

Protocol

- Programme Director
- The MEC of KZN Public Works, Mr Ravi Pillay
- Mr Albert Dubler, President of the International Union of Architects
- Mr Sindile Ngonyama, President of the South African Institute of Architects
- Most importantly, the representatives from UIA2017 Seoul
- Invited guests and speakers
- Ladies and gentlemen

UIA2014 Durban is coming to a close. They do say that: 'all good things must come to an end' – and from the vantage point of Durban there is an element of truth in that. However, even here, in South Africa, UIA2014 lives on – through the various legacy projects – and in the heightened awareness of the Built Environment which this Congress has stimulated in the country.

This 25th World Congress of the International Union of Architects has achieved much:

- This event succeeded in bringing together the full range of role players from architects and built environment practitioners to students and communities.
- We have been reminded that the Built Environment is much more than the physical structures which we see. It has to resonate with the needs and aspirations of the human beings and communities that live in those spaces.
- The Congress has also sought to situate its debates within a much larger global, socio-economic and environmental reality – addressing questions of sustainability, poverty and inequality.

- During the Congress, the Architecture profession has taken the opportunity for self-reflection, seeking to review and refresh its mandate – so as to remain relevant to the wider society whilst engaging with the next generation of architects and built environment professionals to take on board their concerns.
- For us – as politicians and bureaucrats – we are challenged to raise our sights. So we no longer talk about delivering ‘housing units’ in isolation – but rather we seek to create ‘human settlements’ – which are planned and delivered in partnership with the affected communities. So in future we do not measure ‘infrastructure roll-out’ simply in financial and economic terms and jobs created – important as this – but we also purposefully plan a Built Environment which is humane - in harmony with communities and the environment.

The work of the UIA continues and we now look forward to UIA2017 Seoul. We wish them well in their

endeavours and pledge our support to assisting them wherever we can in their efforts to organise the next World Congress in Seoul in 2017.

It gives me great pleasure to pass the baton on to the Representative from UIA2017 Seoul.