



NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Faculty of Engineering and Spatial Sciences

Society of Mining Professors/ Societät der Bergbaukunde **32nd SOMP Annual Meeting and Conference Circular**



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1. Message from the President

Dear SOMP Members

It is a great honour, that I hereby extend this invitation to you, dear esteemed members, to the 32nd Society of Mining Professors Annual Meeting and Conference to be co-hosted by the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) and the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (SAIMM) at the Windhoek Country Club Resort, Windhoek, Namibia, from 8–14 September 2022. The Annual Meeting and Conference are being organised under the stewardship of a capable local and international organising committee that I am confident will deliver the task at hand with their usual mark of diligence. Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) is honoured to collaborate with Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (SAIMM) and Society of Mining Professors (SOMP) to host the conference and annual meeting.



As per norm, this will provide a platform for engagement and interaction amongst our members as well as stakeholders. On behalf of SOMP, allow me to extend an invitation to all our stakeholders and once again reiterate that the advancement of minerals education is a collective effort that requires consistent engagement with our stakeholders. I am hopeful that the thematic areas of member and capacity development, future trajectory of minerals education and collaborative research will receive usual attention. Equally, we look forward to robust technical content and engagement.

Namibia is a country with a rich history and heritage, abundantly endowed with rich wildlife and cultural diversity. The typical African sun is a great attraction to tourists from across the globe, who flock to Namibia through the course of the entire year in search of African warmth and experiences. It is indeed a great country, with the rare occurrence of the great South Atlantic Ocean meeting the vast Namib Desert, the oldest desert known to mankind, dating back at least 55 million years. From bird watchers to natural scenery enthusiasts visiting the Fish River Canyon, the country offers diverse yet unique opportunities to the keen traveller wishing to blend business travel with memorable visits. It is a vast country with a relatively low population, offering a low population density. This offers the daring traveller lengthy stretches of quiet and peaceful drives from the extreme terrain of Kaokoland to the seemingly endless tracts of Damaraland.

I also wish to extend my invitation to the spouses and partners who will travel from around the globe to be part of this landmark conference together with the delegates. A separate partners programme will be available for the spouses and partners of the delegates.

For a more detailed outline of the programme for the conference and the accompanying persons, please refer to the programme contained herein.







I look forward to a great conference and meeting. I also wish to urge you to explore the unique opportunity to experience our wonderful Namibian hospitality and country during your stay.

We invite you to register from now on for the conference, technical visits and the accompanying persons program. We recommend that you book your accommodation well ahead of time; the demand for hotel rooms in the summer season is very high. However, the hotels mentioned in this document will have a special rate for the conference attendees.

It is worthwhile to note that fully vaccinated travellers are no longer required to produce negative PCR test results in Namibia. The current requirement is to present authentic valid vaccination certificate at Point of Entry. Travellers who are not fully vaccinated must produce a negative COVID-19 PCR test result that is not older than 72 hours calculated from the date that the sample for testing was taken and was issued by a laboratory that is certified in the country of issue, to issue SARS-CoV-2 PCR test results. This provision is subject to government review.

2. Venue Information

The Windhoek Country Club Resort offers businessmen, conference delegates, and families the best of both worlds.

The resort has ensured that it remains the final word in comfort and entertainment in Namibia.

It offers the delegates an opportunity to enjoy a rendezvous with Lady Luck at the Desert Jewel Casino, play a round of golf on the world class 18-hole golf course, relax in the lazy river or take a tour of any one of Windhoek's cultural sites.



3. Call for Abstracts and Papers

English will be the official language of our meeting and conference. We invite you to submit your abstract for a poster presentation, oral presentations or peer-reviewed paper.

Abstracts should be less than 500 words. Please submit your abstract to camielah@saimm.co.za by email as attachment in Microsoft Word DOC(X) format no later than 4 April 2022.

Please note that acceptance of abstracts will be based on a decision by the national committee. Once so notified and scheduled, the author of an accepted abstract is required to give a presentation at the conference. However, some papers will only be selected for poster presentation.

A paper submission is mandatory for those who wish to be selected for a peer-reviewed publication. Publication criteria will be sent directly to the selected authors.

All submitted papers with acceptance will be collected as the 32nd SOMP 2022 proceedings on a USB drive.

Key Dates for Abstract and Paper Submissions

15 April 2022	.....	Submission of abstracts
26 April 2022	.....	Acceptance of abstracts
30 May 2022	.....	Submission of papers

4. Preliminary Program

The program of our Annual General Meeting will follow a participatory and interdisciplinary approach through the following activities:

- ❖ Conference Presentations
- ❖ Workshops
- ❖ Panels
- ❖ Poster Presentations
- ❖ Open Discussions

It will also include a spouses and partners programme, pre-conference and post-conferences technical tours. The accompanying persons program includes tours to the Museum, City of Windhoek tour, Game Drive and lunch as well as community tours.

7 September 2022	.....	Arrival of Delegates
8 September 2022	.....	Drive to Otjiwarongo and Game Drive
9 September 2022	.....	B2 Gold Mine Visit
9 September 2022	.....	Drive to Windhoek
10 September 2022	.....	Registration and Cocktail
11 September 2022	.....	NUST Windhoek Tour + Council Meeting
12 September 2022	.....	SOMP Conference Day 1
13 September 2022	.....	SOMP Conference Day 2

Accompanying Person Program

Accompanying persons will be provided a game drive, museum, city tours-Research Habitat Center and Penduka Women Project in Katutura, Nakara Tanneries and Namibian Brewery, Walking tour through Windhoek City Centre (Tintenpalast, ChristusErloser-Church, Independence Memorial, Meteorite Fountain, Craft Center). In addition, the spouses and partners are invited to the Conference social activities such as welcome reception/cocktail, conference and awards dinners.



Pre-Conference Tour

Technical tour

The technical tour is being scheduled to an underground gold mine (B2Gold) about 300 km away from Windhoek. The tour is scheduled to start on 8 September 2022 until 9 September 2022. The cost for the Pre-Conference Mine Tour is US\$80. We will stay overnight at the Otjikoto Gold mine camping site.

Post-Conference Tour

The post conference tour includes a drive into the beautiful coastal town of Swakopmund with a close touch to nature. Swakopmund and Walvis Bay are notable coastal towns where the dunes meet the ocean. Namibia has significant uranium reserves capable of providing 10% of global uranium output. Husab mine and Rossing mine are the two active uranium mines that will be visited. A visit to these two flagship operations will expose delegates to world-class open pit mining. Both mines are in the Erongo Region of west central Namibia and produce U_3O_8 [Uranium Oxide] for the international markets.

5. Climate and Dress Code

Temperatures in early September in Windhoek range from 28 to 36 degrees Celsius. Meeting rooms are air-conditioned. The recommended conference attire is business casual. Formal dress code will be appreciated for the 13 September Awards dinner.

6. Presentation of Society Awards

SOMP awards and recognitions will be presented during the meeting. These may include the Guenter Fettweis Award, the Ludwig Wilke Award, the Emeritus Member Award, Michael Karmis Award, Bruce Hebblewhite, and the Tim Shaw Award.

7. Registration and Payment

The conference attendee registration fee is rated into three categories by the level of certainty in terms of payment time:

❖ 30 May 2022: Early bird registration	US\$ 650
❖ 30 July 2022: Normal registration	US\$ 700
❖ Author Registration (For delegates presenting papers and posters)	US\$ 600
❖ SOMP and SDIMI Registration (For delegates who wish to attend both conferences)	US\$ 960
❖ Retired/Emeritus SOMP Members	US\$ 480
❖ Regional Academics	US\$ 480
❖ SOMP Students Members	US\$ 480

The fee includes conference kit, access to technical sessions, welcome reception, Awards dinner, three lunches, coffee and tea breaks.

Online Conference fees

❖ 30 April 2022: Early bird registration	US\$ 330
❖ 30 July 2022: Normal registration	US\$ 360
❖ Author Registration	US\$ 270
❖ SOMP and SDIMI Registration	US\$ 480
❖ Retired/Emeritus SOMP Members	US\$ 480
❖ Regional Academics	US\$ 240
❖ SOMP Students Members	US\$ 240

Accompanying Person Registration Fee

The fee rate for registered accompanying persons is US\$ 250.00, including welcome reception, awards dinner, three lunches and three guided tours.

Taxes and Fees

All rates of registration fee are Namibian taxes inclusive but bank transaction or other payment fees on the registrant side exclusive.



Accommodation

Accommodation will be provided at the venue of Windhoek Country Club Resort, an international standard 4+ star hotel, whose information is shown in the Venue Contact and Location section.

Rooms have been reserved at the venue hotel with a discounted rate of N\$1200 Namibian Dollar (equivalent to approximately USD 90/120) for single/double Superior room, including breakfast and taxes, until 18 September 2022.

<https://bookings.legacyhotels.co.za/booking/?property=HRWIN&adults=1&children=0&rooms=1&arrival=2022-09-07&departure=2022-09-18&promotion=SAIM0922>

You may choose to stay in other facilities at your own discretion. Less expensive alternative hotels in the vicinity of the Conference venue include

- ❖ Avani Windhoek Hotel & Casino
Website: <https://www.avanihotels.com/en/windhoek>
Booking Link for Conference Delegates:
NUST
- ❖ Arrebusch Travel Lodge
Website: <https://www.arebusch.com/>
Booking Link for Conference Delegates:
32ND SOMP Annual Meeting and Conference held by NUST and SAIMM
PromoCode: SOMP32
- ❖ NUST Hotel School
e-mail: hotelschool@nust.na with reference to the 32nd SOMP Annual Meeting and Conference.
- ❖ Hilton Windhoek Hotel
Website: <https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/>
Booking Link for Conference Delegates:
e-mail: WDHHI_Reservations@hilton.com with reference to the 32nd SOMP Annual Meeting and Conference.
- ❖ Windhoek Country Club
Booking link for conference delegates:
<https://bookings.legacyhotels.co.za/booking/?property=HRWIN&adults=1&children=0&rooms=1&arrival=2022-09-07&departure=2022-09-18&promotion=SAIM0922>



- ❖ Windhoek Palm Hotel
Website: <http://wph.com.na/>
Booking Link for Conference Delegates:
e-mail: reservations@wph.com.na with reference to the 32nd SOMP
Annual Meeting and Conference.

Special discounts for the conference delegates have been negotiated with the above listed establishments.

8. Visa Information

You may be required to secure a Namibian visa and other documents for traveling to Namibia. The organizing committee of the 32nd SOMP Annual Meeting & Conference will offer invitation letters to the participants that need to apply for a visa to be able to travel to Namibia. To find out whether you require a visa, please follow the link: <https://namibiaembassyusa.org/foreign-nationals/>

For general information on Namibian visa and please contact your local Namibian embassy/consulate for details which are specifically applicable to you.

You may send the conference contact an email including your complete address and other eligible information to request an invitation letter for assisting your Namibian visa application.

9. Airport and Taxi Services

Hosea Kutako International Airport (HKIA) is about 40 km from Windhoek City. It is a 45-minute drive in non-rush hour traffic, though it usually takes about an hour to travel by taxi at a fare of US\$20 to US\$25. Shuttle from Hosea Kutako International Airport (HKIA) to preferred place of accommodation can be arranged through the following service providers:

- ❖ City Cab
- ❖ Dial-a-Cab
- ❖ Windhoek Airport Transfers



10. Contact Information

Conference Chairperson: Prof Harmony Musiyarira
President Society of Mining Professors
Namibia University of Science and Technology
E-mail: hmusiyarira@nust.na
Tel: +264 61 207 - 2076
web: www.nust.na

Conference Secretariat

Camielah Jardine,
Head of Conferencing
E-mail: camielah@saimm.co.za
Tel: +27 11 834-1273/7
Web: www.saimm.co.za

11. Organizing Committees

Local Organising Committee

- ❖ Prof Harmony Musiyarira
- ❖ Prof Godfrey Dzinomwa
- ❖ Prof Benjamin Mapani
- ❖ Mr Bernard Sililo
- ❖ Mr Privilege Shava
- ❖ Ms Adeltraud Mughongora
- ❖ Ms Martha Amwaama
- ❖ Mr Himeezembi Hengari
- ❖ Ms Kemi Jegede
- ❖ Mr Ruben Mwalwange
- ❖ Dr Valentine Katte
- ❖ Dr Absai Vatuva

International Organising Committee

- ❖ Prof. Harmony Musiyarira, *Namibia University of Science and Technology*
- ❖ Prof. Vlad Kecojevic, *West Virginia University*

- ❖ Prof. Zach Agioutantis, *University of Kentucky*
- ❖ Prof. Michael Karmis, *Virginia Tech*
- ❖ Assoc. Prof. Emily Sarver, *Virginia Tech*
- ❖ Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite, *University of New South Wales*
- ❖ Prof. Serkan Saydam, *University of New South Wales*
- ❖ Prof. Zhongxue Li, *University of Science & Technology Beijing*
- ❖ Prof. Oscar Restrepo Baena, *Universidad Nacional de Colombia*
- ❖ Prof. Ronny Webber-Youngman, *University of Pretoria*
- ❖ Dr. Rudrajit Mitra, *RWTH Aachen University*
- ❖ Prof. Domingo Carvajal, *University of Huelva*
- ❖ Assoc. Prof. Nga Nguyen, *Hanoi University of Mining and Geology*
- ❖ Assoc. Prof. Andrea Brickey, *South Dakota School of Mines*
- ❖ Prof. Elisabeth Clausen, *RWTH Aachen University*
- ❖ Prof. Oliver Langefeld, *Clausthal University*

12. Venue Contact and Location

Windhoek Country Club Resort is located on B1 Western Bypass in Windhoek South. The resort can be directly contacted on + 264 [0] 61 205 5911 by telephone or windhoek@legacyhotels.com by e-mail.

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3. Why Attend?

This will be the second time the SOMP conference will be held in Africa. Namibia, a country with vast mineral resources and a vibrant economy, has been chosen to host SOMP because it offers the opportunity to examine and discuss a range of critical issues facing the extractive sector, including mining in environmentally sensitive areas, water and energy scarcity, active artisanal and small-scale mining, the need for capacity building, fair trade practices and opportunities for value-added production.

Learn

The conference will feature presentations from experts and practitioners on advances in social, economic, and environmental sustainability, and related technical issues relevant to the Namibian and African mining sector and other areas around the world.



Meet people

This conference brings together people interested in mining in Namibia and Africa, including governments representatives, the mining industry, academia, NGOs, and civil society. Opportunities for networking and discussion will be provided. A number of international attendees are also expected, so more networking opportunities will be available

World-class mining operations

Namibia has an extensive and diverse mineral endowment, is the source of the richest alluvial diamond deposits globally, and is a world leader in marine diamond mining. Namibia has significant uranium mines capable of providing 10% of global mining output.

Professional Development

Attend world-class presentations and mine tours to gain professional development points.

Enhance your knowledge

Hear from world-renowned speakers and top industry leaders coupled with networking with conference delegates.

Experience Namibia

Namibia is home to the world's oldest desert and has the highest dunes in the world. Environment protection is enshrined in the constitution, and more than 40 percent of the country is under conservation management. Delegates will have an opportunity to experience the warm hospitality of the Namibian people and their cultural activities. Namibia is home to some of Africa's most spectacular natural sights. The Southern part of Namibia (//Karas region) hosts the Fisher River canyon, the second largest canyon after the Grand Canyon in the USA, and spectacular Sossusvlei scenery of rust-red sand dunes set against white pans. There will be opportunities to visit some operating mines and unique game parks home to a diversity of wildlife, including the big five. Swakopmund, Walvis Bay, and Lüderitz are notable coastal towns where the dunes meet the ocean.



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