



SALGA MEDIA STATEMENT

06 September 2011

The SALGA National Conference ushers in a new term for organized local government

SALGA held its fourth National Conference under the theme: **“Building Municipal and Social Cohesion for quality and sustainable services: 2011 and beyond”**, where all 278 South African municipalities convened at the Durban International Convention Centre from 29 August to 1 September 2011, e.

The National Conference, an elective conference, is SALGA's highest decision-making structure held after the local government elections. The conference saw municipalities elect the new SALGA and Local Government leadership.

The newly elected SALGA National Executive Committee is as follows:

1. Chairperson: Cllr Thabo Manyoni (Mayor of Mangaung Metro, Free State)
2. Deputy Chairperson: Cllr Nancy Sihlwayi (Deputy Mayor of Nelson Mandela Metro, Eastern Cape)
3. Deputy Chairperson: Cllr Nombulelo Hermans (Mayor of uMsobomvu Municipality, Northern Cape)
4. Deputy Chairperson: Cllr Mpho Nawa (Executive Mayor of Westrand District Municipality, Gauteng)
5. Additional Members:
 - i. Cllr Flora Maboja-Boltman (MMC: Corporate Services for Gert Sibande District Municipality, Mpumalanga)
 - ii. Cllr Dudu Mazibuko (Mayor for uThukela District Municipality, KZN)
 - iii. Cllr Speedy Mashilo (Executive Mayor for Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga)
 - iv. Cllr Chris Neethling (Ward Councillor of Ward 2 in George Municipality, Western Cape)
 - v. Cllr Joshua Matlou (Executive Mayor, Mopani District Municipality, Limpopo)
 - vi. Cllr Boitumelo Moloi (Executive Mayor for Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality, North West)

The objectives of the conference were to amongst others;

1. Reflect on the progress made and challenges faced by the sector during the last term;
2. Critically examine current challenges facing the sector and recommend appropriate mechanisms to address same
3. Adopt Audited financial statements in respect of the 2009/10 and 2010/11 financial years;
4. Approve the programme of action, business plan/budget of SALGA as approved by the NEC for the 2011/12 financial year;
5. Review SALGA's organizational financial performance;
6. Elect members of the National Executive Committee; and
7. Establish/review SALGA's oversight bodies as may be required by law.

This year more than 2000 delegates attended the conference including, the Acting Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Honourable Nathi Mthethwa, Minister Trevor Manuel, Deputy Minister Yunus Currim, Deputy Speaker of parliament, Honourable Nomaindia Mfeketo, the Premier of Kwa-Zulu-Natal, Honourable Zweli Mkhize, Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on CoGTA, Mr Lechesa Tsenoli, the Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission, Dr Brigalia Bam and many others including International guest speakers from Local Government world bodies and other prominent Local Government Practitioners.

The three day conference reflected on progress made by Local Government over the past term, what has been achieved and areas that need serious redress. It engaged on discussions and shaped key resolutions with clear and concrete Local Government positions under the following themes:

1. Advancing Stable Municipal Governance and Effective Intergovernmental Support
2. Towards a Decent and Well Governed Councillor Support System
3. Accelerating Access to Sustainable Municipal Services for All
4. Managing the effects of Global Warming and Climate Change, Consolidating the Local Government Agenda for Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies
5. Fostering Coherent Municipal Planning and Rural Development
6. Championing Sound Municipal Finance and Budget Planning
7. Fostering Stable Labour Relations in Local Government and Building an Empowered Workforce
8. Local Government Leading the Fight against Corruption

The eThekweni Declaration and conference discussions and resolutions will be available on the SALGA website on www.salga.org.za

Ends

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ISSUED BY:
THE SOUTH AFRICAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SALGA)