# SANRAL



Creating wealth through infrastructure





#2992415



## The SANRAL mandate

- Established in April 1998 by an Act of Parliament as an independent operating company to operate South Africa's declared national road network
- Established in terms of the National Roads Act of 1998 as a public company with a share capital within the requirements of the South African Companies Act
- Governed by a board of directors (8 members) of whom 6 must be appointed by the Minister of Transport and 1 by the Minister of Finance Eighth member of the board is the CEO by virtue of office

- Responsible for strategic planning with regard to South African national road system
- Finance, plan, construct, provide, operate and maintain roads in neighbouring countries upon request from the Minister of Transport and in agreement with the respective countries
- Not profit driven but create public value



## What do we do ?

- Responsible for proclaimed national roads: Toll and Non-Toll network
- Maintain, fund, operate and rehabilitate national roads
- Levy tolls to service toll roads
- Manage concessionaires
- Advise Minister on road related matters
- Create public value
- Roads under SANRAL Management
  - Non-toll 18 854km (86%),
  - Agency toll 1 820km (8%),
  - Concessions 1 272km (6%)



## Funding

- Government Grant for the non-toll network
  - Cannot budget for a deficit
- Toll Revenue to be used only on toll roads
  - Borrowings from capital markets and financial institutions
- Alternate Funding Sources for toll network only
  - Domestic investors Loans
  - Foreign investors DFI (eg. EIB)
- Other income (minimal) rental income etc
- Total Debt R50 billion (R40.3 billion nominal)
  - Guaranteed borrowing R26.3 billion nominal, unutilised R5 billion (NT actual exposure larger due to ILB's)
  - Non-guaranteed borrowing R9.8 billion



### **Open Road Tolling**

- Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project (GFIP)
  - Biggest SANRAL project to date
  - All necessary legal and consultative processes followed
  - Successfully borrowed without guarantee, Moody's rating of A3
  - 2009, Bulk of construction done, money spent
  - New minister, opposed to toll, resulting in growing public opposition
  - Delays in implementation, compromises on tariffs
  - Several legal challenges which SANRAL successfully defends

#### GFIP Go live December 2013

- Cash collection on track and growing until Premier of Gauteng announces a new investigation into e-tolls
- Strengthening public resistance, cash collection drops
- SANRAL business model under threat
- Growing concern at NT
- SANRAL starts legal process to collect outstanding toll
- Growing debt as interest costs are capitalised



- Policy uncertainty
  - Investment public questions why some government officials are against their own policy
  - Public resistance to e-tolls
  - Growing resistance results in falling cash collections
    Investor reluctance pushes up funding spreads

Cost of funding deemed excessive by government

#### Toll tariffs would be higher without guarantee

 Lower funding costs through guaranteed funding should enable SANRAL to remain solvent at lower tariffs



### Management of Guarantees

- Close relationship between SANRAL and NT ALM Team
- Regular communication between entities
  - Regular reporting to National Treasury
    - on total SANRAL borrowing as well as NT guarantee exposure (real and nominal terms)
    - Mix of funding fixed, floating, inflation
    - Expected future borrowing (J-curve analysis)

Bi-monthly ALCo meetings, NT board member is chairperson of ALCo

Applied for an increased guarantee due to current challenges

- Application to Minister of Transport which will then apply to Minister of Finance
- National Treasury Guarantee Committee will advise Minister of Finance on whether to grant an increase or not



### Challenges

- Lack of political support
  - Ideological differences within ruling party
  - Politicians are afraid of losing votes, not willing to support tolls

#### Public resistance to open road tolling

- Public feels over taxed, financially burdened
- Senses the weakness in government caused by differences in their ranks on open road tolling

Roll-out of urgent new projects delayed

Future of road building threatened



### Positives

- SANRAL a center of excellence
  - Well run, efficient
  - World-class pool of knowledge and expertise
  - Support from National Treasury
    - Clear understanding of SANRAL's important role as well as its challenges
    - Concern over their contingent liabilities



### Conclusion

- Ensure political support for projects
  - Full transparency with all parties involved
  - Maintain good and open relationship with political masters, Finance Department / Guarantor of debt