



Office of the President

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02 October 2020

'A Crisis Like No Other'

The lockdown has had a huge impact on the association and it will leave a lasting scar on our activities for years to come. Once a new balance is eventually reached, there is no reason to panic. In this time of crisis, we must remember that *this too shall pass*. We have to get through this. How well and quickly we adjust to the new normal will depend on us working together and acting now. Exceptional times call for exceptional action.

We must ensure that lessons are learned and that this crisis provides a watershed moment for preparedness and effective realization of the association's aims and objectives. This crisis is forcing the association to re-look and re-engineer its systems and processes. Now more than ever before, we need corporation, hope and will to see this crisis through and think about how to move forward and achieve our goals.

It is clear that COVID-19 has brought a lot of confusion and uncertainties globally. Sustainability and existence of most organisations and businesses will largely depend on re-engineered strategies or new ways of doing things. With more knowledge available than before with today's technology, we have to learn to co-exist with COVID-19 in a way that is both healthful and constructive

Given the challenges of the lockdown and our inactivity for the past six months, it is imperative and critical for the association to understand that these developments are changing how member institutions will operate or work and how recruitment will be done. It seems that our primary methods of recruiting students to our institutions have put CEIA in a precarious position. After careful consideration, The National Executive Committee (NEC) of the association saw a need to elevate this to the National Congress.

In its meeting held on the 2nd September 2020, NEC resolved that the 2020 Annual General Meeting and Conference should be held. This resolution was informed by the easing of the Disaster Management Act regulations to Level 3 and the subsequent move to lockdown level 1 as announced by President Ramaphosa.

The Annual General Meeting and Conference will therefore be held at Emerald Hotel in the Vaal on the **2nd to 4th December 2020**. Invitation to the AGM and Conference will be send to members soon.

The NEC wish to thank Vaal University of Technology (VUT) and the organizing team for the efforts put in the planning of the event.

Kindly note that Mr N. Mlonzi (Eastern Cape Rep) and Ms Nomi Kema (Deputy Pres.) will be acting as General Secretary and Treasurer General respectively until further notice.

In conclusion, everything we do during and after Covid-19 must be with a strong focus on building and sustaining our association, CEIA.

Mminele MJ