

## Annual Report 2007-08

### 1 OVERVIEW

The period under review effectively commenced for the Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA) with the holding of WISA 2007 AGM on 22 May 2007.

Following a year of implementation in 2006 of the 2005 Strategic Plan, the period under review continued with the 'bedding down' of the Executive Board's Portfolio Committees however the following areas enjoyed the focus of the Executive Board and the National Office:

- the holding of additional conferences & information-sharing events,
- the management as Implementing Agent of a number of Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF)
- expansion of the National Office resources including the acquisition of larger premises

Some of the more noteworthy achievements of the Institute in the period under review include:

- Between May 2007 and April 2008 the Institute grew by 198 additional members contrary to the international trend of decreasing membership of voluntary associations
- The cadre of Patron Members increased by an additional 6 organisations as the major stakeholders in the water sector recognised the value of supporting and being associated with the Institute
- Eight conferences were arranged during the period under review and although not as profitable as originally envisaged, contributed significantly to raising the awareness and profile of WISA, as well as meeting its aim of 'sharing knowledge'.
- The compilation and distribution of 25 issues of the WISA fortnightly newsletter keeping members updated regarding WISA, South African and international news & events
- The compilation and distribution of the 2007 Annual WISA Directory bringing in an additional income to WISA of some R120 000.
- The compilation and distribution of the second WISA Annual Magazine based on the Annual Report for the benefit of the members
- The continued development and popularity of the eWISA website which currently achieves about 300 "hits" or visits per day
- Active WISA representation on the Energy SETA increased to include representatives on the SETA Board & Executive Committee as well as the Water Chamber

My thanks go to the office-bearers and members of the various WISA organisational structures for the loyalty and commitment to the Institute and for frequently providing invaluable assistance at short notice. Without volunteers of their calibre WISA could never hope to achieve its three strategic thrusts, namely, "building expertise, sharing knowledge and improving quality of life".

## 2 SUMMARY OF COUNCIL, EXECUTIVE BOARD AND PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2.1 **Council:** Three Council meetings were held during the period under review:

- 6 September 2007
- 6 March 2008
- 19 May 2008

2.2 **Executive Board:** Six Executive Board meetings were held during the period under review:

- 23 August 2007
- 2 November 2007
- 29 November 2007
- 31 January 2008
- 15 February 2008
- 10 April 2007

2.3 **Portfolio Committees:** The following Portfolio Committee meetings (including the Monitoring Committee) were held during the period under review:

- Finance & HR - 13 December 2007, 12 February 2008
- Education, Training & Youth Development – 12 September, 19 October, 26 November 2007, 9 April 2008
- Technical Standards & Certification – 10 August 2006
- Monitoring Committee – 14 May 2008

## 3 COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL FOR 2007/2008

### 3.1 Executive Board

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ○ President:                       | Prof F Otieno              |
| ○ Immediate Past President:        | Dr M van der Merwe-Botha   |
| ○ Vice-President:                  | Dr H Snyman                |
| ○ Treasurer:                       | Ms A Chapman & Mr J Wilken |
| ○ Co-opted Board Member:           | Ms S Freese                |
| ○ Co-opted Board Member:           | Mr T Bowers                |
| ○ Co-opted Board Member: Branches  | Mr J Clayton               |
| ○ Co-opted Board Member:           | Ms L Boyd                  |
| ○ Co-opted Board Member: Divisions | Mr F van Zyl               |
| ○ Co-opted Board Member:           | Mr Anderson Mancotywa      |
| ○ Co-opted Board Member:           | Dr Kevin Pietersen         |

### 3.2 Elected members

- Mr Gordon Borain
- Dr Kevin Pietersen
- Ms Eiman Karar
- Mr Erik Van der Berg
- Mr Alfred Mbewe

### 3.3 Branches and Divisions

<b>CHAIRPERSONS</b>	<b>BRANCHES</b>
Mr Anderson Mancotywa	Eastern Cape South Branch
Mr Craig Thomson	Eastern Cape North Branch
Ms Gerda Venter	Free State Branch
Mr Gordon Borain	KwaZulu-Natal Branch
Mr John Clayton	Western Cape Branch

### 3.4 National Division Chairpersons

<b>CHAIRPERSONS</b>	<b>DIVISIONS</b>
Dr Heidi Snyman & Ms Bileen Nel	ASP Division
Messrs Raj Ramchuran & Clyde Valayatham	CWSS Division
Ms Joey Swart	Industrial Water Division
Mr Fred Van Zyl	Management Division (including River Basin Management)
Ms Stephanie Marais	Membrane Technology Division
Mr Nico Bezuidenhout	Mine Water Division
Ms Lee Anne Boyd	Nutrient Management Div
Dr Mias Van der Walt	Oxidation & Disinfection Division
Messrs Arnold Ramchunder & Allan Kockott	Water Distribution
Ms Carin Ginkel	Water Health Division
Mr Kerneels Esterhyse	Watercare & Water Scientist Division

### 3.5 Portfolio Committees

<b>CHAIRPERSONS</b>	<b>PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES</b>
Dr Heidi Snyman	Education, Training & Youth Development
Ms Alison Chapman & Mr Koos Wilken	Finance & HR
Mr Dave Nozaic	Monitoring Committee
Dr Marlene van der Merwe-Botha	Strategic Planning & Projects
Ms Sue Freese	Technical Standards & Certification.

### 3.6 Representative of IWA-SA National Committee

- Prof H Kasan (Chairperson)
- 

### 3.7 Representative of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry

- Mr Fred van Zyl (Director – Planning & Information)

### 3.8 Chief Executive

- Mr WM Mayne

## 4 MEMBERS

During the period under review and for the third consecutive year Dr Heidi Snyman, as the Director on Executive Board responsible for this function, has done an excellent job of vetting, grading and approving membership applications with the assistance of the Membership Administrator, Ms Evelyn Ramphomane.

Invitations, approved by the Executive Board, were sent to selected organisations inviting them to become Patron members of WISA. It is gratifying to report that these were accepted by SALGA, ABS Wastewater Technology (Pty) Ltd, Bigen Africa, GE Water & Process Technologies, Keyplan (Pty) Ltd and Mhlathuze Water bringing the total number of Patron Members to thirty-two. The President extended a warm welcome to them as well as the hope that their membership in this prestigious category would prove mutually beneficial.

The Professional Association Members (PMA) category has continued to grow steadily and now numbers 26.

During the period under review WISA learnt with regret that Prof At Pretorius and Messrs Fred Kolbe and Hennie van Schalkwyk, stalwart WISA members who have been active in the Institute for many years. WISA's sincerest condolences were extended to their families, friends and colleagues.

The following initiatives were embarked on to increase membership and correct members contact details and particulars:

- The first and most important initiative was an exercise to contact WISA members by e-mail or by post in order to update and correct the all-important members' database. Besides requiring this information to keep in touch with WISA members, it was required for the updating of the WISA 2008 Directory.
- 89 non-active members who were substantially in arrears with their membership fees were automatically 'resigned' and removed from the membership database.
- The Membership Administrator, Ms Evelyn Ramphomane, continued to write to potential members and companies that WISA has come into contact with or seen in magazines etc and invited them on behalf of the Chief Executive to become members of WISA. This has generally been well-received.

The net effect of these corrective measures has been that overall membership of WISA has increased by approximately 198 members or 9.0% over the past year as can be seen from the following table,

GRADE	12 APRIL 2007	27 APRIL 2008	DIFF
Affiliate	86	85	-1
Associate Member	418	500	82
Company	139	152	13
Educational Institutes	13	14	1
Fellow	333	341	8
Honorary Member	11	11	0

Local Authority	48	50	2
Media members	1	3	2
Member	449	441	-8
Patron Member	26	31	5
Prof Member Assn	12	26	14
Retired Fellow	34	45	11
Retired Member	37	38	1
Retired Sen. Fellow	7	8	1
Senior Fellow	33	29	-4
Student Member	432	508	76
Water Board	13	8	-5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2092</b>	<b>2290</b>	<b>198</b>

## 5 WISA MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2007

At its meeting on 29 November 2007 the WISA Council approved the following fee structure for 2008 based on a roughly 8.5% increase across the membership categories. The fee increase will fund WISA's enhanced capacity to serve members and expand/improve their benefits.

MEMBERSHIP	2005 FEES (R)	2006 FEES (R)	2007 FEES (R)	2008 FEES (R)	INCREASE
Patron Members	19 250	21 200	22 900	24 750	8.1%
Members/ Fellows/ Senior Fellows	280	310	335	365	9.0%
Retired & Affiliate	75	80	87	95	9.2%
Associate Members	246	270	292	315	8.0%
Companies/ Water Boards/ Local Govt	660	730	790	855	8.0%
Educational Bodies/ Students/Professional Associations	0	0	0	0	0
Entrance fee	22	30	30	30	0

## 6 FINANCIAL MATTERS

In August 2007 the Treasurer, Ms Alison Chapman, resigned after several years in the position for which the Board warmly thanked her at a subsequent meeting. Mr Koos Wilken graciously accepted nomination for the position of Treasurer and was unanimously elected as such by the Executive Board.

To properly manage the finances of WISA in light of the rapid expansion of WISA activities, a full-time Financial Manager was appointed. In addition a concerted effort was instituted by the National Office to collect outstanding arrears, which had become significant during the period under review.

The AFS show that WISA made a loss of R 213 408 for the 2007/08 Financial Year, which is line with previous non-conference years.

## **7 WISA ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL TOUR, 2007 AGM & PATRON MEMBERS' LUNCH**

### **7.1 WISA Annual Presidential Tour**

The WISA President & Chief Executive successfully visited the Regional Branches and Patron Members in KZN, Eastern Cape (North & South), Western Cape, Gauteng and the Free State as follows:

- **1 April 2008** – Durban & Pietermaritzburg – Met with Neill Macleod of eThekweni Metro Water Services and Pumezo Jonas of Umgeni Water
- **2 April 2008** - East London – Met with Maxwell Sirenya of Amatola Water and Craig Thomson, Chairman of WISA Eastern Cape (North) Branch followed by the Branch AGM at Nahoon Dam which was successfully held despite the load-shedding experienced.
- **3 April 2008** – Port Elizabeth – Met with Anderson Mancotywa, Chairman of WISA Eastern Cape South Branch, who took the Presidential party on a tour of wastewater treatment works in the Nelson Mandela Metro. This was followed by their AGM at the Library Building.
- **4 April 2008** – Cape Town & Stellenbosch – Met with Siphos Mosai of Cape Town Metro W&S and Willem Botes of WAMTech (eWISA project) followed by the AGM of the WISA Western Cape Branch at the Civil Engineering Dept, University of Stellenbosch.
- **23 April 2008** – Gauteng – Met with Sean Pieterse of Grundfos-Alldos, Rivka Kfir of WRC and Deon Nel & Siyanda Ngebulana of Botjheng Water (previously Biwater).
- **29 April 2008** – Free State - Met with Representatives of Bloem Water and Makumu Ubisi of Sedibeng Water
- **5 May 2008** – Gauteng - Met with Gunther Rencken of VWS Envig, Manuella van der Made of SAME Water, Sakkie van der Westhuizen of Sappi and finally Dr Marius Claassen of CSIR
- **12 May 2008** – Gauteng - Met with Peter Leopold of Sud-Chemie, Fred Sutherland of Golder Africa and finally Nonnie Letsholo of DBSA

### **7.2 WISA 2007 AGM**

The AGM was held on 22 May 2007 at ERWAT following the Council meeting held earlier in the day. Despite the freezing weather attendance was good and many thanks indeed to those who attended. After members had enjoyed lunch, Dr Marlene Van der Merwe-Botha introduced the guest speaker, Mr Tim Neary, the well-known environmental (and water) 702 radio journalist.

Following an interesting and challenging talk by Mr Neary, Dr Van der Merwe-Botha commenced the formal business of the AGM including the inauguration of the new WISA President, Prof Fred Otieno, the Annual Report and confirmation of the Council & Executive Board.

The formal meeting was chaired by the President and was attended by approximately 31 Councillors and members and ran smoothly. The President and the Chief Executive presented their reports for the past year, a highlight being some of the very successful conferences held and that the membership grew by 190 members since the previous AGM, while the Treasurer presented the Annual Financial Statements.

Prof Fred Otieno was elected as WISA President, while the Vice-President Dr Heidi Snyman, and the Treasurer, Ms Alison Chapman, were re-elected for a record third term in office.

#### **Executive Board**

- Prof F Otieno – President

- Dr M van der Merwe-Botha - Immediate Past President - Strategic Planning & Projects Portfolio Committee
- Dr Heidi Snyman - Vice-President – Education, Training & Youth Development Portfolio Committee
- Ms A Chapman - Treasurer - Finance & HR Portfolio Committee
- Ms S Freese - Co-opted Board Member - Technical Standards & Certification Portfolio Committee
- Mr T Bowers - Co-opted Board Member:
- Mr John Clayton - Co-opted Board Member - Branch representative
- Ms Lee Boyd - Co-opted Board Member
- Prof Joe Modise - Co-opted Board Member
- Mr Fred van Zyl - Co-opted Board Member - Division representative
- **Elected Council members**
  - Mr G McConkey
  - Ms Noeline Basson
  - Dr Kevin Pietersen
  - Ms Eiman Karar
  - Mr Erik Van der Berg
  - Mr Alfred Mbewe
- **Chairpersons of Branches**
  - Mr Anderson Mancotywa – Eastern Cape Branch
  - Mr Koot Kruger - Free State Branch
  - Mr Gordon Borain - KwaZulu-Natal Branch
  - Mr John Clayton - Western Cape Branch
- **Chairpersons of National Divisions**
  - Ms Bileen Nel - ASP Division??
  - Mr Raj Ramchuran - CWSS Division??
  - Ms Joey Swart - Industrial Water Division??
  - Mr Fred Van Zyl - Management Division (including River Basin Management)
  - Ms Stephanie Marais - Membrane Technology Division
  - Mr Nico Bezuidenhout - Mine Water Division
  - Ms Lee Boyd - Nutrient Management Division
  - Dr Mias Van der Walt - Oxidation & Disinfection Division
  - Mr Arnold Ramchunder - Water Distribution Division??
  - Ms Carin Ginkel - Water Health Division
  - Mr Kerneels Esterhyse - Watercare & Water Scientist Division
- **Monitoring Portfolio Committee**
  - Mr Dave Nozaic
  - Mr Koos Wilken

### **7.3 Annual WISA Patron Members Lunch**

This popular event for the Patron Members was held on 14 November 2006 at the Moyo's Restaurant in Melrose Arch, Johannesburg. The event was well attended by Patron Members from far and wide who enjoyed the proceedings and networked well with their colleagues. The opportunity was taken by the President to thank the Patron Members for their continued invaluable support for the Institute during 2007 and to wish them well for 2008.

## 8 CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

In an Executive Board sanctioned attempt to raise the awareness and profile of the Institute and meet its goal of “sharing knowledge”, as well as to improve its financial sustainability, the following eight smaller specialist WISA conferences were held during the period under review. Typically the WISA National Office arranged the conferences with the assistance of the conference chairpersons as shown.

CONFERENCE	LEAD BODY	DATE	VENUE	CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSONS	DELEGATES
Wastewater Management	WISA	11-13 June 07	Regent Hotel, East London	Dr Heidi Snyman	220
SUSTAIN 2007 Conference	WISA	15-17 Aug 07	Sandton Convent'n Centre	Dr Heidi Snyman Mr Fred van Zyl	180
Water Quality Mangement	DWAF/ WISA	19-22 Aug 07	Sun City	Ms Sue Freese Mr Leonardo Manus	250
Appropriate Technologies 07	WISA	3-4 Sept 07	BMW Centre, Cape Town	Mr John Clayton	100
HELP 2007 Southern Symposium	UNESCO IHP/ DWAF	5-9 Nov 07	Emperor's Palace Kempton Park	Mr Mbangiseni Nepfumbada	170
ESETA 2007 Conference	ESETA (Water & Energy)	26-28 Nov 07	Indaba Hotel, Fourways, JHB	Ms Verena Meyer	140
WISA-Africa 2007 Conference	WISA	20-23 Nov 07	Victoria Falls, Livingstone, Zambia	Dr Kevin Pietersen & Ms Bev Pretorius	60
AfricaSan +5 2008 Conference	DWAF/ UNESCO/ W Bank	18-20 Feb 08	Durban ICC	Messrs Piers Cross & Junior Potloane	620
IWRM/ IHP Conference	WRC/ UNESCO /DWAF	10-13 March 08	Cape Town ICC	Ms Eiman Karar	200
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>1880</b>

## 9 WISA MATTERS

### 9.1 New Directors

Two new Directors have been co-opted to the WISA Executive Board namely Anderson Mancotywa (Chairperson of the Eastern Cape WISA Branch) and Koos Wilken, who has been elected the new WISA Treasurer. Congratulations and good luck to you two!

### 9.2 Eastern Cape North WISA Branch

This Branch was officially launched by the WISA President at the Wastewater Management Conference held in East London on 12 & 13 June 2007. At a subsequent inaugural meeting Craig Thompson was elected as the Chairperson of the new Branch. Thanks are given to Amatola Water which has strongly supported the establishment of this Branch

### **9.3 New Office accommodation for WISA National Office**

With the approval of the Executive Board, WISA acquired new office premises in Midrand, which are situated within an office park called Constantia Park in Midrand. The office park also contains Richard Loring's Soundstage theatre, the viva Espana Restaurant, a hotel and a conference centre.

The office park is aesthetically pleasing and will maintain/ enhance the professional image of WISA.

WISA's office accommodation consists of one quarter of building number 5 being the western half of the upper storey of the building. The accommodation is 232 m<sup>2</sup> in extent with reception area, 7 x offices, 1x large Boardroom (seating 20-30), 2 toilets and a kitchen. The condition of the building is very good however it would require some renovation before occupation eg re-carpeting, new lighting, revamp of kitchen and toilets, outfitting of storeroom and server room, installation of air-conditioning (none existing), new cabling, new telephones, blinds and painting.

Although WISA has purchased a quarter of the building it will still have its own identity as have the other occupants of the building, signboards, separate entrances etc.

The WISA postal address remains the same but WISA's new physical address is:

Building 5, Constantia Park, 546 16th Rd, Randjespark ext 7, Midrand

WISA moved to its new offices on 1 February 2008

### **9.4 Appointment of WISA as IWRA Executive Office**

WISA became acquainted with the International Water Resources Association (IWRA) President and was subsequently invited to bid for the Executive Office position. After having obtained the blessing of the WISA President, WISA submitted a joint proposal with the CSIR to host the Executive and Editorial Offices of the IWRA respectively.

It is pleasing to note that WISA won the bid beating Spain and Singapore in the process.

This development has significant awareness-raising benefits for South Africa as the IWRA is a well known and respected Association; it is one of the 11 organisations that established the World Water Forum in 1996 and has 800-900 members from all over the world. The IWRA also publishes the respected Water International magazine.

Essentially WISA is required to administer the IWRA much as it administers itself except that the IWRA has significantly fewer activities.

This is a major achievement for WISA as it has certainly taken WISA to a new level and propelled it into the international water sector.

### **9.5 WISA as a Voluntary Association (VA)**

The application for WISA to be classified as a VA was hand-delivered to ECSA on 14 January 2008 when they re-opened after the holidays. There is every reason to believe that the application will be successful as WISA meets all the criteria for classification. This will be a significant benefit for the professional engineers amongst the WISA membership – WISA will make a similar application to cater for the professional scientists (within WISA) once their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) system is up and running.

### **9.6 The WISA Wastewater Treatment Practical N/3 Course 2007**

The WISA Wastewater Treatment N/3 Course was offered from May 2007 to August 2007 at the Coastal KZN FET College in Durban. A record number of students enrolled for the course (53 Students).

The following students received certificates, for the Wastewater Treatment Practical N/3 Course 2007, handed out at the WISA Kwa Zulu Natal Branch meeting on 16 November 2007:

Bhengu SP, Buthelezi SL, Chinnappen V, Dana GG, Dlamini ZF, Dombo NP, Govender L, Karian C, Khumalo SM, Khuzwayo IT, Mabena SB, Mahabeer V,

Manqele PM, Manqele ZS, Maphumulo NE, Masuku MD, Matthews SA, Mbatha FS, Msimango S, Msomi TR, Mtembu, Ndlovu MF, Nene BE, Ntloko S, Ntombela BP, Peter J, Moloney NS

The opportunity was also taken at the Kwa Zulu Natal Branch AGM, held on 17 March 2008, to present Practical Certificates to the following N3 Water Treatment students 2007:

ZF Dlamini (Top Theoretical student), NP Dombo, L Govender (Jean Gaillard Award for Top Practical student), IT Khuzwayo, SB Mabuja, MD Majola, MF Ndlovo, L Ndlela (WISA vice chairman ), D Kruger (KZN Coastal College), D Welgemoed (Lecturer )

### **9.7 WISA Strategic Planning Process**

On 10 April 2008, the WISA Board met for a full day at ERWAT, to commence the development of a 5-year WISA Strategic Plan, which will be reviewed annually. WISA is grateful to Rolf Kieck and Michele MacDonald of Ceenex who facilitated the meeting, and who together with Dr Johan Wagner & the Chief Executive, will compile the strategic plan (for the approval of the Board & Council).

## **10 MEETINGS, FORUMS & RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

### **10.1 VWS Envig Open Day**

On 17 May 2007 the WISA Chief Executive (CE) attended the successful VWS Envig Open Day held in Vanderbijlpark to show the newly constructed Main Treatment Plant as part of Mittal Steel SA's Zero Effluent Discharge project. Guests were well entertained and treated to a combination of explanatory talks as well as a tour of the Main Treatment Plant. VWS Envig (Patron Member) was kind enough to include an opportunity in the programme for the WISA CE to introduce/promote WISA to the audience.

### **10.2 High-Lever Public Debate: Water for Growth & Development and Poverty Alleviation**

In collaboration with DWAF WISA arranged a high-level public discussion forum held at the Spier Wine Estate on 20 June 2007, covering various topics surrounding Water for Growth and Development. Minister Hendricks chaired this debate, which was attended by several significant water sector role players, including DWAF and other international counterparts such as the DWAF DG, ambassadors from donor countries, UN & World Bank officials and a Sri Lankan delegation.

Presentations and discussions centred on the following issues:

- Financing and investment for various water initiatives
- The economy and water
- Institutional challenges and regulation
- Water resource planning for the future
- Municipal service provision
- Small scale income generation and improved livelihoods

Thanks were extended to Rand Water for sponsoring the cocktail function thereafter.

### **10.3 EWS 2007 Pollution & Environment Awards**

On 31 May 2007, Neil Macleod, Head of Ethekwini Water Services (EWS), handed over Awards for bodies and individuals who had assisted Durban in its fight against pollution and protection of the environment. WISA, which was represented by its Chief Executive, was fortunate enough to receive one of the Awards.

#### **10.4 WEF Leadership Conference.13-15 June 2007. Baltimore**

This conference held in Baltimore, USA, for CEOs of its Member Associations (MAs) such as WISA, to learn to think “tech savvy”, and use tools & applications to help MAs become competitive; was hosted by the Water Environment Federation (WEF) which has 32 000 members and 80 MA’s.

The Chief Executive (CE) attended the conference and returned with many new ideas and an understanding that WISA ranks amongst the leaders of water associations in the USA. The conference was everything it promised to be and more; the CE was exposed to the latest ideas, methods and technologies for running associations, and to networking opportunities.

#### **10.5 United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLGA) MOU**

This MOU was signed on 1 October 2007 in Pretoria between the UCLGA and WISA in a mutually beneficial arrangement to facilitate assistance for the establishment of the UCLGA as well as to raise awareness of WISA within Africa and “open up” other opportunities for WISA.

#### **10.6 World Filtration Congress 2008 (WFC10). 14-18 April 2008. Leipzig, Germany**

As a member of INDEFI (International Delegates on Filtration), WISA in conjunction with the Durban ICC, applied to hold the 11<sup>th</sup> World Filtration Congress planned for 2012. The Chief Executive attended the WFC10 in Leipzig in order to present the WISA Bid for WFC11. Although the WISA Bid was unsuccessful, the Executive Board has approved a WISA Bid to host the WFC12 Congress to be held in 2016.

#### **10.7 SADC workshop for Water Services Development and Delivery: 9-12 September 2007**

As a DWAF Implementing Agent for the Africa Partnerships programme in MDG delivery, WISA was involved in arranging the above workshop, which was opened by Neill Macleod (SAICE President and CEO of DMWS – WISA Patron Member), held at the Bytes Conference Centre in Midrand. The function was well-attended by the water-sector representatives of Mvula Trust, UCLGA, Rand Water, Magalies Water, Eco-trust, SAICE and the 14 SADC countries to discuss project progress and plan ahead. By all accounts the event was a great success – well done to the organisers particularly Kalinga Pelpola, Rosetta Simelane, Dr Marlene vd Merwe-Botha and SAICE.

#### **10.8 10th World Filtration Congress & Exhibition 2008 (WFC10). 14-18 April 2008. Leipzig, Germany**

The Chief Executive attended this event where he represented WISA and the Durban ICC in their bid to win the bid to host the 11th World Filtration Congress & Exhibition (WFC11) to be held in 2012. Unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful with WFC11 being awarded to Austria.

Indications are that should WISA and the Durban ICC decide to bid for the AFC12 in 2016 that there is a strong possibility of success.

### **11 EWISA**

eWISA is the capacity-building and knowledge-sharing website of WISA, developed in conjunction with WAMTechnology in Stellenbosch and launched at WISA 2006. The website/ information system is a major investment by WISA as well as WAMTechnology and after a slow start is progressing rapidly. Currently it is receiving approximately 300 visits or “hits” daily.

The project has been closely monitored by the President, the Monitoring Sub-Committee of the Executive Board and the Chief Executive to safeguard WISA's interests and to guide development. This is an exciting project with great promise for members and the water-sector, and which will enable WISA to fulfill the WSSLG and HR 2025 mandate to establish and maintain a capacity-building/skills database for the water-sector.

A number of measures have been taken to "ensure" the success of this project and the recovery of the financial investment by both parties including:

- The sale of Founder Memberships to the following Patron Members:
  - Amatola Water
  - Bloem Water
  - City of Cape Town
  - Department of Water Affairs & Forestry
  - Energy SETA
  - ERWAT
  - Eskom
  - Magalies Water
  - NCP Chlorchem
  - Rand Water
  - SAME Water
  - Umgeni Water
  - VWS Envig
  - WSSA
- Maintaining an awareness raising presence in the water sector by exhibiting at the IMESA, WISA Appropriate Technologies (Sept 2007) and HELP (Nov 2007) Conferences.
- The Chief Executive visits to WAMTechnology for business planning/strategising & monitoring purposes on 14&15 May, 25&25 June, 26&27 July, 30&31 August, 4&5 October, 29&30 October and 3 December 2007

## **12 DWAF Implementing Agents**

WISA continued with its DWAF-WISA IA activities in terms of the agreement signed on 8 September 2006. This has enabled WISA to play an active role in the following nationally important water projects and maintain a close link with the Water Sector Leader:

- HR 2025/ Capacity Building
- UNESCO National IHP Committee
- HELP 2007 Southern Symposium
- AfricaSan +5 (2008) Conference
- Drinking Water Quality
- African Partnerships Programme / Meeting MDGs
- Higher Levels of Service

## **13 BRANCHES**

### **13.1 Kwa-Zulu Natal**

Mr Gordon Borain reported that the KZN Committee met on 8 May 2007, 28 August 2007, 28 November 2007 and 31 January 2008.

The committee members are:

Gordon Borain (Chairman)

Linda Ndlela (Vice Chairman)

Steph Walsh (Secretary).  
Chris Fennemore (Treasurer)  
Lin Gravelet-Blondin  
Sue Freese  
Bileen Nel

Dave Nozaic  
Arnold Ramchunder  
Dirk Welgemoed  
Pat Reddy  
Sharveen Maharaj

Colin Harworth has retired from the committee after many years of faithful service. He will continue to serve on the national education group. I would like to thank Colin on behalf of the Branch and wish him a long and productive retirement.

#### **General and Technical Division Meetings:**

19 September 2007. Site visit to Sezela Membrane Bioreactor (MBR). This is, according to our information, the only operational MBR wastewater works in SA. Some 20 members visited the site, after which Bryan Robson of Illovo Sugar gave us a presentation on the reasons for choosing the MBR, its construction and subsequent operation. His enthusiasm for his works was very visible, to the point that most of us left as converted MBR disciples.

16 November 2007. Sludge disposal in sea outfalls. This related to new environmental legislation and the revised sludge guidelines. Our speakers presented the local research and the logic behind the legislation. The lively discussion that followed had to be curtailed, despite the fact that it was held on a Friday afternoon. Dr. Heidi Snyman presented prizes and certificates to our N3 students.

17 March 2008. AGM and Report back on Package Plant visit to Norway. A brief AGM was held with the presentation of certificates and awards to the N3 students. The bulk of the meeting was devoted to a report back on the visit to Norway by the group investigating package plants as a WRC project. Approximately 50 members and visitors attended.

#### **General**

A number of our members visited Norway during September as a report back and follow-up on the WRC report on package plants.

Members of the Branch carried out other responsibilities within the national functions of WISA. These include:

Sue Freese	Board Member
Dirk Welgemoed	Education and Training
Bileen Nel	Anaerobic and Sludge Processes Division (Chair)
Gordon Borain	Finance and Human Resources

### **13.2 Eastern Cape North**

#### **Introduction**

Mr Craig Thompson reported that the Amatola Water Board led an initiative in 2007 to establish a new WISA branch in East London. A letter requesting the support for the establishment of the branch was sent to the WISA Chief Executive in early 2007. This was approved by the WISA Council and the branch was officially launched by the WISA President at the Waste Water Management Conference held in East London on 12-13 June 2007.

### **Branch meetings**

The inaugural branch meeting was held in September 2007 at the Nahoon Dam Boathouse and was hosted by Amatola Water. A presentation was made by a material supplier concerning new water tanks and panels. The meeting was attended by 27 people from the East London area. There were representatives from the water board, consulting engineers and tertiary learning institutions. The meeting was unable to elect a Branch chairperson and committee due to insufficient numbers of people. The meeting resolved to hold a second meeting on 17 October 2007 for the purpose of the election of branch representatives.

The second branch meeting was held on the 17 October 2007 and attendance was more representative of the regions water sector with representatives from the water board, environmental consultants, water quality scientists, consulting engineers and tertiary learning institutions present. The elections for the branch representatives were concluded successfully as follows:

Chairperson: Mr. C. Thompson – Amatola Water  
Committee: Mr. J. Petzer – FST Consulting Engineers  
Mr. W. Selkirk – Pollution Control Technologies  
Mr. O. Ive – Amanz’abantu Services  
Dr. N. Muller – Rhodes University - Unilever Center for Environmental Water Quality Research Institute

Secretarial services will be provided by Amatola Water.

The third branch meeting coincided with the WISA Presidential Tour visit to East London on 2 April 2008. The meeting had a presentation from Professor Denis Hughes concerning the “SPATSIM” hydrological modelling programme developed at Rhodes University. The meeting was well attended by 28 representatives from the regions water sector. The WISA President also presented a speech concerning the current challenges facing the water sector and possible interventions required to avoid a similar crisis that is being experienced in the electricity sector of South Africa.

### **Branch Constitution**

The branch constitution is currently under development.

### **Branch membership**

The chairperson, committee and previous meeting attendees are actively promoting the regions water sector role players to become WISA members. The branch will also seek to hold joint activities with other associations such as the South African Association of Civil Engineers (SAICE), etc promote awareness of WISA in the region.

The possibility of creating a local news letter to promote information dissemination, debate and the establishment of a unique branch identity in the region will also be explored by the committee.

### **Proposed Programme for 2008 / 09**

The branch committee met on 4 March 2008 to prepare a draft activity programme for the next four quarters. The programme was adopted by the branch meeting held on 2 April 2008 and is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Special Feature</b>
2 April 2008	Branch Meeting	Hydrology	Presidential visit and

			Hydrological modeling presentation by Prof. Denis Hughes – Rhodes University
July 2008	Branch Meeting	The Environment	Fish Ladder presentation (to be confirmed)
October 2008	Branch Meeting	Water Quality	Waste Water Treatment Works impact on water Quality presentation (to be confirmed)
January 2009	Branch Meeting	Waste Water	Sludge Disposal presentation (to be confirmed)
April / May 2009	National Conference	Water Quality or Water Demand Management	Proposed national conference to be considered between SALGA, WISA and Amatola Water in East London.

### Proposed National Conference

The Amatola Water Board has instructed its management to consider holding another national conference similar to the Waste Water Management conference held in June 2007 in the 2008 / 09 financial year. The Board suggested that Water Quality be the conference theme. Amatola Water has also been approached by SALGA to consider holding a water demand management conference in the region in the next year.

Discussions are at an early stage with both initiatives but it appears logical that both initiatives from SALGA and Amatola Water be combined into a single national conference. This discussion is currently underway. The opportunity for partnering with WISA will be explored officially with the WISA Chief Executive once agreement has been reached between SALGA and Amatola Water in terms of a conference theme.

### Finances

Branch expenditure to date is as follows:

Travel reimbursement: Prof. D. Hughes – R 885.60 incl. VAT

This amount has been paid by Amatola Water and will be submitted to WISA for reimbursement

### Next Meeting

The next branch meeting will be held in July 2008 once a speaker has been confirmed.

## 13.3 Eastern Cape South

### Committee: 2007

PORTFOLIO	NAME	PHONE NO.	FAX NO.	E-MAIL
Chairperson	AM Mancotywa	041 506 2172	041 506 2181	amancoty@mandelametro.gov.za
Vice Chairperson	Vacant	TBA	TBA	TBA
Secretary/Treasurer	OL Wentzel	041 363 1984	041 363 1912	<a href="mailto:owen@lukhoziipe.co.za">owen@lukhoziipe.co.za</a>
Member	D Reinecke	041 363	041 363	<a href="mailto:daniel@makhetha.co.za">daniel@makhetha.co.za</a>

		1297	1298	
Member	H Greeff	082 782 9589	041 453 3365	Hennie.Greeff@sud.chemie.com
Additional Member	CJ Dickson	084 519 2308	TBA	Chris.Dickson@transnetprojects.net

### Committee Meetings

The committee had four meetings since the Council meeting held on 13 March 2007. Meetings were held on the following dates: -

25 April 2007  
29 August 2007  
22 October 2007  
11 February 2008

The meetings were held to discuss the implementation of previously identified branch activities, provide feedback from the WISA Council Meetings to the committee members, planning for future activities and also bid farewell to the Vice Chairperson, Mr R Brown, who was going to join Stellenbosch Municipality as Head of Sanitation.

### Branch Meetings

A meeting was held on 24 May 2007, perhaps it should be mentioned that one meeting was sacrificed for the Wastewater Management Conference as well as the launch of our nodal branch in East London which went very well. It is also with great pleasure to inform the members that the East London branch was indeed launched on 13 June 2008 and its Management Committee was appointed on 25 September 2007 with Mr Craig Thompson elected as the Chairperson.

**At the meeting held on 24 May 2007 and Avantu Eastern Cape made an interesting talk on the benefits of bio-augmentation to approximately 33 delegates.**

The main concern brought up at this workshop was not the biodegradation of the sludge, but what the condition of the effluent or supernatant liquor returned to the wastewater treatment works would be. Other meetings held include the one held on 22 October 2007, 11 February 2008 to discuss the progress on the implementation of previously identified branch activities and the meeting held on 3 April 2008.

### 13.4 Free State Branch

Ms Gerda Venter reported that the branch had held a workshop on The Provision of Safe Drinking Water Workshop on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2008 at the Central University of Technology in Bloemfontein Free State. The topics included Drinking Water Supply System Management and Strategic Gap Analysis of Effective Drinking Water Quality Management by Local Government. The workshop also include feedback on the regional outcome of a national Strategic Gap Analysis of Effective Water Quality Management by Water Services Authorities.

### 13.5 Western Cape Branch

#### Committee

The Western Cape committee currently consists of:

John Clayton (Chairman)  
Dave Crombie  
Marlé Kunneke (Treasurer)  
Mpho Ramaphao  
Ronald Brown

Gareth McConkey  
Erich Schmollgruber  
Boris Vassilev  
Natasia van Binsbergen

Over the course of the year, Ronald Brown joined the committee. Ronald is Head of Sanitation Services, Stellenbosch Municipality. John Clayton steps down as chairman from the end of the WISA year (20 May 2008); Ronald shall be taking over from John as chairman.

### **Activities**

During the 2007/2008 WISA year (May 2007 to May 2008) four branch meetings and a two day national conference were held. Details are as follows:

#### 3 May 2007: Industrial effluent: case studies plus AGM

On 3 May 2007 a general meeting was held at the Water Pollution Control Conference Centre at Athlone WWTW. The topic was "Industrial Effluent: Case Studies". Two speakers delivered talks: John Clayton covered recent construction of two effluent plants for Simba Chips, by Project Assignments. Both these plants remove coarse and fine solids and reduce the raw effluent COD and TSS by 50% and 85% respectively. The solids that are removed are dewatered for easy transport and fats are skimmed from the clarifiers. Both plants are saving Simba a considerable amount on effluent charges each month. Anton Esterhuizen from VWS Envig then delivered a talk on the treatment of various industrial effluents in SA and abroad, with a focus on effluent re-use. VWS Envig is part of the global Veolia Water Group and has considerable experience in both industrial and municipal effluents. Good examples in SA include the Durban Water Recycling Plant and the plant at Potsdam WWTW to provide water for re-use at the Chevron Texaco Refinery.

Following the talks, an AGM was held and three new committee members were elected. After the meeting, drinks and snacks were served, courtesy of VWS Envig.

#### 26 July 2007: Small wastewater treatment works – management and effluent disposal options

On 26 July 2007 a general meeting was held at Milnerton Library where three papers were presented on small wastewater treatment works. Gareth McConkey and Erich Schmollgruber organised the event and arranged for Bill Pfaff from Ethekeweni Metro to share his experiences on decentralised wastewater treatment systems. Bill described the perceived need for decentralised treatment in his metro and the various challenges that have arisen due to lack of adequate control with regard to plant design, installation and operation. He covered the new policy that is being considered by Ethekeweni for addressing the problems in the future.

Gareth McConkey covered some of the basic challenges facing the selection, design, installation and operation of small wastewater systems in the urban environment and raised several topics for audience debate.

Erich Schmollgruber presented an interesting paper on how Austria has dealt with the planning and control of small treatment systems over the years. It is useful to have this outside information as a benchmarking tool.

The City of Cape Town kindly sponsored the venue hire.

#### 3 & 4 September 2007

On 3 and 4 September 2007, a national Appropriate Technologies Conference was held at the BMW Pavilion in Cape Town's Waterfront. A total of 26 speakers (including 2 international presenters) delivered papers on a variety of topics covering water and wastewater treatment technology, techniques and practises that are applicable for our South African situation. Subject matter included management & institutional affairs, monitoring technologies and systems, technology and service delivery, testing and analytical equipment, technology and community involvement, "simple" technologies and "advanced" technologies. The conference was attended by approximately 100 people.

#### 5 March 2008

On 5 March 2008 a general meeting was held at Athlone WWTP where two papers from the Appropriate Technologies Conference were presented. Dr Len Dekker delivered his paper entitled "Passive treatment of agro-industrial wastewater to meet stringent environmental and reuse requirements". Len has built up a track record with the treatment of organic industrial waste streams and spoke about his recent project to treat tomato processing effluent for Tiger Brands. Trevor Davies followed with his paper on "The importance of chemical analysis to optimum operation of watercare plants". Without regular and accurate laboratory analysis of certain key parameters, the running of wastewater and water treatment plants would not be possible – Trevor covered the various techniques available.

#### 4 April 2008

On 4 April 2008 a general meeting was held at the Civil Engineering Faculty of Stellenbosch Municipality. The theme of the afternoon was the effect that ESKOM load shedding is having on our water and wastewater plants. Peter King from the City of Cape Town delivered a talk on what happens at wastewater plants during a power failure and the effects such an event has on the equipment, plant performance and environment. Peter was followed by Paul Rhode from the City's Bulk Water Department – Paul covered similar topics and what happens at water treatment plants during an outage. Both talks sparked (note the pun!) some lively debate.

The talks were followed by an address by the WISA President who was visiting as part of his annual national tour. The Western Cape AGM was then held and the new chairman was elected.

#### **Other initiatives**

In the spirit of WISA's "...sharing knowledge..." mission statement, the Western Cape Branch has embarked on the other following initiatives:

1. Greater involvement of personnel involved with the running of watercare plants – to this end, it has been decided that each branch meeting to be held in 2008/2009 shall include elements that are useful to operations staff. The branch shall also highlight to its members the various training courses that are available from different institutions. Finally, the branch is also sponsoring a plant manager to attend the WISA 2008 biennial conference;
2. Accreditation of its branch meetings content for CPD points;
3. Engage selection of consultants, contractors and suppliers to establish what needs for learning exist – this information shall be fed back into the planning of various branch meetings and seminars.

#### **Finances**

The Western Cape currently has a positive balance of nominally R9,793.90.

## Photographs



Some delegates enjoying a break at the Appropriate Technologies Conference in September 2007



Fred van Zyl making a convincing argument to some colleagues at the Appropriate Technologies Conference in September 2007



Mr van der Poel (MEMC Engineering Services, Stellenbosch Municipality), Ronald Brown (Head of Sanitation, Stellenbosch Municipality), John Clayton (Chairman WISA Western Cape), Prof Fred Otieno (WISA President) and Wally Mayne (WISA CE) at the April Branch Meeting and AGM

## 14 TECHNICAL DIVISIONS

### 14.1 Anaerobic and Sludge Processes Division

#### Committee

The Management Committee was elected at the Divisional AGM held on 5 March 2008 at the CSIR Auditorium, Pretoria:

Bileen Nel (Yay Us Consulting Services)	Chairperson
Ms F Claasens (Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd.)	Secretary
Mrs H Greben (CSIR)	Newsletter Editor
Mr G Borain (Umgeni Water)	Webpage Design
Mr A Mbelu (Golder Associates Africa (Pty) Ltd.)	Young Professional
Mrs M Hinsch (Department of Water Affairs and Forestry)	Member
Dr J Maree (CSIR)	Member
Ms S Gow (Rand Water)	Treasurer
Mr J Glibbery (John Glibbery & Associates)	Member

The following Regional Chairpersons are currently active:

Prof P Rose (Rhodes University) Regional Chairperson Eastern Cape Group

Mrs B Nel (WSSA) Regional Chairperson Kwazulu Natal Group

#### **Current Membership**

- 443 ASP members (updated February 2008)

#### **Activities for the Period**

##### Management committee meetings

- Three divisional management committee meetings were held on Tuesday 20 May 2007 at CSIR Pretoria, Tuesday 14 August 2007 at Golder and Associates in Midrand and 23 November 2007 after which the year end function was held.
- AGM and elections was held on 5 March 2008.

##### WISA ASP Website

- Gordon Borain updated the WISA ASP website.

##### WISA ASP/WRC Sludge Guidelines Volume 4 & 5

- 9 Training Sessions on volume 1, 2 and 3 of the New South African Sludge Guideline and 9 Regional workshops on Volume 4 & 5 of the New South African Sludge Guidelines.
- The training session and workshops were held as follows:
  - Limpopo 5-6 July 2007
  - Free State 11-12 July 2007
  - Northern Cape 16-17 July 2007
  - Kwa-Zulu Natal 18 -19 July 2007
  - Eastern Cape 25-26 July 2007
  - Guateng 31 July & 1 August 2007
  - Western Cape 2-3 August 2007
  - North West Province 28-29 August
  - Mpumalanga 6 – 7 September 2007

##### Anaerobic Treatment of Mine Water

- Quarterly meeting was held on Wednesday 12 September 2007 in Benoni on the “Anaerobic Treatment of Mine Water - The Carbon Challenge”. A site visit was held at Anchor Plant where sewage sludge, as well as other carbon sources, is used as a carbon source for the anaerobic treatment of mine water. The site visit was followed by technical papers.
- The event was attended by 75 delegates registering on the day.

##### “Biogas as an Energy Source”

- A workshop was held at the CSIR in Pretoria on Wednesday 5 March 2008.

- The event was attended by 55 delegates registering on the day

#### Future Activities

- Next committee meeting will be held at WISA May 2008
- ASP is planning a two day training workshop on the “Operation of Anaerobic Digestors.” The first day will be a theory session and the second day will be a practical on a plant. Workshops will be held in three nodes:
  - Gauteng
  - Cape Town
  - Durban
  - Final dates and program will be announced in the near future.

### **14.2 Community Water Supply and Sanitation Division**

#### **Committee**

Mr Clyde Valayatham reported that the CWSS KZN committee has met once during the year under review. The 2008 committee is as follows:

- C Valayatham            Chairman
- R Ramchuran Secretary
- G Simpson                Member
- M Ross                    Member
- D Still                     Member

Mr Neil McNab, who was our Treasurer, has resigned as a member due to him emigrating to the UK. Anthony, who was our Vice Chairman is no longer an active member of the Committee.

The Committee has not met regularly in 2007/2008 due to work and private commitments of Members. The need to recruit new Members into the Committee has been identified and will be pursued vigorously in the current year. The Committee also plans to meet monthly in the upcoming year.

#### **Technical / Open Meetings**

No open Technical / Open Meetings have been held in the year under review. An open meeting on the issues surrounding “Dry Sanitation” is planned for mid 2008.

Other possible future Technical / Open Meeting Topics identified by the Committee are:-

- Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) – Requirements of Consultants and Contractors for the implementation of EPWP projects.
- Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) – Requirements of Consultants and Contractors for the implementation of CIDB projects.
- Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of MIG funded Water Supply Schemes

#### **Finances**

Finances are to be handled from Head Office.

### **14.3 South African Industrial Water Division**

Mrs Joey Swart reported that specific focus areas in the water field are identified for SAIWA namely solid/liquid separation, cooling water treatment and desalination processes. It was stressed that more emphasis should be on salt removal processes as this becomes a major challenge in the world. SAIWA committee meetings will be held monthly. Committee members should attend at least 80% of the meetings and must

nominate a person to attend on their behalf should they not be able to attend a meeting. Meetings are scheduled in advanced for the next year to ensure each committee member organizes their dairy. Five committee members have resigned during the past 18 months and new members from various industries/companies (Mittal Steel, Pulp and Paper, Mining, Breweries) were invited to join the committee. Two new committee members (Hendry du Preez and Vikesh Dilsook) indicated that they will become members of the SAIWA committee.

SAIWA has approximately 50 members on the member's role. An effort was made to determine whether each member is still active and also to update the data base. It was also decided that SAIWA needs to increase their activity level by members and it was hence agreed upon to distribute the minutes of each SAIWA management meeting to members. SAIWA committee members also opt to focus on the development of young scientist at various forums. Specific focus areas include the following:

- Young Scientists Exhibition in Newtown;
- Eskom Science EXPO – an award (trophy) will be handed out during this event to a student for the best contribution to industrial water management. The trophy for best contribution by a student will be re-awarded at the Biennial WISA at the gala event starting in 2010;
- TECHNO X in Sasolburg (an annual event hosted by SASOL) by means of a video presentation.

A SAIWA conference will be held every second year and the next conference will take place in 2009 during which the focus will be on cooling water treatment and solid/liquid separation.

The Biennial SAIWA Trophy for outstanding contribution in Industrial Water Technology will be awarded for the second time in 2008 during the Biennial WISA Conference. A decision was made to increase the prize money associated with the winner of the trophy from R1000 to R2000. This was a suggestion by the WISA General Office as a result of the increase in prize money relative to other awards. A floating trophy as well as the monetary award will be issued during the Biennial WISA Conference at Sun City to the winner of this award. A smaller trophy which is a smaller version of the floating trophy will also be given to the winner of the award. This trophy will be kept by the winner of the SAIWA Biennial Award. The criteria for the SAIWA Biennial Award will be reviewed as the focus will be project related rather than to an individual contributing to the industry to a large extend.

#### **14.4 Management Division**

Mr Fred van Zyl reported that although the division had not met as a committee recently the members had in their individual capacities had various projects such as Asset management.

#### **14.5 Membrane Technology Division**

The division continued to provide a forum to facilitate the exchange of information and experience related to membrane technology for water and wastewater management.

The highlight of the MTD calendar for 2007 was the 7<sup>th</sup> WISA MTD Symposium and Workshop which took place at Mabalingwe Nature Reserve, between 18 and 20 March 2007. 118 Delegates attended, of which 8 were international delegates. For the first time, the symposium offered CPD points for engineers. This conference was well represented by both Industry and academic institutions.

The committee is also planning to have stand at the WISA Biennial Conference and Exhibition in May 2008 at Sun City. This opportunity will be used to promote the application of membrane technology and to canvas support for the planned International conference in 2009.

In addition a MTD Workshop will form part of the WISA conference on Tuesday 19 May from 15h30 - 16h30. This will include a Keynote Address by Prof Yoram Oren Head of Department for Desalination and Water Treatment, Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research, Ben Gurion University and two Industrial presentations by Mr Francois Gouws from Veolia Water Systems (VWS) Envig and Mr. Martin Pryor (Keyplan).

The committee also updated its website with a new look and new information: [http://www.wisa.org.za/Divisions/membrane/mtd\\_index.htm](http://www.wisa.org.za/Divisions/membrane/mtd_index.htm). The website includes symposium proceedings, WISA MTD activities, sponsors details and suppliers' details.

WISA MTD will collaborate with the European Membrane Society to host an international membrane conference in 2009. The following link [www.wisa-mtc09.com](http://www.wisa-mtc09.com) will be added to the WISA-MTD website. This link will only be live as of 25 April 2008.

This conference will held at the beautiful setting of the Spier Wine Estate in Stellenbosch, Western Cape. We certainly look forward to talking about our passion "Membranes" in this beautiful relaxed atmosphere

The committee conducted meetings typically every two months (monthly and weekly in preparation for this Symposium). Meetings were held via conference calls during this period.

The MTD AGM was held at the symposium. The MTD Management Committee comprises Stephanie Marais (Chairperson), Dr. Andre Maartens (Vice Chairperson), Achim Wurster (Treasurer), Marshall Sheldon (Secretary), Gerhard Offringa, Stephan Roux, Mesuli Mbanjwa and Chris Swartz. For the 2009 International conference two additional members were added to the committee. We welcome Zyno Allie from the University of Stellenbosch and Professor Chris Buckley the Unitiversity of KZN as additional members to the committee.

Dr. Andre Maartens will be acting chairperson until November 2008 while Stephanie Marais is on maternity leave.

#### **14.6 Mine Water Division**

The Mine Water Division held a two day symposium jointly with DWAF in October 2007 entitled: 'Best Practice Guidelines for Water Resource Protection in the Southern African Mining Industry.' The division is planning to have an International Mine Water Conference in 2009. The Mine Water Division will be holding a workshop at the WISA 2008 Conference.

#### **14.7 Nutrient Management Division**

Ms Lee Boyd reported that the WISA Quarterly Meeting successfully took place on 17 March 2008 at the Gallagher Estate as it had been combined with National Water Summit at the invitation of DWAF. The theme for the meeting was "IWRM – the arguments for and against". WISA was honoured to have Prof Asit Biswas, Dr Anthony Turton of CSIR and Ms Carin Bosman as the Guest Speakers. The division has also been busy with the Wilson and iSigidi awards for small and large treatment works which will be awarded soon.

#### **14.8 Oxidation And Disinfection Division**

Dr Mias van der Walt reported that the Oxidation and Disinfection Division (ODD) was established during 2006 and was launched at the WISA 2006 Conference. The Oxidation and Disinfection Division was established to:

- Provide a forum for suppliers, users, consultants and research organisations to discuss aspects relating to oxidation & disinfection.
- Discuss, share, and transfer knowledge and experience of oxidation and disinfection technology through workshops, conferences, plant visits & newsletters.
- Identify research and development needs.
- Identify, collate and develop best practice and appropriate technical and practical guidelines for the selection, implementation and maintenance of oxidation and disinfection technology.
- Liaise with other divisions, spheres of Government and the public on oxidation and disinfection related matters.

The ODD committee members represent suppliers, user and consultants and are:

Dr. J.J. van der Walt (Chairperson, Bigen Africa)

- Ms. M. Krüger (Vice Chairperson, Midvaal Water)
- Mr. C. Coetzee (Secretary, SA Water Cycle Group)
- Mr. V. Pienaar (Member, NCP)
- Mr. C. van der Walt (Treasurer, CSV Water)
- Mr. M. Prior (Member, Keyplan)

#### **Activities for the coming year**

The Oxidation and Disinfection Division (ODD) decided to undertake the following key activities during 2008:

- Attendance of the World Congress on Ozone and Ultraviolet Technologies
- Initiation of the Oxidation and Disinfection manual

#### Attendance of IO<sub>3</sub>A conference in August 2007

The proceedings of the ODD tour were used to sponsor a portion of the cost of two delegates to attend the World Congress on Ozone and Ultraviolet Technologies in August 2007 in Los Angeles. This was a joint congress of the International Ozone Association (IO<sub>3</sub>A) and International UV Association (IUVA). The two delegates returned with a lot of information on the latest in disinfection technology and interacted with many world experts in the field.

#### Oxidation and Disinfection Manual

A consultancy project was motivated to the WRC and approved for the development of a practical Oxidation and Disinfection manual. The manual aims at assisting both the practicing engineer as well as the plant operator in the selection and operation of oxidation and disinfection technology. The manual aims at addressing the following:

- Development of a unique selection chart linking typical water treatment problems with typical oxidation and disinfection solutions. The selection chart will be developed to cover potable water, wastewater as well as industrial water applications.
- A brief description of oxidation and disinfection theory.
- A detailed description of oxidation and disinfection processes and technology.
- A supplier database.
- A number of case studies where practical aspects such as design implementation, operation and maintenance, capital and operating cost are detailed.

A number of organisations are currently being approached for possible sponsorship of this initiative as well as case study submissions.

### **Activities planned for the next year**

#### WISA Oxidation and Disinfection Division – Industrial Water Treatment Tour

Based on the overwhelming success of the first practical water treatment plant tour, it was decided to arrange another practical tour. The format of the tour will remain the same, but the location and the 'flavour' will change. A practical tour on industrial and wastewater treatment is planned for the last quarter of 2008.

#### Completion of ODD Manual

The development of the ODD Manual is planned for late 2008. This manual will provide the industry with a much-needed, user friendly, up-to-date and practical manual.

#### International Cooperation

The division plans to renew its membership of the International Ozone Association (IO<sub>3</sub>A). This membership enables the division to tap into the vast international network of ozone expertise and literature.

#### Financial

The Oxidation and Disinfection Division currently relies of donations and excursions to fund the direct expenses. The bank balance of the division is currently slightly more than R 4 000.

#### Conclusion

All the work currently performed by the division is done on a voluntary basis. A number of the division members changed its employment status during the past year. This has put a tremendous strain on the time that can be made available to actively participate in all the aspects of a voluntary organisation. In view of the current skill shortage in both the public and private sector it can be expected that voluntary participation will come under increasing pressure and needs to be addressed at a strategic level by WISA.

### **14.9 Water Care / Scientist Division**

Mr Kerneels Esterhuysen reported that the previously two separated technical divisions Water Care and Scientist Divisions successfully operate as one technical division of WISA. The name of the amalgamated division was not changed, and is still known as the "Water Care / Scientist Division".

A half day seminar on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2007 starting at 12:00 was well attended, and the venue was actually too small and extra chairs were added to the hall to accommodate the delegates. Mr Mbelu from Golder Associates presented a talk on Enhanced Nutrient Removal Systems; Mr Mark Ross informed the meeting about the Package Plants Industry, mainly from Kwa-Zulu Natal; and Mr Daniël Garside from Labhouse gave a well informed discussion around COD/BOD/TOC Measurements and Ratios.

The Annual General Meeting for this division was held on 12 March 2008 before the seminars. A new committee consisting of seven members were elected. The outgoing members are thanked for their contribution in the years that they were on the two

Divisions. Their work is highly appreciated in this regard. The topic of the half day seminar focussed on “Energy”. Mr Francois Kriel explained to the delegates the present energy situation in South Africa; Mr Gerrit Theunissen from City Power Johannesburg discussed the application of generator sets in the home and office environment, and the associated safety requirements, and Mr Dries Louw from ERWAT talked about Energy saving practices at Waste Water Treatment and Water Purification Works

#### **14.10 Water Distribution**

Mr Alan Kockott the Kwa-Zulu Natal Branch of the Division for Water Distribution, the only active Branch in this Division, reports as follows on behalf of the Division for the reporting period 01 July 2007 to present.

During this period, the committee, constituted on a voluntary basis, initially comprised 13 members with Messrs Kockott and Doorgapershad as the Chairman and Secretary respectively. Unfortunately Mr. Doorgapershad resigned due to personal reasons but was suitably replaced with an existing member of the committee, namely, Ms Mary-Anne du Preez. This reduced the total membership to 12.

The Chairman represented the Branch (and the Division) at the WISA Council Meeting held on 6 March 2008.

The Branch committee was very active during the reporting period with five meetings and two seminars having taken place. The seminars comprised an afternoon seminar on “Alternative Pipeline Materials for Pressure Pipelines” and a late afternoon presentation on “Classic Failures”. Both events were well supported with approximately 80 people attending the afternoon seminar and 50 people attending the late afternoon presentation.

The committee is in the process of organising a one day seminar on “Extending the Life of Pipelines – Design and Rehabilitation”, a half day presentation on “Water Treatment Processes” and a site visit to the recently constructed Durban Harbour Tunnel.

As the members of this committee are aware of the need for continuous professional development (CPD), the content of those relevant future events will be submitted to WISA for forwarding to ECSA for the consideration of possible CPD accreditation.

The financials for this Division are in a healthy state with approximately R61, 000.00 in WISA’s main account.

### **15 WISA PUBLICATIONS**

#### **15.1 WISA Newsletters**

The compilation and distribution by the Chief Executive of fortnightly electronic newsletters for WISA members only continued and some 25 newsletters were produced during the review period. The newsletters consist of news etc gleaned from a number of newsletters internationally, news of forthcoming conferences and publications across the globe as well as SA and WISA news.

#### **15.2 Water&Sanitation Africa**

The publication of WISA’s bimonthly technical magazine “Water&Sanitation Africa” managed by 3S Media successfully continued into the period under review after its official launch at WISA 2006.

#### **15.3 WISA 2006 Directory**

As reported earlier the compilation and distribution of the 2007 Annual WISA Directory realised an additional income to WISA of some R120 000.

The Directory has been well received and is fast becoming a water sector reference book.

#### **15.4 WISA Annual Magazine**

This is the third year that WISA will be compiling and publishing such a magazine. It is really the WISA Annual Report for the benefit of members unable to attend the AGM and as a record for posterity. It will also double up as a marketing tool – to publicise WISA and its work as well as attract new members.

### **16 CONCLUSIONS**

The period under review was another successful year for WISA during which a number of highlights were achieved. It also served to cement certain new initiatives as well as to launch others that should benefit WISA in years to come.

This was my third year at the executive helm of WISA and it ranks as one of my most fulfilling years. My thanks go to the President, the Executive Board and Council for their tolerance and support as we tested boundaries with new idea and initiatives. I also wish to thank the staff that I have served with during this period who performed as a team and have been very supportive.

**Wallace Mayne**  
**Chief Executive**