

'Always be aware of surroundings, and obey signals'

"Never attempt to cross a railway line until you've checked both ways. The cost of not doing so is too high, with severe consequences, including death and injury."

This was the plea of the South African deputy minister of Transport, Lisa Mangcu, on International Level Crossing Day observed in Ulco on Thursday (15/06).

"Remember, where there's a track, there's a train," he told those present, including learners of the Ulco Primary School.

"We must commit to staying safe around railway lines by following the regulations. Always be aware of your surroundings, and obey all signals."

The event was held in collaboration with Traxtion, the Railway Safety Regulator (RSR), Transnet and AfriSam, who operate a private siding line that connects to



International Level Crossing Awareness Day was observed in Ulco. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

the Transnet line.

The main crossing in Ulco is utilised by pedestrians, which includes learners, and motorists.

This siding, known as the Iron Ore line, is one of South Africa's main heavy haul lines and spans 861 km

from Sishen to Saldanha Bay.

Mangcu said although there have been no occurrences in the past five years at this crossing, the RSR has chosen it in a proactive approach to reinforce safety education and awareness at crossings.