

## ACHASM REPORT:

### DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR CEO BREAKFAST, EMPERORS PALACE: 28 SEPTEMBER 2012

The Department of Labour (DoL) has been marketing the changes and the stance of the Chief Inspector Mr Thobile Lamati, to reduce injuries, fatalities and occupational diseases at work. 'The Road to Zero' theme, which kicked off during March 2012 is being well marketed by the DoL

A breakfast session hosted by Mr Phumudzo Maphaha and Mr Tibor Szana was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September for Chief Executive Officers and various construction stakeholders from the Construction sector. The session followed the launch of the construction accord signed by at the end of August 2012.

The continued costs to the Compensation Fund of over R2.7-billion in the 2010/ 2011 year in compensation for injuries and diseases sustained in the workplace is unacceptable. The building and construction sector paid more than R287-million for occupational injuries, a cost South Africa cannot afford.

Mr Maphaha and Mr Szana presented the key changes that are to be introduced when the revised Construction Regulations are promulgated early in 2013. There will be a greater focus on the Client and Designer, as these two areas are where there has been the least activity. Cardinal areas addressed in the proposed revisions include, among other:

- The need for increased communication between all parties
- The Client as the pivotal point for accountability and change
- Agents role is enforced to ensure involvement at design phase
- The introduction of the Construction Manager to ensure competence, and the limitation to single sites
- The introduction of serious consequences of non-compliance, focused on the Client
- The introduction of a permit system for projects greater than R5 million, and
- Procurement of competent contractors

Addresses by Organized Business and Government included:

- The Registrar of the SACPCMP Ms N Rakolote
- Minister of the Department of Public Works, Mr T W Nxesi
- Mr Doug Michell representing MBSA
- Mr Flint representing SAFCEC.
- Mr G Mofokeng representing the BBCBE

The Registrar of the South African Council for Project and Construction Management Professions (SACPCMP) Ms Nomvula Rakolote discussed the role of the SACPCMP and the pending professional status of the 3 professional groups. The Registrar reminded the forum that comment to the current proposed legislation is needed and information is on the SACPCMP website.

The breakfast was attended by the Master Builders South Africa, Federated Employers Mutual Association and other stakeholders involved with the DoL initiatives.

The Minister of Public Works, Minister Nxesi was represented by Dr John Lewis and described the importance of infrastructure development as discussed by President Zuma's State of the Nation speech. Compliance to legislation is imperative.

Networking between delegates and speakers and a delicious breakfast followed the presentations.

Claire Deacon  
Director ACHASM