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MEDIA ADVISORY

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The 2023 SALGA Council of Speakers (SCoS) gathers municipal leaders to drive stability in local councils and improvements in service delivery

Speakers of Councils, Councillors, senior members of the National and Provincial SALGA leadership, local government representatives, and representatives of the Provincial government and Parliament will gather at the Rustenburg Civic Centre in the North West from Tuesday, November 21, 2023, to Wednesday, November 22, 2023, for the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) Council of Speakers (SCoS).

The forum, which takes place annually, will hear notable keynote speakers and key role players in the local government ecosystem engage on policy priorities, exchange best practices in local governance and service delivery, and generate insights into the ever-changing local government landscape. These insights will serve as a guide for municipalities to improve the delivery of municipal services to their diverse communities.

Members of the media are invited to cover the 2023 Council of Speakers to be held as follows:

Date: 21-22 November 2023
Venue: Rustenburg Civic Centre
Time: 08h00
Registration: 20 November 2023 17h00-18h00

The primary objectives of the 2023 SCoS are to:

- Identify policy and legislative matters that SALGA needs to include in its advocacy, lobbying and strategic engagements in a proactive manner.
- Identify challenges speakers face in municipalities and propose approaches to address them.
- Exchange best practices regarding Council Speakers' roles in councils.

Keynote speakers at the two-day event include Rustenburg Local Municipality Executive Mayor Cllr. Sheila Mabale-Huma, North West Premier Kaobitsa Bushy Maape, and SALGA North West Chairperson Cllr. Khumalo Molefe. In addition to speakers from various municipalities, panelists include, among others, Cllr. Felicity Purchase, Speaker of the City of Cape Town, and Ms. Kate Tissington, Senior Researcher at the Public Affairs Research Institute (PARI).

The program will be directed by SALGA Deputy Presidents Cllrs. Flora Maboja-Boltman, Xola Pakati, and Xanthea Liemberg.

Panel discussions will centre on the following topics: the roles that speakers play in managing coalition governments for efficient service delivery; the practicalities of the Separation of Powers Model; developments in councillor welfare, systems, and compensation; and effective public participation and ward committees for enhanced community involvement in council decision-making processes.

The programme can be accessed at the following link: <https://salga.org.za/event/NCF%20-%202023/NCF%20-%202023.pdf>

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