



SALGA
South African Local Government Association

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MEDIA RELEASE

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SALGA welcomes Independent Electoral Commission Launch for 2016 Municipal Elections and calls for all eligible South African voters to register on 5 – 6 March

SALGA welcomes the Independent Electoral Commission launch for 2016 Municipal Elections and wishes it well on its endeavours to ensure free and fair local government election.

Local government is at the coalface of service delivery and is the closest sphere of government to communities; it is therefore imperative that eligible voters go to the polls to cast their votes to exercise a democratic right which is enshrined in the in the Constitutional of the Republic of South Africa.

The 2016 local government elections come at a time as the sector celebrates 15 years of democratic, people centered and developmental local government since its establishment in 2000. The first municipal elections were held in South Africa on 5 December 2000 to elect members to the local governing councils in the municipalities of South Africa. SALGA is in the process of rolling out an awareness campaign profiling the successes of municipalities in February. The interactive component of the campaign will ensure thorough engagement on systematic challenges confronting South Africa's municipalities, which tend to undermine the delivery of services

Municipal elections are held every five years to elect councillors who will be responsible for governing a municipality for the next five years. The current term of office of municipal councils ends on 18 May 2016.

The elected councillors will serve on the town, city, metropolitan or district councils to ensure services that impact the daily lives of citizens in their areas such as water, electricity and sanitation.

SALGA calls for all eligible South African voters to register on 5 – 6 March.

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