

## SAIIA AGM Report 2022

### Introduction

This year we at last broke out of the Covid bonds and were able to once again happily host 11 in person events so to start with I would like to particularly thank our team of volunteers who under the direction of our coordinator, Pippa Segall, make sure that these events run smoothly. They were back in action, manning the door, collecting the funds and pouring the wine.

On a sad note, early this year we lost a distinguished member of our EXCO and SAIIA's National Council, eminent business leader Michael Spicer. In January I had at last persuaded Michael to take over as Chair of our branch and if it had not been for his untimely passing, he would have been addressing you this evening.

We kicked off this year's activities in February with a well-attended joint event with the Cape Town Press Club at Kelvin Grove, hosting the new German Ambassador Andreas Peschke, asking if the African policy of the new German government represented a new beginning.

After that it was back to our usual home base, the Mountain Club of South Africa in March for an address by the Political Affairs Counsellor of the US Embassy, Clinton "Tad" Brown on US policy in Southern Africa. We managed to host 4 more events at the MCSA, in April, May and June before, sadly, they told us we could no longer use the club for our events. In April US Colonel Mark Read, Professor and head of the Department of Environmental Engineering at West Point spoke about the security implications of climate change in Africa. Then we concentrated on Russia's war in Ukraine: Our member and broadcaster, Professor Irina Filatova took stock of the war in May and then in June DA leader John Steenhuizen spoke of his experiences on the ground in Ukraine.

In June we also hosted Trudi Hartzenberg speaking on the African Free Trade Area.

Thereafter we moved our meetings to the Centre for the Book which has always suited us very well. In the past many of our most successful meetings were held there including the historic address by then Senator Barak Obama in 2006.

In August an outstanding address was given by Dr Nikolaz Samkharadze, chair of Georgia's Parliament's visiting Foreign Relations Committee describing existence in the shadow of the Russian Bear which had already occupied large chunks of Georgia. Also, in August the 30th SAIIA Interschools Quiz was successfully held at Bishops school. A full report is included in the Annual Report. Again, everyone was thrilled to be back at the Quiz in person.

### National Office Bearers

Chairman: Fred Phaswana • Deputy Chairman: Moeletsi Mbeki • Chief Executive: Elizabeth Sidiropoulos  
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Back to the Centre for the Book in October we hosted a double bill with Western Cape Premier Alan Winde and Thomas Gehring, Vice Chair of the Bavarian Parliament speaking about Winde's recent visit to Bavaria and the business opportunities between the two provinces.

In November we were able at last to host the British High Commissioner, Anthony Phillipson who spoke on challenges and opportunities faced by SA and the UK and of course here we are again for our AGM and the keynote address by Professor Torbakov giving his take on Russia's war on Ukraine which we are looking forward to.

Our members and guests have gradually weaned themselves off zoom and are returning to our meetings in person – more slowly than we would have liked but at every meeting attendance goes up so we are nearly back to normal, The Annual report includes a full list of our events.

#### Record of Events 2022

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Speaker(s)</b>	<b>Platform</b>	<b>#</b>
1	9 Feb	A new beginning? Africa policy of the new German government	Ambassador Andreas Peschke	Press Club, Kelvin Grove and online (Zoom), funded by KAS	110 (and 56 views online)
2	2 March	US policy in Southern Africa	Clinton S. "Tad" Brown, US Counsellor for Political Affairs	MCSA	43
3	26 April	Security Implications of Climate Change with Special Reference to Africa	Col. Mark Read	MCSA and online (Zoom)	55 (and 43 views online)
4	4 May	War in Ukraine: Taking stock	Professor Irina Filatova	MCSA and online (Zoom)	58 (and 135 views online)
5	1 June	The African Continental Free Trade Area – where are the new opportunities for South Africa's traders?	Trudi Hartzenberg	MCSA and online (Zoom)	40 (and 69 views online)
6	20 June	On the ground in Ukraine –	John Steenhuisen,	MCSA	57

		implications for SA's foreign policy	leader of the Democratic Alliance		
7	11 August	Global Geopolitical Shifts and Black Sea Security	Dr Nikoloz Samkharadze, Chairperson of Foreign Relations Committee, Parliament of Georgia	CftB	66
8	25 August	30 <sup>th</sup> SAIIA Interschool Quiz		SAIIA WC Quiz Committee sponsored by Abe Bailey Foundation	196 learners
9	31 October	Business opportunities between the Western Cape, Bavaria and beyond	Premier Alan Winde and Mr Thomas Gehring, Vice-President of Bavarian Parliament	CftB, sponsored by KAS	45
10	7 November	UK and South Africa: Challenges and Opportunities	British High Commissioner, Anthony Phillipson	CftB	47
11	5 December	SAIIA Western Cape AGM	Keynote address by Professor Igor Torbakov	CftB	TBC

### MEMBERSHIP

In this financial year, the committee decided that we needed to do all we could to increase membership involvement and fees as our membership fell by a third in the previous year. It has proven very difficult to bring in the younger membership, students and learners, despite sending our notices to the administrative heads of all the politics departments at all the universities in the Western Cape and to all the schools that take part in our quiz.

Our members had commented that they were ready for in-person events which creates opportunities for networking and engaging with the speakers. The attendance numbers at our events have slowly increased over the year and we appeal to our members to attend our events and to get more involved.

In July, Exco decided to increase the member fees by R20 on average, offering no discounts and we have seen the membership fees steadily being paid. The introduction of SnapScan at our events has made payment process much easier.

Donor Members. The membership category “Donor Member” was revived last year as a result of generous donations to the Branch’s Sustainability Fund. Article 8 of the Branch Constitution reads as follows: *“Donor Members. Individuals who pay membership fees in excess of the normal individual membership fee by an amount acceptable to the Executive Committee shall be regarded as donor members.”* In 2020/2021 there were three donor members. In the current year, 2021/2022, there are nine donor members who donated a total of R2650.

#### STANDARD MEMBERSHIP TABLE

Note 1. The figures for 2020 and the preceding years have been adjusted so that the nominal figures relating to Members of Parliament [44] and Schools [50 schools] are NOT included in the overall membership total.

Note 2. The key revenue producing categories [Diplomatic; Institutional; Member+1/Family; Individual; and Student] are shown in bold.

Category	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Corporate nominees for JSH	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>Diplomatic</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	X	X
<b>Institutional</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	X	X	X	X
<b>School</b>	Nominal	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom
<b>Member+1/Family [recorded as 2 people per membership]</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>56</b>
Fellow/ Complimentary	3 [adjusted]	10	10	10	10	10	10	7	7
Honorary	7	10	12	8	8	8	8	6	6
<b>Individual</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>
Members of Parliament	Nominal	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom	Nom

<b>Students</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>
TOTAL	161	204	201	214	196	208	215	173	150
<b>TOTAL: REVENUE PRODUCING</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>132</b>

### Financial Report

The key SAIIA Western Cape Branch financial results may be summarised as follows:

Year ended	30 June 2022	30 June 2021	30 June 2020
	R	R	R
Operating (deficit) surplus i.e., income less expenses	(9,315)	1,054	18,064
Capital inflows - donations received	2,650	-	5,000
Net (deficit) surplus	(6,665)	1,054	23,064

The result for the year reflects a deficit as expected and this was funded from previous operating surpluses. Please refer to the attached financial statements for further details of the income and expenditure and the balance sheet that includes the movements on the Quiz Fund.

We are most grateful to the Abe Bailey Trust for the continued sponsorship of the Inter Schools Quiz Event R150,000 (year ended 30 June 2021 72,000). Surplus quiz funds arising prior to 1 July 2017 have been transferred to the branch sustainability fund as these are understood to relate to previous sponsors of the quiz and there is no expectation that any refund would be required.

For individual donations of over R1,000 we are able to arrange with SAIIA head office that these donors are provided with corresponding Section 18A certificates that enable the related income tax deductions to be claimed in their personal tax returns.

We are grateful to our loyal membership for the continued funding from subscriptions that have been kept up to date. Naturally we are pleased with the traction being gained from in person functions and remain enthusiastic that these will assist to restore and expand our membership base.

I wish to thank our administrator, Pippa Segall, our honorary Treasurer, Richard Morris, and our honorary auditor Johan Hauser for maintaining and authenticating the branch financial records and accounts.

## Business Report

In 2022 the global macro-economic and socio-political environments have been volatile. Global economic recovery from the lingering systemic restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic during 2021 was encouraging. However, towards the end of 2021 ongoing geo-political tensions initially between the US and China and more dramatically from February 2022 as result of the invasion of the Ukraine by Russia stifled economic recovery, endangered energy supplies and global food supply chains. Globally inflation has ramped up sharply and the spectre of economic recession looms large. South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa has not been spared. Spiralling upward imported fuel costs combined with increased disruption of electricity supplies from Eskom has retarded SA's economic recovery despite a buoyant coal and commodity cycle.

During July 2022 SAIIA WC hosted a presentation by Dr Trudi Hartzenberg of TRALAC about progress made with implementation of the ACFTA was informative and encouraging. The process of implementation is slow, but progress is being made to get more countries of Africa to ratify the cross-border arrangements necessary to realise the full potential of ACFTA.

In October SAIIA WC engaged with a high-level delegation from the German state parliament of Bavaria. This visit highlighted the longstanding and practical socio-economic ties between Bavaria and the Western Cape. Over 600 German businesses are well established in South Africa, many of them in the Western Cape.

On a sad note, in early 2022 SAIIA WC lost a distinguished member and business leader in Michael Spicer. At the time of his untimely death, he was the chairman of WESGRO which promotes and develops trade and investment in the Western Cape Province.

## Annual Interschool Quiz

The 30th Annual SAIIA Western Cape Interschool Quiz on International Affairs was held on Thursday, 25 August 2022, at Bishops (Diocesan School for Boys). Africa Melane of Cape Talk Radio was once again a dynamic Quiz MC, with Advocate Murray Bridgman serving as quizmaster. The true stars of the evening were the school teams participating. Congratulations to teams from SACS. SACS entered two teams of four learners, who took first and second prize in an unprecedented result. The Oracle Academy came a very close third and Bishops was hot on their heels with fourth place as well as receiving the trophy for Most Improved School. A total of 49 teams (196 learners) took part in the 2022 quiz.

On behalf of the Quiz Committee, we again thank the Abe Bailey Trust, our major funder for the 2022 quiz, as well as the many other donors who made the quiz possible. A big thanks again to Phil Court and Bishops for the provision of venues and technical support, for the quiz. Thank you to Jude Wells and Caleb Kay for facilitating and presenting the pre-quiz workshop that took place on 22 July. Around 100 learners took part in the workshop. Pippa Segall's excellent work to pull all the details together must also be noted. A full report on the 2022 quiz will be posted on the Western Cape Branch page of the SAIIA website.

## Conclusion:

In conclusion it has been a demanding year and I want to thank the members of EXCO for all their hard work. We have also lost and gained members. I particularly wish to mention a former chair of SAIIA Western Cape Branch and for many years my vice chair, Martin Trainor, who for health reasons was not able to participate in EXCO this year and has now advised me that he will be standing down from the Committee. Martyn's contribution to the branch over nearly two decades has been huge and we can't thank him enough for all his hard work. We are also pleased to welcome a new member of EXCO, former diplomat Sean Cleary., eminently qualified to make a great contribution to the branch.

Our three university representatives Ndeapo Wolf, Minenhle Nene and Stephanie Meek have settled down well. Thanks to Richard Morris for all his hard work on our finances in these difficult economic times, ably assisted by Johan Hauser. Jeremy Wiley keeps our connection with the Cape Chamber going. I would like to thank Dr Martha Bridgman and our coordinator Pippa Segall for their huge efforts in holding a highly successful Schools Quiz and a big thank you to Pippa for always being there for us and running an efficient administration.

Lastly it remains for me to thank all our members and our guests for their loyal support for our in-person meetings this year.

Sheila Camerer  
Chair