



## SwissCham Southern Africa (SCSA)

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### Event Review

#### *Challenges and Opportunities in Southern Africa*

presented by

***Jacob Zuma, President of the African National Congress (ANC)***

Date: **28. January 2008**  
Time: **18:30**  
Venue: **University of Zürich**

In cooperation with Economiesuisse and “Europa Institut” of the University of Zürich SwissCham Southern Africa (SCSA) had the privilege and the honour to welcome the President of the African National Congress (ANC), Mr. Jacob Zuma in Zürich.



Highlights of his visit were numerous one-to-one meetings with various business and government representatives that SwissCham was able to arrange. In connection with the WorldCup 2010 in South Africa Mr. Jacob Zuma also was invited by Mr. Sepp Blatter, the president of the FIFA. In addition Mr. Jacob Zuma was warmly welcomed by SwissRe at their head office.





On the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> Mr. Jacob Zuma gave his presentation about the “Challenges and Opportunities in South Africa”. Approximately 200 people attended this event and listened to the interesting speech. Mr. Jacob Zuma then took some questions from the audience which he managed to answer satisfyingly.



On 6th May 2009, the South African Parliament elected Jacob Zuma as President of the Republic of South Africa with 277 of 400 votes. On 9th May 2009 his inauguration took place in the presence of 5000 guests including former President Nelson Mandela.

### **Who is Jacob Zuma**

**Mr. Jacob Zuma** was born on 12<sup>th</sup> April 1942 in Inkandla, KwaZulu-Natal Province. Owing to his deprived childhood, **Jacob Zuma** did not receive any formal schooling. Heavily influenced by a trade unionist family member, he became involved in politics at an early age and joined the African National Congress in 1959. While on his way out of the country in 1963, he was arrested in what was then the western Transvaal (now the Northern West Province). Convicted of conspiring to overthrow the



government, he was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, which he served on Robben Island. He lived in several African countries working for the ANC, where he rose rapidly through the ranks to become a member of the ANC National Executive Committee in 1977. He also served as Deputy Chief Representative of the ANC in Mozambique until 1984. **Jacob Zuma** was forced to leave Mozambique in January 1987 after considerable pressure on the Mozambican government by the PW Botha regime. He moved to Lusaka, Zambia. Following the unbanning of the ANC in February 1990, he was one of the first ANC leaders to return to South Africa to begin the process of negotiations. In 1991, at the first ANC National Conference held in South Africa after the unbanning of the organisation, he was elected the Deputy Secretary General of the ANC. He was elected Deputy President of the ANC at the National Conference held at Mafikeng in December 1997. **Jacob Zuma** was appointed Executive Deputy President of South Africa in June 1999. He served as Deputy President in the South African Government from 1999 to 2005 and was recently elected as President of the African National Congress (ANC), the governing political party of South Africa.

Honoured with the Nelson Mandela Award for Outstanding Leadership in Washington, DC, US, he holds Honorary Doctorates from the University of Fort Hare, the University of Zululand and Medical University of Southern Africa.