

29/05/89

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

212

RPTB1

TRADE AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION PLANNING SYSTEM

89/90 TRADE AND ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Mission: PRETORIA

Country: LESOTHO

DURING THE PAST YEAR LESOTHO HAS BENEFITTED FROM INCREASED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OWING TO PROGRESS ON THE LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER SCHEME AND ON INGRESS OF LIGHT INDUSTRIES PARTICULARLY CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS FROM SOUTH AFRICA. EXPORT OF CLOTHING HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS WITH NEW COMPANIES TAKING ADVANTAGE OF LESOTHO'S POSITION AS A SADC MEMBER COUNTRY AND A LOME CONVENTION SIGNATORY. WITH A GROWING SECONDARY INDUSTRY SECTOR THERE MAY BE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FUTURE FOR CANADIAN SUPPLIERS OF SMALL PRODUCTION MACHINERY TO EXPORT TO LESOTHO TEXTILES AND CLOTHING INDUSTRY AND ATTEMPT TO SECURE OPENINGS FOR CANADIAN CONSULTANTS AND PROJECT MANAGERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT SECTOR.