

# INVITATION

## THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (DMISA)

### (1) ANNUAL CONFERENCE - "DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2009"

WEDNESDAY 7 TO THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2009.

### (2) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 2009 AT 10:00

SOUTHERN SUN ELANGENI HOTEL, DURBAN, KWAZULU-NATAL

The Annual Conference of the Institute is the biggest Disaster Management Conference in Africa, and routinely attracts more than 350 delegates. The Institute is recognized as the mouthpiece of the Disaster Management profession in Southern Africa and is recognized by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) as well as the United Nations' International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR).

The conference provides an annual opportunity for a diverse range of stakeholders in disaster risk management from across Africa to gather and share skills, knowledge and experience.

This year's Conference will be held at the Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel in Durban, 16km's from Durban International Airport - on Durban's North Beach with breathtaking views of Durban's Golden Mile and the warm Indian Ocean.

You will enjoy fine service and hospitality at one of Durban's premier hotels. The light, spacious lobby is the focal point where friendly, efficient staff provides a warm welcome.

All 449 air-conditioned rooms are well furnished and offer every amenity. There are also family rooms and executive rooms. The hotel has three superb cosmopolitan restaurants which provide a choice of cuisine from authentic Japanese to ethnic Indian. Two bars offer light snacks and a range of South African wines. The comprehensive Conference Centre is a favourite venue for national and international conferences and events. There are two outdoor pools, a relaxing Chill Area and a Fitness Centre. Flea markets, amusement parks and other opportunities for fun are all within walking distance.

**CALL FOR PAPERS:** Language: English  
Last Day for Submission of Abstract: 1 July 2009

#### Specifications

- ✚ Abstracts of no more than 300 words should be submitted to the Administrator
- ✚ Themes of the Papers should be in line with the World Conference on Disaster Reduction and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 – 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters – which was held in Kobe, Japan, in 2005. The Conference heralded a major review of disasters and disaster reduction efforts. One of its main outcomes was the Hyogo Framework for Action – 2005-2015, with 5 priorities for action:

Governance: ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with strong institutional basis for implementation
Risk identification: identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning
Knowledge: use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels
Reducing the underlying risk factors
Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response <a href="http://www.unisdr.org">www.unisdr.org</a>

- ✚ Abstracts should clearly state the purpose, results and conclusions of the work to be described in the final paper
- ✚ Abstracts should be submitted electronically via e-mail.

**ACCOMMODATION: Southern Sun Elangeni Tel: (031) 362-1300 or Fax: (031) 332-5527**  
**PLEASE USE THE ATTACHED ACCOMMODATION RESERVATION FORM**

## **EXHIBITION SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE**

#### **Registration:**

Registration fees, which include all teas as well as lunch on both days and evening functions on Tuesday, 6 October (meet and greet) and Wednesday, 7 October 2009, have been set at very reasonable rates as follows:

Members of DMISA : R 3 700-00 Non-members: R4 200-00  
Late Registration Penalty : R 300-00

**Closing date for Registrations: 1 September 2009**

**Please remember the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Friday 9 October 2009 at 10:00**

**CONFERENCE WILL COMMENCE ON WEDNESDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2009 AT 08:30 AND CLOSE ON THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2009 AT 17:00**

Should you have any further enquiries, do not hesitate to contact our office between 08:00 and 13:00 (weekdays) and speak to our Administrator, Karin. Tel + 27 (0) 11 822-1634 or you can e-mail her at: [karin@disaster.co.za](mailto:karin@disaster.co.za) Our fax number is + 27 (0) 86 652 8066. Postal address: PO Box 7130, Primrose Hill, 1417, South Africa.