

NEW ABCSA EXECUTIVE TEAM

It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that we say farewell to the outgoing Chair of ABCSA, Shane Hunter, who was Chair for over a year from mid 2016 to August 2017. Shane introduced a regular pattern of monthly newsletters to ensure there was an opportunity for ABCSA members to network, and to introduce them to a diverse network of South African and Australian organisations and representatives. Shane also introduced members to the monthly newsletter, which he hopes provides an update to you on our current and future activities. Shane grew the ABCSA membership and advocacy network, and ensured it remained a valuable and essential organization, representing the views of African and Australian businesses. We look forward to seeing him at our events as an ongoing member of the Chamber.

We warmly welcome Chris Hamilton, CEO of BankserveAfrica, as the new Chairman of ABCSA. Originally trained as a lawyer, Chris has been developing and operating digital financial infrastructure for stock exchanges, financial markets, payments associations and clearing houses for over 20 years. Now based in Johannesburg, he has worked mainly in his hometown of Sydney, with stints in Paris and London.

Prior to departing, Shane also introduced some changes to the ABCSA Committee and we would like to welcome Neville Mariner of Redbank to the role of ABCSA Treasurer, and David Eggleston from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to an Advisory role at ABCSA. Jacqui Burt also joins ABCSA as the Web Manager, and has already redesigned the ABCSA website, and will be updating the ABCSA LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/abcsa/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianAfricaChamber/> pages. So stay connected for updates on ABCSA's social media presence. For a list of the complete ABCSA management team please see the ABCSA website <http://www.abcsafrica.org/about/>

ABCSA AGM OVERVIEW 22 SEPTEMBER

ABCSA's annual general meeting (AGM) was held at the Gauteng Growth and Development Agency (GGDA) on 22 September 2017. The previous AGM took place in the presence of a number of ABCSA activities. Outgoing ABCSA Chair Shane Hunter made the following comments:

- Reinforced the importance of membership relation with ABCSA Membership Accounting around the AGM. So that it is important to ensure that members continue to be well informed being a member of ABCSA and the Committee would be pleased to hear from current and future members what letters they would like to see ABCSA doing to ensure this.
- ABCSA's current financial balance is approximately R60,000. But with membership fees the primary source of revenue, the Committee is investigating additional fund raising activities and would be interested to hear from members potential opportunities for additional fund raising.
- ABCSA now uses Sage One Accounting system to manage the accounts, which enables better control over payroll, budgeting and celebrating payments.
- ABCSA is expanding its network of contacts including with other Chambers of Commerce and business entities for example the German, Johannesburg, Pretoria and Randburg Chambers, local and foreign organisations such as Foreign Investment Council (FIC), the Export Council of Australia (ECA), Africa House and the South African Department of Trade and Industry (dti).
- ABCSA is endeavouring to develop an annual events calendar and aiming to attract high profile speakers, with a focus on "business" oriented events to provide opportunities for members. The Committee is always interested to hear suggestions for events from members, including if you have high profile representatives visiting from Australia. The ABCSA Committee is also interested to hear any suggestions for contributions to the monthly newsletters.
- The ABCSA website has been improved and updated and now includes a list of ABCSA members. The ABCSA LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/abcsa/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianAfricaChamber/> pages will also be updated to ensure correct for most regular updates.

ABCSA AGM OUTCOMES

Members present at the AGM agreed the following outcomes (broad report to be made available shortly).

- approved the annual financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2016;
- appointed M. Deon Moolloy as the interim director of ABCSA for the financial year ended 31 December 2017;
- approved the proposed amendments to the ABCSA constitution and memorandum of incorporation;
- appointed M. Deon Moolloy to independently review ABCSA's annual financial statements for the financial year ending 31 December 2017;
- elected Chris Hamilton as director and chairman of the board of directors;
- re-elected Nathan Eyles as director and vice-chairman of the board of directors; and
- re-elected Dominic Ingelsson as director of the board of directors.

BUSINESS WITH QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT & SOUTH AFRICA

ABCSA was pleased to host Greg Mariner from Trade and Investment Queensland (TIQ) on Tuesday 5th October who presented on business development between South Africa and the state of Queensland in Australia. The event was held at the Wanderers Club and sponsored by Australian Migration Specialists, one of ABCSA's members. The speakers involved consisted of Greg Mariner from TIQ, Gary Lawless from Australian Migration Specialists, Liza Maroulis from Global Education (also an ABCSA member) and Graham Carrington from Global Advisory Services, based on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. Greg spoke about the various aspects of migrating and business services in the Queensland area and Gary focused on the rules and regulations around a variety of visas for migration. Liza gave us insight into some of the top tertiary institutions in Queensland and Graham, as an ex-South African running an advisory service to new businesses in the area provided some important thoughts for consideration into starting up or moving into businesses in the area. We will be uploading the presentations onto our website within the next few days for those who were unable to make it to this informative event.



NEW MEMBERS

ABCSA is pleased to welcome the following new members to the ABCSA community.

BankserveAfrica is Africa's largest automated payment clearing house, and has for over four decades played a crucial role in enabling simplicity in the payments industry, processing billions of localised payment transactions per year, all maintaining the safety and security of South Africa's National Payment System. Visit www.bankserveafrica.com for more information.



Century Property Developments is the leading South African developer of residential developments and exclusive lifestyle estates. With numerous international property awards under their belt, they offer an uniquely South African experience where one can build your dream home on a stand within a secure development - or rent a completed apartment unit directly from the developer.

With its proven track record and numerous residential developments, including the internationally acclaimed Waterfall Estates, Century Property Developments continues to deliver a superior product to residents, tenants and investors alike with its ongoing South African architecture, secure perimeter, indigenous landscaping, green lifestyle and family values.

A PRESENTATION FROM THE DTI, TIKZN & DUBE TRADEPORT

ABCSA was delighted to be a part of the breakfast presentation from the DTI on the One Stop Shop, Trade and Investment KZN and the Dube TradePort on Friday 10th of September at the Global Cities, The Dube TradePort is a Special Economic Zone centred around the King Shaka airport near Durban.

Being a SEZ, it confers a number of benefits and assistance packages to business professionals including various tax and related incentives. Both local and international investment is being targeted for the zone that is being developed to stimulate economic growth and it supports a number of industry sectors aimed at local and international trade. Apart from the international airport, Richards Bay Harbour is 90 minutes from the TradePort, which will facilitate further



AFRICA DOWN UNDER (ADU) PERTH CONFERENCE UPDATE

Perth hosted the 15th Annual Africa Down Under (ADU) conference from 8-9 September with more than 1000 representatives participating, and 22 national delegations from over a dozen missions from African nations attending. Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs the Hon Julie Bishop gave the keynote address, and noted the similarities between Australia's economy with many African economies - both having ample resources and the need to attract capital from overseas. Minister Bishop noted that at least 70 Australian extractive companies operate across 33 African countries, with many basing their Australian operations in Perth. The centre of Perth's extractive and mining services sector is also well served at ABCSA. Minister Bishop also noted the strengthening of the commercial relations between Africa and Australia, from extractives and mining services, infrastructure and energy, to retail and professional services. This is now also reflected in ADU, which is promoting a trade mission with an expanded program of events linking African and Australian universities, business, policy and cultural communities and institutions. The full text of Minister Bishop's speech is available at https://foreignminister.gov.au/speeches/Pages/2017/09_sc_170908.aspx.



Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop with African Ministers and DFAT Heads of Mission from Africa attending ADU. Source: Perth Media.

SOUTH AFRICA TO HOST IORA IN DURBAN OCTOBER

South Africa will be hosting the 17th Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers Meeting when it assumes the role of Chair in October 2017, taking over from Indonesia. The meetings will be held from 14-18 October in Durban under the theme "IORA - uniting the peoples of Africa, Asia, Australia, and the Americas through enhanced cooperation for peace, stability and sustainable development". The aim of IORA is to promote trade liberalisation and trade cooperation between members with activities focusing on trade facilitation, investment promotion and economic cooperation. The meetings provide business networking and trade and investment working groups. Interested members can find further information on the IORA <http://www.iora.int/17th-council-meeting-14-18-october-2017> page and DFAT <http://www.dfat.gov.au/indonesia2017/iora17.htm> website. South Africa will be hosting IORA for 10 years so keep the initiative on your radar. Australia hosted IORA 2013-15.



SPONSORSHIPS AND NEW MEMBERSHIPS

If you would like to sign up with the Australian Business Chamber of Commerce (Southern Africa), please get in touch with us. Contact Mignon Willem at mign@abcsafrica.org or visit our website at www.abcsafrica.org

