

# 4th NATIONAL MUNICIPAL LEGAL PRACTITIONERS FORUM

**DATE:** 14 - 15 MARCH 2024

**VENUE:** eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality  
Durban ICC (*Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre*)  
45 Bram Fischer Rd, Durban 4001

**Theme:** *Building capable, resilient, efficient and effective municipal legal services through capacity building, knowledge exchange and peer learning.*

## DAY 1: Wednesday, 13 March 2024

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
16:00 - 20:00	Registration	Venue: eThekweni, Durban ICC

## DAY 2: Thursday, 14 March 2024

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
08:00 - 08:30	Arrival and Registration	All attendees and participants
<b>SESSION 1: OFFICIAL OPENING</b>		
08:30 - 08:45	Opening and welcome ( <i>Rendition of National Anthem</i> )	<b>PROGRAMME DIRECTOR:</b> <b>Mr Vuyo Mvoko:</b> Journalist, Broadcaster, Facilitator, MC
08:45 - 09:00	Welcome Remarks by Host Municipality	<b>Cllr Mxolisi Kaunda:</b> Mayor of the City of eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome by Host Province	<b>Cllr Arthur Ntuli:</b> Provincial Chairperson: SALGA KZN
09:15 - 09:30	Official Opening Address and Note Address	<b>Cllr Samkelo Janda:</b> SALGA NEC Member
09:30 - 09 :45	Engagement with SALGA NEC Member, SALGA Provincial Chairperson and Mayor	<b>ALL</b>
<b>09:45 - 10:00</b>	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	

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TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
<b>SESSION 2: COALITION GOVERNMENTS AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION</b>		
10:00 - 10:45	<p><b>Panel discussion:</b> Approach and proposed legislative amendments to manage coalition governments and create stability in municipalities.</p> <p>Proposed amendments to the Municipal Structures Act.</p> <p>The complexities of managing and sustaining coalition governments.</p> <p>The impact of coalition governments on service delivery and governance.</p>	<p><b>MODERATOR: Mr Vuyo Mvoko:</b> Journalist, Broadcaster, Facilitator, MC</p> <p><b>PANELISTS:</b></p> <p><b>Mr Lance Joel:</b> Chief of Operations: SALGA</p> <p><b>Mr Wayne McComans:</b> Chief Director: Legal Services: DCoG</p> <p><b>Prof Jaap de Visser:</b> South African Research Chair in Multilevel Government Law and Development</p>
10:45 - 11:15	Discussion Municipal Legal Practitioners	All
<b>SESSION 3: HI-JACKING OF BUILDINGS AND SLUM-LORDING</b>		
11:15 - 12:15	<p><b>Panel Discussion:</b> Hijacked Buildings and Slum-lording in the Cities and Major Metropolitan areas including the recent City of Joburg court ruling on illegal electricity connections.</p> <p>Legal challenges associated with hijacked buildings and illegal electricity connections.</p> <p>What are the major challenges with Prevention of Illegal Eviction Act (PIA) and possible insight on the envisaged amendments to the PIA, and how it will allow for effective and fair eviction of unlawful occupiers?</p> <p>Legal strategies being implemented by municipalities in dealing with hijacked and bad buildings.</p>	<p><b>MODERATOR: Mr Vuyo Mvoko:</b> Journalist, Broadcaster, Facilitator, MC</p> <p><b>PANELISTS:</b></p> <p><b>Adv Job Malobola:</b> Divisional Head: Legal Counsel - City of Tshwane</p> <p><b>Mr Malusi Mhlongo:</b> Head Legal and Compliance: eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality</p> <p><b>Mr Sekgala Malahlela:</b> Unit Head: Legal Contracts Support - City of Joburg</p>

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TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
	<p>South African Police Services perspective on hijacked buildings and its impact on safety and security.</p> <p>The development of best practice policy on Hijacked Buildings and Slum-lording in the Cities and Major Metropolitan.</p>	<p><b>Advocate Collin Hendricks:</b> Major General, Office of the Provincial Commissioner Gauteng: South African Police Services.</p>
12:15 - 13:00	Discussion Municipal Practitioners	All
13:00 - 14:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
<b>SESSION 4: LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE ATTACHMENT OF MUNICIPAL BANK ACCOUNTS AND ASSETS</b>		
14:00 - 15:00	<p><b>Panel Discussion:</b> Unpacking the impact of the attachment of municipal bank accounts on municipalities through the lenses of affected Municipalities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emfuleni Local Municipality Case Study</li> <li>Mafube Local Municipality Case Study</li> <li>Kopanong Local Municipality Case Study</li> </ol> <p>The emerging perspective on the attachment of municipal bank accounts and available legal remedies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lawtons Africa Inc Attorneys</li> </ol>	<p><b>MODERATOR: Ms Umika Gopichund:</b> Senior Manager Corporate Services SALGA</p> <p><b>PANELISTS:</b></p> <p><b>Mr Pule Hlahane:</b> Assistant Manager Legal Services: Emfuleni Local Municipality</p> <p><b>Mr Mothusi Lepheana:</b> Municipal Manager: Mafube Local Municipality</p> <p><b>Mr Moeketsi Baas:</b> Acting Director: Corporate Services - Kopanong Local Municipality</p> <p><b>Mr Yagashen Pillay:</b> Director at Lawtons Africa Inc Attorneys</p>
15:00 - 15:30	Discussion by Municipal Practitioners	ALL
15:30 - 15:45	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	

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TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
<b>SESSION 5: UPDATE ON RECENT CASE LAW AND THE IMPACT OF RECENT JUDGEMENT ON MULTI-YEAR PRICE DETERMINATION BY NERSA</b>		
15:45 - 16:15	<p><b>Presentation:</b> Update on the Salga, Eskom, Nersa Litigation Matters</p> <p>Update on the status of consolidated application in North Gauteng High Court on 2022-2023 Multi-Year Price Determination Methodology (MYPD) Price increase.</p> <p>Salga Declaratory Order in the North Gauteng High Court.</p> <p>Other Eskom related recent judgements.</p> <p>The implications of the High Court Judgement of the 17th of December 2023 for future engagements on Nersa and Eskom on MYPD.</p>	<b>Mr Yagashen Pillay:</b> Director at Lawtons Africa Inc Attorneys
16:15 - 16:30	Discussion by Municipal Practitioners	<b>All</b>
16:30 - 16:45	Wrap up of Day 1 and Closure	<b>Mr Lance Joel:</b> Chief of Operations: SALGA
17:00 - 20:00	<b>Networking and Dinner</b>	

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## DAY 3 : FRIDAY, 15 MARCH 2024

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
08:00 - 08:30	Arrival and Registration	ALL
08:30 - 08:45	Recap of Day 1	<b>PROGRAMME DIRECTOR:</b> <b>Mr Vuyo Mvoko:</b> Journalist, Broadcaster, Facilitator, MC

### SESSION 6: AMENDMENTS TO THE ATTORNEYS ACT AND IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

08: 45 - 09:15	<b>Presentation:</b> Departments offerings to Municipal Legal Practitioners and Local Government	<b>Mr T Thiti:</b> Deputy Director General: Department Justice and Constitutional Development
09:15 - 09:45	<b>Presentation:</b> The Attorneys Amendment Bill Section 3(4) and its impact on the procurement of legal services in local government.  Update on the implementation of the Attorneys Amendment Bill Section 3(4).	<b>Mr F Pandelani:</b> Solicitor General of South Africa
09:45 - 10:00	Discussion by Municipal Practitioners	All
<b>10:00 - 10:15</b>	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	

### SESSION 7: CURRENT LEGAL MATTERS IMPACTING ON MUNICIPALITIES

10:15 - 11:00	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> Cutting of water supply to residents as a credit control mechanism.  The legal enforceability of using cutting of water as a credit control mechanism.  Case study on the cutting of water as a credit control measure in Midvaal Local Municipality and City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality.  The emerging legal position on using the cutting of water as a credit control measure in municipalities.	<b>MODERATOR: Mr Vuyo Mvoko:</b> Journalist, Broadcaster, Facilitator, MC  <b>Mr Anton Groenewalt:</b> Municipal Manager: Midvaal Local Municipality  <b>Mr Ednick Msweli:</b> Head of Water and Sanitation, eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality  <b>Mr Yagashen Pillay:</b> Director at Lawtons Africa Inc Attorneys
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TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
11:00 - 11:15	Discussion by Municipal Practitioners	ALL
11:15 - 11:45	<b>Presentation:</b> Withholding of rates and/or other trading services payments by residents or ratepayers' association and its impact on service delivery and associated legal implications: A reflection on the Ethekewini Metropolitan Municipality's experience and legal challenges.	<b>Mr Malusi Mhlongo:</b> Head Legal and Compliance: eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality <b>Mr Lihle Ndzelu:</b> Head Revenue Management Services: eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
11:45 - 12:00	Discussion by Municipal Practitioners	ALL
<b>SESSION 8: REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION</b>		
12:00 - 12:30	<b>Presentation:</b> Review of Local Government Legislation  1. Proposed review of a suite of local government legislation considering the experience and the road travelled since the adoption of the White Paper on Local Government in 1998, and other subsequent pieces of legislation promulgated thereafter.  2. Unpacking the Intergovernmental Monitoring, Support and Interventions Bill.	<b>Mr Lance Joel:</b> Chief of Operations: SALGA  <b>Mr Tshepo Khasi:</b> DCoG
12:30 - 12:45	Discussion by Municipal Practitioners	ALL
12:45 - 13:15	<b>Open Session:</b> Support required by the municipal legal practitioners and recommendations on the way forward.  Signing of pledge of commitment towards professionalism	<b>Mr George Thomas:</b> Senior Manager External Legal Advisory Services: SALGA  ALL
13:15 - 13:30	Vote of thanks and closure	<b>Mr Lance Joel:</b> Chief of Operations: SALGA
13:30	<b>LUNCH AND DEPARTURE</b>	

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