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Brave Budget should keep ratings agencies at bay

Global capital markets reacted positively to SA's National Budget for the 2018/19 fiscal year, with the rand/dollar exchange rate strengthening by 1,7% between 21 Feb (the day before the budget) and the weekend after the budget.

The benchmark R186 bond yield also provided a stamp of approval, shedding ten basis points during the same period.

It is the opinion of Dr Roelf Botha that the newly appointed minister of Finance, Mr Nene's track record, together with a highly competent team of experts at Treasury, is such that markets have generally welcomed his appointment, particularly due to his support for scrupulous standards of public sector financial management and aversion towards any form of corruption or tender fraud.

The most notable talking point remains the increase in VAT and Botha explains the rationale behind it in the full summary document.

(Read more on www.klcbt.co.za—click on News, then Important Business Updates)

World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report on SA for 2017/18

In the 2017/18 WEF GCI outlook for SA, shows a decline in nine of the twelve pillars and a drastic drop by 14 positions in the overall ranking from 47 in 2016 to 61 in 2017. Despite the decline overall South Africa remains one of the most competitive countries in sub-Saharan Africa, and among the region's most innovative scoring 39th ranking in innovation.

The country's institutional environment (76th), financial markets (44th), and goods market efficiency (54th) are all ranked weaker than the previous year. Health & Primary Education and Labour Market Efficiency improved steadily over a seven-year period.

Corruption, crime & theft, including government instability are cited as three most problematic issues for doing business in South Africa.

The report shows all the statistics and details about each of the 23 pillars.

(Read more on www.klcbt.co.za—click on News, then Important Business Updates)

Become a partner in the School Principal Support Programme

The Partners for Possibility Programme is a Leadership Development and Principal Support Programme sponsored by business and foundations.

Becoming a Partner for Possibility involves entering into a collaborative relationship with a principle for one year. The programme offers principals a unique opportunity to learn from business peers, to receive cutting edge leadership training and to take their schools to the next level of growth.

Ideally, Partners for Possibility Mpumalanga would like to launch our first, full circle of 10 partnerships in May this year. Those who feel passionate about this transformation model, should apply to become a partner.

(Read more on www.klcbt.co.za—The Home Page)

NERSA's reasons for their decision to allow Eskom's 5,23% rate increase

In excess of 23 000 written stakeholder comments were received from private individuals, small users, intensive energy users, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and environmental activists, as well as local government and other stakeholders.

Testimonies supplied the necessary information for NERSA to reject Eskom's application for a 19,9% rate increase, which would have been devastating to the economy and job creation. Instead, they granted 5,23%.

(Read the full document on www.klcbt.co.za—Click on news, then on Important Business updates)

