

INVITATION

THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (DMISA)

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THEME: "TAKING UP THE CHALLENGE: READINESS FOR RISK REDUCTION AND RESPONSE"

WEDNESDAY 12 TO THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2012

KARIBU LEISURE RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, TARENTAALRAND , GREATER TZANEEN

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 09:00

The Annual Conference of the Institute is the biggest Disaster Management Conference in Africa, and routinely attracts more than 350 delegates. The Institute is recognized as the mouthpiece of the Disaster Management profession in Southern Africa and is recognized by the United Nations' International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR).

The conference provides an annual opportunity for a diverse range of stakeholders in disaster management from across Africa to gather and share skills, knowledge and experience.

This year's conference is **hosted/co-hosted** by the **Mopani District Municipality; Limpopo Provincial Government; the South African Weather Service** and the **National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC)** of the **Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA)**.

The Conference Venue is the Karibu Leisure Resort and Conference Centre. Our host is Ms Nyeleti Mushwana, owner of the Resort and NMN Grand Hotel. "Come and relax in the peaceful surroundings of the private, secluded valley of the oliphant". Karibu Leisure Resort and Conference Venue has world-class conference and meeting centres which offers varied configuration of conference rooms from 10 to 1000 delegates. The Resort is nestled in the Tarentaal valley surrounded by the legendary "Rain Queen Modjadji" and the spectacular Drakensberg Mountains. Karibu has elegant guest en-suite rooms, each with tea and coffee making facilities, telephone, air conditioner and television with cable network. What to do and see in the area : Visit the Modjadji Cycad reserve on the northern side of Karibu resort. Enjoy the scenic beauty of the Debengeni waterfall and the forest drive route. Take a guided tour to a nearby village to experience the diversity and culture of the African people, enjoy game viewing at Kruger National park, an hour's drive from Karibu or visit the Tsonga Kraal with its ancient salt production activities. Scenic guided tours are arranged to the tropical rain forest on the Drakensberg escarpment.

ACCOMMODATION: KARIBU LEISURE RESORT OR THE NMN GRAND HOTEL: (See attached reservation form)

Tel: +27 (0) 15 304 4400 – 4499

Fax: +27 (0) 15 304 4406

e-mail: karibu@tzaneen.co.za

Coordinates: S 23° 46' 21.8"

E 30° 23' 23.1"

By air: You are advised not to use the Polokwane Airport but rather the **Phalaborwa Airport** as there are four "stop and go's" on the road between Polokwane and Letsitele. Apart from the "stop and go's" the road is very poor. It may take as long as 2.5 hours to travel from Polokwane to the Resort. From Phalaborwa Airport to Karibu Lodge by road will take approximately one hour. By road from **ORT Airport**: Travel to EMALAHLENI(Witbank) on the N12, then on the N4 towards Belfast, leave the N4 towards Belfast onto the R540 via Dullstroom to Lydenburg, then onto the R36 via Ohrigstad to Letsitele, onto the R71 towards Tzaneen and the Deerpark turnoff at Tarentaalrand Motors, to the Resort. (±500 km)

CALL FOR PAPERS: Language: English

Important Dates: Last day for submission of abstract: 1 July 2012 Last day for submission of final paper: 15 August 2012. **Abstracts** of no more than 300 words should be submitted electronically to the Conference Coordinator – Ms Erika Swart: andrejvanr@mweb.co.za. Abstracts should clearly state the purpose, results and conclusions of the work to be described in the final paper. DMISA is inviting papers dealing with practical actions towards risk reduction and response within the context of Southern Africa. Any aspect of disaster management and disaster risk management can be discussed as long as it deals in some way with the challenge of becoming ready to reduce disaster risk and readiness to respond to disaster. More information on the theme and possible topics can be accessed by following the Conference's link from www.disaster.co.za

EXHIBITION SPACE IS AVAILABLE : e-mail: andrejvanr@mweb.co.za or fax: 086 689 6078 or follow the Conference's link from www.disaster.co.za

Registration: Registration fees, which include all teas as well as lunch on both days and evening functions on 11 September (meet and greet) and 12 September 2012 (Mayoral Function) have been set at very reasonable rates as follows:

Members of DMISA : R 4 400-00 Non-members: R 5 200-00

Late Registration Penalty : R 300-00 Closing date for Registrations: 6 August 2012

Please remember the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Friday, 14 September 2012 at 09:00.

Should you have any further enquiries, do not hesitate to contact our office between 08:00 and 13:00 (weekdays) and speak to our Administrator, Karin. Tel +27 (0) 11 822-1634 or you can e-mail us at: karin@disaster.co.za Our fax number is +27 (0) 86 652 8066 or Website: www.disaster.co.za
Postal address: PO Box 7130, Primrose Hill, 1417, South Africa.