

MEDIA ADVISORY

DATE: 15 August 2026

Update on the Spaza Shop Support Fund

For Immediate Release

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) invites members of the media to a press conference at which the Minister of Small Business Development, Stella Tembisa Ndabeni, will provide an update on the implementation of the Spaza Shop Support Fund.

The briefing will provide an update on progress in processing and verifying applications, as well as on the support provided to qualifying South African-owned spaza shops by DSBD and the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA), in line with their respective roles in implementing the Fund.

The Minister will also address and correct ongoing public misrepresentations and inaccuracies regarding the roles of the Department and SEDFA in implementing the Fund.

The press conference follows the Department's briefing to the Portfolio Committee on Small Business Development on the implementation of the Fund.

The Spaza Shop Support Fund is implemented by the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) and the National Empowerment Fund (NEF). The Fund was announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa in response to a tragic wave of foodborne illness incidents, including the deaths of several children linked to unsafe food products sold through informal retail channels, including spaza shops.

Members of the media are invited as follows:

Date: Monday, 17 August 2026

Time: 12h00 – 13h30

Venue: GCIS Pretoria

ENDS

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