



**SwissCham Southern Africa -
South Africa Chapter (SCSA-SAC)**
(Association Incorporated in terms of Section 21)

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Annual General Meeting
27th May 2010

In the second year of its existence, SwissCham Southern Africa – South Africa Chapter has seen continued growth.

Membership drives

Repeated membership drives were initiated. These are on-going and from an initial 32 members, membership has increased to the present 74.

There are some fluctuations and we have received seven cancellations (three are still undecided) due to: retirement, business relocation abroad as well as economic constraints.

New members:

We welcome the following new members who joined us during the past financial year:

Addicom
BCC Pharmaceuticals
De Hoek Country House
Eikendal Vineyards
Franke Kitchens (rejoined)

Friedland, Heart, Solomon & Nicolson
Geberit
ICE (Jura)
I-Fundi (rejoined)
IPS
Novartis
Pannonia Precision Engineering
Schalch Consulting
Swisafin

Several of our directors have made a personal effort in bringing in a number of new members through their contacts. Also, the Swiss Ambassador to South Africa, Mr. R. Bärffuss continues to be a valuable source for new members since his encouragement to Swiss companies to join SwissCham yields respectable results.

Publicity/Advertising/Display

Editorials have been placed in the Swiss Business Hub Review, as well as editorials and advertisements in the quarterly Swiss Review (local pages) published by the Swiss Government and distributed to all Swiss nationals in South Africa.

Good publicity has been derived from a number of our speaker events through newspaper reports and video-clips. President Jürg A. Schalch has also conducted interviews with some Swiss publications who were posted on their website and printed in Swiss newspapers.

Event Reviews continue to be sent to all our members following each Speaker Event.

Photo gallery of events on SwissCham website

A photo gallery of pictures taken at our events are now available on the SwissCham website. Members will be informed after each event once the photos are uploaded.

Lapel pins with the Swiss and South African flags have been produced during 2009 and have been given to all our members.

Membership certificates have been produced for all the SwissCham members. Distribution of these is still continuing.

Board of Directors Meetings

In the period June 2009 to May 2010 I presided over the four statutory Board Meetings which all took place on the premises of Pharmaco (Pty) Ltd in Sandton. The meeting cycle was the following:

- 12th August 2009
- 19th October 2009
- 25th January 2010
- 29th April 2010

The South Africa-based Directors showed a nearly 100% participation record in terms of meeting attendance. All meetings adhered to a standard working agenda and were duly minuted.

Speaker events

The speaker events have increased from an initial two events in 2008 to ten in 2009. Of course, the highlight in 2009 was the event with Sepp Blatter, FIFA President. It attracted a total number of 160 members and guests at the luncheon held at the Johannesburg Country Club in Woodmead. Another highlight was the successful year-end dinner at The Westcliff.

Already we have held two events in 2010 with the visit of the Swiss Secretary of State, Jean-Daniel Gerber, accompanied by a high-calibre, government/business delegation a major happening.

- 19th February 2009: Joint cocktail event with the Nordic S.A. Business Association at the Grayston Sun with Tito Mboweni, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank
- 18th March 2009: Cocktail event at the Johannesburg Country Club, Woodmead, with Mosiuoa Lekota, President of COPE
- 26th March 2009: Luncheon at the Johannesburg Country Club with Tony Twine, Director and Senior Economist, Econometrix
- 3rd April 2009: Joint Corporate Social Responsibility Seminar with the Swiss Embassy and UBS Optimus Foundation at the Swiss Ambassador's Residence, Pretoria
- 20th May 2009: First Annual General Meeting held at the Johannesburg Country Club in Woodmead
- 22nd June 2009: Luncheon event with Sepp Blatter, Fifa President at the Johannesburg Country Club in Woodmead
- 23rd July 2009: Dinner event with Saki Makozoma, Chairman of Liberty Life, at the Fairlawns Hotel in Morningside

- 7th October 2009: Luncheon presentation by Michael Spicer, CEO, Business Leadership South Africa at the Johannesburg Country Club, Woodmead.
- 6th November 2009: Gala dinner at The Westcliff Hotel
- 23rd November 2009: Wine tasting with Eikendal Vineyards at the Johannesburg Country Club in Woodmead
- 23rd February 2010: Luncheon presentation by Thami Bolani, CEO, National Consumer Forum at the Johannesburg Country Club in Woodmead
- 30th March 2010: Business meeting with Swiss Secretary of State Jean-Daniel Gerber and delegation at the Michelangelo MW Business Centre in Sandton. This was followed by a banquet at Summer Place, Hyde Park/Sandton, with the Honourable Rob Davies, South African Minister of Trade & Industry and the Swiss Secretary of State, Mr. Jean-Daniel Gerber as guests of honour and key note speakers.

Events in the pipeline :

- 24th May 2010: Luncheon presentation by Kuseni Dlamini, CEO, Old Mutual at Fairlawns Hotel, Morningside
- 23rd September 2010 : Luncheon event with Bobby Godsell at the Johannesburg Country Club
- 12th November 2010 : Luncheon event with Jacko Maree, CEO, Standard Bank at The Westcliff
- November 2010 : Gala dinner with special guest King Goodwill Zwelithini

Changes in directorship at SCSA-SAC

We have had some changes in directorship with Yves Manghardt, Nestlé, being transferred to Dubai. His successor, Sullivan O'Carroll has accepted to take over his position on the Board of Directors. Furthermore, Erwin Lüthi, Head of the Swiss Business Hub, has been transferred to Hong Kong. His successor, Max Bertschmann, has replaced him on the Board.

A new director, Bob Judelsohn, Director and Chief Representative Officer, Credit Suisse AG, joined the SCSA-SAC Board

Finances

The Chamber enjoys a healthy financial situation
Details of this will be communicated in the Treasurer's Report.

This concludes the report on the activities of the Chamber during its second year of operation.

In closing, I would like to thank our Manager, Suzanne Howitt, for her hard work and contribution to the success of the South African Chapter of SwissCham. To my Vice-President, Thomas Hippele, I owe a great deal of gratitude for sharing the chores and responsibilities of leadership as well as being a generous and patient host to our SwissCham offices in Woodmead. Furthermore, my thanks go to my fellow directors in Johannesburg & Pretoria, Roberto Agustoni, Sullivan O'Carroll, Marcel Brühwiler, Bob Judelsohn and Max Bertschmann for their valued contribution throughout the year, in particular at our quarterly Board Meetings. All your input is most appreciated.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank SwissCham, Zurich under the leadership of President Georg Umbricht and our Switzerland-based Directors for their support.



Jürg A. Schalch
President