

## HIS MAJESTY KING MSWATI III AND PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA DISCUSSED WAYS TO EASE BORDER CONGESTION.



President Cyril Ramaphosa and His Majesty King Mswati III deliberated on the issue of border congestion during their meeting that took place over the past weekend- among other issues.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa's visit to the beautiful Kingdom coincided with the Marula(Buganu) Festival celebrated at Hlane Royal Residence on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2019.

According to President Ramaphosa's spokesperson Khusela Diko, the two leaders directed that Ministers should ensure that the issue of congestion at border posts and other issues are attended to. Over a period of time, eMaswati have been lamenting the long queues and congestion at Ngwenya Border Gate which is one of the busiest entry/exit points in the Kingdom.

The two leaders directed the Ministers of International Relations and Cooperation in the two countries to convene the Joint Bilateral Commission on Cooperation (JBCC).

JBCC oversees the implementation of signed agreements between the Republic of South Africa and eSwatini. His Majesty King Mswati III wished the people of South Africa well in the forthcoming provincial and national elections slated for the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

Making his address on Sunday, during the closing of the Marula(Buganu) Ceremony, President Ramaphosa pointed out that in the closed-door talks he had with His Majesty, they deliberated on a number of issues of interest to both countries.

Their discussions highlighted the plight of unemployment affecting young people from both countries and also discussed economic issues.

### **AU SUMMIT 2020 ALSO DISCUSSED**

The issue of hosting the 2020 Extraordinary African Union (AU) Summit was also on the agenda during the talks between the two heads of State.

South Africa was recently elected as the Chair of the African Union for 2020 and the beautiful Kingdom of eSwatini was endorsed as host for the 2020 AU Summit.