



Beating the Drum for ICA 2010



ICA 2010 Newsletter, No 1

Dear IAA Member

As Chairman of the Organising Committee for the 2010 International Congress of Actuaries (ICA), I have great pleasure in inviting you to this event.

ICA 2010 will be held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 7 to 12 March 2010. The Congress will, as usual, be preceded by meetings of the IAA Council and Committees.

I would like to use this opportunity to provide you with some information on the Congress itself and other relevant matters. For more detail, please visit www.ica2010.com.

The Area

Being a Capetonian, I may not be objective when it comes to the city. It may be more appropriate to quote and agree with others.

Howard Bolnick, IAAHS Chairman, says that Cape Town is one of the most beautiful cities on earth. (Howard's invitation to the 2007 IAAHS Colloquium is on www.iaahs2007.com)

Reaching further back in time Sir Francis Drake called the Cape Peninsula "the fairest cape in the whole circumference of the earth" and the esteemed scientist Charles Linneus praised it as being heaven on earth.

Tourism credentials

- Cape Town was the only city among the top five in the "Fifty Places To See Before You Die" survey conducted in 2002 by "Holiday" on BBC.
- In 2006 it was voted the best tourism city in Africa and the Middle East in the annual poll of readers of Travel and Leisure magazine.
- Cape Town has jumped 17 positions on the International Congress and Convention Association's global rankings over the past two years.

In addition we have unrivalled natural wonders and a cultural history featuring a rainbow of heroic and tragic figures. Both aspects of our heritage are enshrined in our two natural world heritage sites – the Table Mountain National Park and the Robben Island Museum.

The Venue

In the heart of our cosmopolitan city, the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) is an exceptionally flexible and modern facility, operated by Amsterdam RAI. It offers the most modern amenities and technology, as well as disabled-friendly access and facilities.

The CTICC is located close to Cape Town's major hotels, and within walking distance of some of Cape Town's leading recreational amenities. It recently hosted the World Economic Forum and the Microsoft African Government Leaders Forum. More information is available at www.capetownconvention.com.

Accommodation

There are more than 3 500 rooms within walking distance of the CTICC, offering from budget to luxury accommodation. African Agenda, who has been appointed as conference organisers for the event, has negotiated reduced rates for delegates at a variety of hotels that have easy access to the CTICC. More details will be made available when registration for ICA 2010 opens, but a sample of options is available on www.ica2010.com.

Travel

Being in the same time zone as most European countries, Cape Town is just an overnight flight away. The 19 airlines serving Cape Town ensure easy and convenient access for travellers from all over the world.

Social and Partners

Cape Town is one of the world's favourite long-haul destinations, with various interesting options for visitors. A variety of pre- and post-Congress tour packages will be offered, but African Agenda will gladly assist in catering for specific needs and tastes.

Popular attractions in and around the city include Table Mountain, Cape Point, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens, the Winelands, Robben Island and various shopping centres including the world famous Victoria and Albert Waterfront Centre. We are developing the social and partners' programmes with the family in mind, so remember to pack in yours!



Desmond Smith
Chairman: ICA 2010 Organising Committee