



MEDIA RELEASE

Geared towards a cleaner and healthier environment

Immediate Release

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The Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) has appointed the new committee that will serve their respective branches for the next two years. The newly elected council members have updated the IWMSA's vision and mission statements with the main objective of working together for a clean and healthy environment and urges all South Africans to do the same.

Dr Suzan Oelofse, President of the Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) says, "The reason why we have updated the vision and mission statements are to ensure that we stay relevant and align ourselves with international and national trends in waste management. The IWMSA's new vision is 'a clean and healthy environment' as we believe that all individuals, businesses and municipalities should position themselves to protect the environment and not break it down."

The most significant change in the IWMSA's mission is the inclusion of 'promoting the value of waste as a resource'. Too many valuable resources end up in landfills that could have been re-used. The IWMSA plans to continue educating their members as well as private sector organisations and government agencies on proper waste disposal practices through their accredited and non-accredited training portfolios.

Another exciting development is the re-establishment of IWMSA chapters in neighbouring countries. Interest was received from Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Oelofse says that this is a very important opportunity, especially for businesses operating in these areas, to support and educate proper waste management practices.

"The waste industry is continuously changing, especially with the new National Environmental Management Waste Amendment Act, Act 26 of 2014 that has been published on 02 June 2014. We will have an in-depth session on the new act at WasteCon 2014 where government will report back on the changes and how it affects implementation. We call on all South Africans to join us at the conference to remain relevant and up-to-date on how important integrated waste management is," concludes Oelofse.

The IWMSA is a non-profit organisation comprising a body of dedicated professionals in their respective fields, who give freely and voluntarily of their time and expertise in order to effectively

educate, promote and further the science and practice of waste management. For more information, visit: www.iwmsa.co.za. The IWMSA is also on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter.

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