



public works

Department:  
Public Works  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS  
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# **SACPCMP: 2<sup>nd</sup> Project and Construction Management Professions Conference**

**20-22 October 2014, Midrand**

*Theme: “Towards growth, development and  
transformation of the Project and  
Construction Management Professions”*

***Official Opening and Gala Dinner***  
*20 October 2014*

**Mr TW Nxesi MP, Minister of Public Works**

## Protocol:

- Programme Director: Mr Bonke Simelane
- The Premier of Gauteng, Mr David Makhura
- Session Facilitator: Ms Portia Tau-Sekati
- Representatives of government departments, entities and state owned enterprises
- From the SACPCMP:
  - President, Mr Eric Manchidi
  - Deputy President, Mr Isaac Nkosi
  - Fourth Term Council Members
  - Former Presidents of the SACPCMP - Mr Ferdinand Fester and Prof. Raymond Nkado and Prof. PD Rwelamila (in absentia)
- Presidents of our Voluntary Associations and their senior management
- Presidents and Registrars of the Built Environment Councils
- Senior Management of State Entities and Municipalities
- Senior Management of the Department of Labour, DPW and other government departments

- Organised Business and Labour
- Ladies and gentlemen

Let me begin by thanking our hosts – the SACPCMP – for delivering the 2nd Project and Construction Management Professions Conference – and for their hard work in organising this important event. Thank you to the President of the SACPCMP, Mr Eric Manchidi and the Registrar, Ms Nomvula Rakolote and the fourth term Council Members.

On a lighter note, I always like to tell the story of when I was new to the Department of Public Works and the construction environment: the first time I received a communication from the SACP-CMP – not knowing what the initials stood for – I assumed it was something to do with the SACP (South African Communist Party).

The inaugural Project and Construction Management Professions Conference held on 11-12 April 2013

adopted a number of outcomes and targets including the following:

- Mainstreaming Construction Management in all major construction and maintenance projects in the public and private sector;
- Increasing the pool of Professional Construction Mentors and Construction Mentors through a Specialist Construction Mentorship course and other means to contribute to the development and transformation of the construction industry;
- Increasing the pool of Construction Health and Safety professionals and practitioners towards the implementation of Construction Regulations 2014 – to enhance health and safety standards in the sector;
- Reducing incidences and fatalities in construction and maintenance sites through the use of

registered Construction Health and Safety Professionals;

- Advocating the use of registered professionals in Public-Private Partnerships for construction infrastructure projects in South Africa and in the continent.

You emerged from the first conference with a clear vision and plan of action for implementation over the last year.

The theme of this 2<sup>nd</sup> conference remains: *“Towards growth, development and transformation of the Project and Construction Management Professions”*.

This goes to the heart of government priorities in relation to infrastructure roll-out as a tool to leverage regional economic integration and development - and to drive job creation, skills development and empowerment.

I am happy to see the conference will be addressed by various high level national and international speakers which include leading academics, practitioners and strategic thinkers, including Ministers and senior government officials responsible for Government's infrastructure plan and the regulation of the built environment; as well as Heads of State Owned Enterprises, industry leaders, the private sector and labour.

The conference programme and commissions indicate an on-going focus on health and safety, ethical standards, transformation and skills development as well as promoting best practice in areas of procurement and construction project management.

In my Budget Vote speech this year I indicated that one of the priorities for the five years of this new Administration would be the transformation of the built environment. To this end I called an initial meeting of

stakeholders to kick start and drive a debate on transformation. The group has continued to meet – with the SACPCMP providing a secretariat. My thanks to the Registrar, Ms Nomvula Rakolote – as well as to the CBE (Council for the Built Environment) and the CIDB (Construction Industry Development Board). These bodies are researching and seriously addressing these issues of transformation.

It is important that this conference takes a debate on transformation and the implications for the sector – and comes up with concrete proposals.

One of the tasks of the Transformation Task Team that I have put in place will then be to engage with the recommendations and resolutions of this conference.

More generally, this conference provides an important opportunity for engagement and to forge synergies between government plans and private sector service

providers – in the belief that working together we can achieve more.

I believe that this conference is taking place at a crucial time for the built environment sector in our country.

There is now a common understanding that infrastructure development has to drive economic and social development in the coming years:

- It has been a consistent theme in State of the Nation Addresses in recent years;
- It is at the heart of the New Growth Path and National Development Plan;
- It was the reason for establishing the PICC (Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Council) in 2011 which in turn has launched the various SIPs (Strategic Infrastructure Projects);



- You will remember that infrastructure roll-out and economic integration were the focus of discussions on the development of the African continent – both at the AU (African Union) and the BRICS summits this last year.

This conference, then, provides an opportunity and a platform for participants to contribute, recommend, make inputs and constructively criticize where necessary on matters of infrastructure delivery.

Most importantly, the conference provides the time and space to focus on the critical task of enhancing the profession, and to ensure that registered construction project management professionals understand their important part in the roll out of the infrastructure development plan.

Let me also commend the SACPCMP for placing the issue of health and safety prominently on the conference agenda following the promulgation of the

Construction Regulation 2014. It remains unacceptable that, on average, two workers die every week on construction sites.

I wish you well in your deliberations and look forward to reading the record of these proceedings and the recommendations to come out of the conference – which I am sure will further strengthen the construction project management professions, as well as feed into the five year vision of the Department and support the work of the PICC and the implementation of the various SIPs.

I thank you.