Strategy and also contribute to the enhancement of the maritime economy within the region.

South Africa has a large number of seaports including the Port of Durban which is the largest and the busiest commercial shipping terminal on the continent.

The Naval Station Durban will be the home to Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV) once it has been upgraded to a full naval base. Navies are by their nature critical in ensuring an effective maritime security, therefore the presence of OPV's in Durban will offer a deterrent element off the east coast.

Naval Station Durban was commissioned on 14 August 2002. After serious appreciation, the SANDF has taken a decision to upgrade the Station to the Base to be able deal with increasing maritime related challenges.

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Issued by: Defence Corporate Communication

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