



FIRST INTERNATIONAL FIRE ENGINEERING CONFERENCE
ORGANISED FOR THE INSTITUTION OF FIRE ENGINEERS
S.A BRANCH

AND THE FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



H. E. B. J. J. 2 3

Our Ref: : FG 930231
Date: : 4 June 1993

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The Chief of Administration
Multi-Party Negotiation Forum
World Trade Centre
P.O.Box 307,
ISANDO 1600

Attention Dr Eloff

Dear Sir's

**UNCONDITIONAL POLITICAL ASSISTANCE TO FIRE GOLD '93,;
FIRST INTERNATIONAL FIRE ENGINEERING CONFERENCE AND
EXHIBITION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: DURBAN EXHIBITION AND
CONVENTION CENTRE: OCTOBER 19 TO 21, 1993.**

It is a great pleasure to inform you that the International Committee "Confederation of Fire Associations Conferences" (COFAC) approved to place South Africa on the 1993 slot of the International Conference Calendar. The COFAC committee was established with the view to co-ordinate the Fire Related conferences around the world, in order to guide delegates to the nominated "International conference" of the year.

The Institution of Fire Engineers is a United Kingdom based Institute established in 1918 and Incorporated in Scotland in 1924, with branches in more than 60 countries around the world. The object for which the Association is established is:-

"To promote, encourage, and improve the science and practice of Fire Extinction, Fire Prevention and Engineering and all operations and expedients connected therewith, and to give an impulse to ideas likely to be useful in connection with or in relation to such science and practice to the members of the Institution and to the community at large. In furtherance of the above object and ancillary to it the Association may:-

Enable members to meet and to correspond, and to facilitate the interchange of ideas respecting improvements in the various branches of the said science, and the publication and communication of information on such subjects."

For the purpose of registration the number of members of The Institution is declared unlimited

Such persons as shall be admitted in accordance with the Articles and no others, shall be members of the Institute and be entered on the Register as such, according to their classes.

CONFERENCE SECRETARY, FIRE GOLD '93, P O BOX 50070, WIERDA PARK, 0149, REPUBLIK OF SOUTH AFRICA

AND THE FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Any person may become a member of the Institute who according to the class in which he is placed, shall be qualified and elected as hereinafter mentioned and shall agree in writing to become such member, and shall pay any entrance fee prescribed and the first subscription accordingly.

A member shall also pay the appropriate entrance fee and subscription upon transferring from one class of member to another class.

The compilation of COFAC is made up out of the following:

- a. The Institution of Fire Engineers with all Branch Member Countries. (IFE)
- b. The Federation of British Fire Organisations (FOBFO)
- c. The Asian Association of Fire Chiefs. (AAFC)
- d. The Japanese Association of Fire Chiefs (JAFC)
- e. The International Association of Fire Chiefs of the USA (IAFC)

In view on the International isolation the country has suffered, it has taken many years to convince the International Community that South Africa is worthy to be considered back in the International arena and consent to hold the event in South Africa has only been granted in 1989 in Hong Kong. The Institution of Fire Engineers (South Africa) Branch first had to prove that South Africa has the infra structure to stage such an event.

The criteria for consideration was that the Conference must be close to the Exhibition in order for the delegates to pay a visit to the exhibition during tea- and lunch breaks. The second consideration is that the accommodation to be in close proximity, to allow delegates to walk if preferred and that a safe environment be provided to the International guests. The third and final condition is that the conference be admissible to all races, colour, sex or creed who is interested in the saving of lives and the betterment of the environment.

The present political exposure the media is providing about South Africa, is not very well received in the rest of the world. The views expressed are that the present political situation does not do justice to the profession. We understand the concerns expressed, but would like to emphasise that we see fire engineering as a matter affecting the life safety of every one and therefore a non-political issue. We have been marketing the conference as such, and it will indeed be practised, as an occasion to contribute something positive in the process of solving SA's problems, rather than contributing nothing by boycott actions.

As far as uncertainty regarding the situation in October 1993 is concerned, we believe that in spite whatever the turmoil in SA may or may not be, the strength of the country and the negotiating forum is such that sufficient stability should prevail to enable this envisaged conference to be a success.

The conference and exhibition has been promoted by personal visits to most of the leading countries of the world to date and more than 10 000 personal letters has been sent to International delegates and it has been publicised in more than 60 international magazines world wide.

AND THE FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Subject to the political climate, we are planning to receive approximately 1500 delegates to the conference and approximately 500 supporting members to the exhibition. It has been calculated that if we receive 1500 persons in total the income to Durban will exceed R1 125 000.00 in hotel accommodation and about the same surr in shopping sales.

The delegate fees are not included in the calculations, as most of it will be absorbed in the planning of the conference, but the total income to South Africa through tourism could exceed the amount of Rm 5.

The organisation Fire Gold '93, for the Institution of Fire Engineers, and the Fire Protection Association of Southern Africa has already spent more than R250 000.00 in the promotion of the event to date.

As it is the first time that South Africa be permitted to stage such an event, and the fact that the International calendar has been completed to the year 2000, we want to make this the most prestigious event ever to be held on this continent. The intention is to show the world that we can take up our rightful place and to be identified as leaders.

We respectfully appeal to the Multi-party Negotiation Forum for its approval in making this event a success for South Africa in agreeing to sign a letter of undertaking to support the event. We would like to forward a copy the letter to all International delegates to indicate to them that the politicians agree that life safety fire engineering is non-political and cares for the interest of all the peoples of South Africa.

A example of the letter of undertaking is attached for your convenience

We are sure that you will agree with us that this is an opportunity we must not allow to slip past us.

We trust **that** you will give this matter your favourable consideration

Yours faithfully

Col Daniel J. Jordaan Pr Tech (ENG.)
CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION SECRETARY

Multi-party Negotiating Forum
World Trade Centre
P.O.Box 307 ISANDO 1600

Dear Sir's

**FIRE GOLD '93, FIRST INTERNATIONAL FIRE ENGINEERING
CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: DURBAN
EXHIBITION AND CONVENTION CENTRE: OCTOBER 19 TO 21, 1993.**

We the undersigned members of the Multi Party Negotiating Forum herewith provide our unconditional support to Fire Gold '93.

We underwrite the Conference and Exhibition to be non-political and undertake within the constraints of the available limitations to provide you a welcome and safe visit to South Africa.

We thank you for your consideration to attend Fire Gold '93 in Durban from October 19 to 21.

Your faithfully

Signatories of the Multy-Party Forum

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