

Enquiries: Sivuyile Mbambato
Tel: 073 897 8519
E-mail: smbambato@salga.org.za



Physical:
Block B, Menlyn Corporate Park,
175 Corobay Ave, Waterkloof
Glen Ext II, PRETORIA 0181

Postal: PO Box 2094,
PRETORIA 0001

MEDIA RELEASE

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SALGA WOMEN'S COMMISSION TO HOLD NATIONAL ELECTIVE CONFERENCE, 24 -26 AUGUST 2022, BOKSBURG

The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) Women's Commission, also known as SWC, will on 24 -26 August 2022, convene its national elective conference at the Birchwood Hotel & Conference Centre, Boksburg.

Chiefly, the SWC is meeting to elect a new National SWC Chairperson and adopt a programme of action towards achieving gender equality and further advance women's struggle for emancipation.

To be convened under the theme, "**Consolidating the role of local government in rebuilding local communities to meet their social, economic and material needs**", the SWC National Elective Conference will bring together under one-roof women leaders and gender activists: ranging from, Executive Mayors, Council Speakers, Chief Whips, Councillors, Speakers, Chief Whips, Multi-Party Women Caucuses and MMCs for Special Programmes including female Senior Managers (Municipal Managers, CFOs and Directors) from Districts and Metros Sonke Gender Justice, South African Women in Dialogue, Access Chapter 2, Department of Cooperative Governance, Department of Women, Youth and Persons living with Disabilities and all provincial chapters of the SALGA Women's Commission, female NEC and PEC members of SALGA, including the SALGA Women's Forum, among others.

Outgoing President of the SWC Flora Maboja-Boltman says: "The SWC meets at a critical time when gender-based violence and femicide continue to manifest in various formats despite various commitments made by Government to address the scourge."

"In the same breath, the SWC must all address the setbacks and reversal gains in achieving the 50/50 following the 2021 Local Government Elections, as well as new data revealed by Stats SA Non-Financial of Municipalities for 2020 about decreasing gender representation in local government, in terms of leadership representation and employment representation."

The Sub-theme for the National Conference is the 2022 National Women's Month theme: "**Women's Socio-Economic Rights and Empowerment: Building Back Better for Women's Resilience!**"



The SWC National Elective Conference follows successful provincial SWC Makgotla's held since May across the provinces.

The sessions at the national conference will be tackled in terms of presentations and panel discussions from various speakers and guests to promote dialogue and engage in solutions on issues of gender equality and women empowerment.

Since its inception in 2010, the SWC co-ordinates, promotes, and advocates for gender-appropriate strategies and practices within member municipalities and feeds into regional, continental and global processes.

One of the strategic objectives of the Commission is to increase the representation and participation of women in local government to parity.

The Members of the Media are invited as follows:

Time: 08h30

Date: 24 -26 August 2022

Venue:

Birchwood Hotel & Conference Centre

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Sivuyile Mbambato, Email: smbambato@salga.org.za; Mobile: 073 897 8519

Tebogo Mosala, Email: tmosala@salga.org.za; Mobile 084 6667699



TEL: 012 369 8000 | FAX: 012 369 8001

PHYSICAL: Block B, Menlyn Corporate Park, 175 Corobay Ave, Waterkloof Glen Ext 11, Pretoria 0181

POSTAL: PO Box 2094, Pretoria 0001