**GISSA NATIONAL AGM & KZN MEETING**

**VIRTUAL PLATFORM**

**17th SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Greetings:**

Chairperson and Committee of the KZN (hosts); the Secretary;

Members of the Council; Regional Chairpersons and Committee members;

The distinguished guests: Speakers of the day: Ms. Andiswa Mlisa (SANSA) & Sirs Gustav Fick & Danial Read (OPTRON).

Fellow Compatriots, Geomatics Practitioners, Ladies and Gentlemen, ALL Protocol observed.

Let me welcome you all virtually for your attendance of the 16th GISSA National AGM. First and foremost, thank you so much Dr Brynard for the organisation of the said activity, the administrative support you have given to the organisation, you are indeed a true servant, leading from the front…great 7 years of excellence.

Today is a great day to the GI Science profession and industry at large, it has been 5 years and 6 months being the GISSA National Chairperson. My journey, as mandated by the GISSA Constitution ends today and the baton will be handed over to the new leader to steer the ship forward.

Fellow Compatriots, we are all human kind and have 24hrs daily. Planning is key to creating impactful memories as a servant for the profession and industry. How much can you just give and share?

**GEO-SERVANTHOOD JOURNEY – MARCH 2015 TO SEPT 2020**

Compatriots, my rise to GISSA National Leadership started shortly after the celebrations of the country having hosted the first Africa’s FIFA Soccer World Cup games. Being asked by the then National Chairperson, Dr Herman Booysen to avail myself as the Deputy Chairperson for the organisation of the hosting of the GISSA Ukubuzana Conference and Exhibition, Oct 2012.

At the National GISSA Council meeting, Oct 2012 was nominated to serve as the Deputy National Chairperson of the organisation.

March 2015, at the Mowbray, WC, this was the 11th National AGM, I got nominated and voted in as the GISSA National Chairperson. During this term, we successfully hosted the Geomatics Indaba Conference and Exhibition together with the other two VA’s, IMSSA & SAGI and EE Publishers, unity of the profession was key and welcoming of the Geomatics Professional Act of 2013; the GISSA Constitution was drafted and approved at the 12th National AGM at Pretoria, GP hosting. GI Science mentorship to capacitate the right skills at the local government initiated through partnership of GISSA and SAGI, 42 learners benefitting during the 2016 year and a further 58 during the 2018 year. The National Council implemented a Geo-mentorship programme of seasoned Geomatics Practitioners to offer their time to mentorship and organise workshops to assist aspiring Geomatics Trainees to get ready for the SAGC Law exams (Various categories). And also, the Leadership adopting a Region that was having fewer members and assisting them to get off the grounds, we travelled the length and breadth of this beautiful country.

KZN was then repositioned to the national importance, membership slightly grew. Limpopo and Mpumalanga, “Twins”, resuscitated and consistent with hosting of meetings, some as joint. Free State, the only Region to have hosted the current National Chairperson, Past-Honourable Adrian Roos and Past-Past Dr Herman Booysen, “Three Musketeers”. The Region has more attendees to its events than membership numbers.

Eastern Cape and Northern Cape, both are so diverse and remote, with membership spread over long kilometres. Attendance gets affected.

**CONFERENCES ORGANISED**

* September 2018: Africa Geo, Emperors Palace, Kempton Park, GP.
* August 2017: Geomatics Indaba, Durban ICC, KZN. Transforming today for a better tomorrow.
* Sept 2016: Geomatics Indaba, Emperors Palace, Kempton Park, GP. Geomatics Skills & Technologies: *Growing professionals to secure our future*
* Sept 2015: Geomatics Indaba, Emperors Palace, Kempton Park, GP. Developing spatial technologies and skills for strategic infrastructure planning.

How have we impacted the profession to date? Numbers have grown in all facets, we still need to do more and sustaining the future of the profession. The young Geomatics Practitioners are looking for opportunities to grow, become better and relevant to today’s challenges and the future, being part of the value chain. The knowledgeable, seasoned, matured and experienced Geomatics Practitioners, thank you for giving your time and please continue assisting the young and give them opportunities to flourish and the same is expected of the Young to remain humble and not be trapped with the entitlement mentality. Therefore, the Education portfolio is very key to unpack the process and opening doors to welcome the millenniums to be Geomatics *Gigs & Nerds*, thank you for the foot print implanted and continue impacting the young minds about the profession.

**THE SAGC**

The society has been represented by Dr H du Plessis as a Member (April 2016-Feb 2019) and myself as the Alternate Member until Nov 2020.

First term of the Council:

* Transitional era and has Committees from the PLATO era as the Regulations has not yet been approved and gazette by the Minister of the department;
* Started the term with the Strategic session to chant the tasks ahead:
  + Define roles and responsibilities – review of the organogram
* Committees in place:
  + Disciplinary; Finance; Procurement; Bursaries; Continued Professional Development; Education Advisory; Policy; Recruitment.
* Various policies approved and are being implemented;
  + Procurement; Recognition of VA’s; Bursaries;
  + In progress (Drafts): ICT; Job Reservations; Tariffs of Charge;
* Review of the Academic Frameworks – Geography & Geomatics synergy;
* Drafted the job reservation document – process started as early as 2015 led by GP and we need to draft the tariffs of charge for all the categories (Sam, Fanie);

Term of office ending, Nov 2020 and the nomination process has taken place.

**Proposals**: myself as Member 1 and Ms. Nwabisa Pulumo as Alternate Member 1, and Ms. Silindi Mhlongo as Member 2 and Ms. Marlanie Moodley as Alternate Member 2.

**The CSI**

Term started April 2016 and was to end May 2019, term extended to May 2020 and further to Nov 2020.

Towards the end of 2017 got appointed by the Honourable Minister to being the Deputy Chairperson and Acting Chairperson from April 2019 as Dr Clarke retired from the public service.

Mid-March 2020, our country was placed on the lockdown as the world got impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period we had to use whatever resource available to us to fight this pandemic. Our resources, in this case are geospatial information. The announcement by the State President Cyril Ramaphosa to monitor the geographic location of new cases of coronavirus in real-time, geo-location tracking and mapping of areas most vulnerable to the spread of the virus once again showcased the undisputed importance and value of the geospatial information in managing any disaster as experienced.

The Committee has over the past four years prepared the ground to ensure that the country and in particular decision-makers have access to reliable and authoritative fundamental geospatial information through the identification and appointment of base data custodians. The Committee is pleased to present a list of fundamental datasets that are used in the fight against COVID -19 and to inform evidence-based planning and decision-making in other government’s priority areas.

As the current term is coming to end, I have made myself available to serve a term for the CSI and has been nominated as a Member and Ms. Silindi Mhlongo as Alternate Member.

**PERFORMANCE OF THE TERM**

1. **Subcommittee: Policy & Legislation**

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| **INDICATOR** | **RESULTS** |
| Review the SDI Act | **Partially Achieved -** Draft review of the SDI Actavailable |
| Formulate 5 policies | **Partially Achieved -** Policy on Policy and Policy of standards developed.  3 (Policy on Archiving, Policy on Copyright and Policy on Information Flow) not developed due to lack of resources |
| Draft Guidelines | **Achieved -** Draft SASDI guidelines submitted to the department as concluded and recommended by the CSI for the Ministers approval |
| Review Regulations | **Achieved –** Draft available |
| Formulate SAGIMS | **Partially Achieved -** Strategy discussion document in place. |

1. **Subcommittee: Data**

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| **INDICATOR** | **RESULTS** |
| Criteria for b*ase datasets* for the terrestrial sphere reviewed | **Achieved** |
| Criteria for base datasets for the Coastal and Marine spheres formulated | **Not Achieved -** Lack of financial resources |
| Spatial Data Gap Analysis report- Form F completed | **Achieved** |
| Monitor base dataset coordinator governance | **Achieved** |
| Processes and procedures to implement shared custodianship for base datasets defined | **Achieved** |
| Shared custodianship/base dataset governance agreements monitored | **Achieved** |
| Metadata audit report mechanism developed and implemented | **Not Achieved –** Electronic Metadata Catalogue not available |
| Form D and E processes defined | **Achieved** |

1. **Subcommittee: Standards**

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| **INDICATOR** | **RESULTS** |
| Number of organisations with access to Standards | **Not Achieved –** Lack of resources to procure standards |
| Custodians trained on standards | **Not Achieved** |
| List of identified standards compiled | **Achieved** |
| A List of standards gazetted | **Achieved** |
| Participated in the development of standards | **Achieved** |

1. **Subcommittee: Systems**

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| **INDICATOR** | **RESULTS** |
| EMC deployed and enhanced | **Not Achieved –** EMC not in place due to lack of financial resources |
| SASDI Website deployed and enhanced | **Achieved** |
| Standards Portal Developed | **Not Achieved –** Lack of Financial Resource |
| DCPR deployed and enhanced, including automation of DCPR Forms (D, E1, E2, F) | **Partially Achieved** |

1. **Subcommittee: Education & Training**

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| **INDICATOR** | **RESULTS** |
| Design of advanced metadata course | **Partially Achieved –**  No EMC available &  Lack of resources to review course content |
| Presentation of advanced metadata course conducted | **Partially Achieved –** EMC not available to present course |
| Additional courses | **Partially Achieved -** Course additional (e.g. IT courses to assist with EMC) not presented due to no EMC platform being available |
| Research agenda documented | **Not achieved –** Lack of Financial Resources |
| Workshops at events such as conferences | **Achieved** |
| Custom-made educational material | **Not achieved -** Custom-made material not developed and workshop presentations and links to available material not published due to unavailability of the SASDI website |
| Inputs to work done by other bodies provided | **Achieved** |

1. **Subcommittee: Communication & Marketing**

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| **INDICATOR** | **RESULTS** |
| Publications relating to spatial information compiled and distributed | **Achieved** |
| SASDI newsletters and snippets compiled and distributed | **Achieved** |
| Marketing and Communication Strategy developed and implemented | **Not Achieved –** Lack of Financial Resources |
| Stakeholder Engagement Plan compiled, managed and maintained | **Not Achieved –** Lack of Financial Resources |
| CSI Marketing material prepared | **Partially Achieved –** Banners not procured due to limited funds |
| CSI Branding Guideline, including, templates prepared | **Achieved** |

**Farewell:**

1. **Servant Adrian Roos (Past Chairperson & Director)**
2. **Servant Zoltan (Ethics & Constitution)**
3. **Servant Dr. H du Plessis (Elder & Higher Education)**
4. **Servant Hlonela (MP former Chairperson)**
5. **Servant Magda Roos (Bursaries)**
6. **Servant Lucky Msimanga (LP former Chairperson)**

**Fellow Compatriots, Geomatics Practitioners, Friends and Colleagues, the Leaders and Servants of GI Science.**

**I would like to thank each one of you for your support, zeal and entrusting me to lead the organization.**

**GISSA is current and GISSA is the future.**

**I Thank You ALL.**