



**REPORT TO: THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE [MAYCO]
AND RELEVANT SPATIAL, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT SECTION 79 COMMITTEE**

CITY MANAGER

**TO BE REFERRED BY THE OFFICIAL TO MAYCO VIA THE RELEVANT SPATIAL
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT SECTION 79 COMMITTEE [AFTER CONSIDERATION BY
CITY MANAGER]**

1. ITEM NUMBER

2. SUBJECT

**FEEDBACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL/OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE
RSA TRIP UNDERTAKEN FROM 19 MAY 2024 TO 25 MAY 2024 TO
ATTEND THE RAMSAR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL WETLAND
SEMINAR IN REUNION ISLAND.**

ONDERWERP

**TERUGVOERING OOR DIE INTERNASIONALE REIS / BUIITE DIE GRENSE
VAN DIE RSA ONDERNEEM VAN 19 MEI 2024 TOT 25 MEI 2024 OM DIE
RAMSAR- INTERNASIONALE TEGNIESE SEMINAAR OOR VLEILANDE IN
REUNION-EILAND BY TE WOON**

ISIHLOKO

**INGXELO ENGEMVA KOHAMBO OLUYA PHESHEYA/NGAPHANDLE
KWEEBHODA ZOMZANTSI AFRIKA OLUTHATYATHWE UKUSUSELA
NGOWE19 KUCANZIBE 2024 UKUYA KOWAMA25 KUCANZIBE 2024
LOKUZIMASA ISEMINA YEHLABATHI ENGEZOBUCHWEPHESHE
BEMIGXOBHOZO YASERAMSAR EREUNION ISLAND.**

Ref. R1918

3. EVENT SUMMARY

EVENT DETAILS	
CONFERENCE/SEMINAR	THE RAMSAR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL WETLANDS SEMINAR
OTHER	N/A
DATE	19 MAY - 25 MAY 2024
VENUE	STELLA MATUTINA DE SAINT-LEU, REUNION ISLAND
TOTAL COST TO THE CITY	R19 633.36
CITY	DE SAINT-LEU
COUNTRY	REUNION ISLAND

ATTENDEE DETAILS	
NAME AND SURNAME	DESIGNATION
Dalton Gibbs	REGIONAL HEAD: NORTH. BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BRANCH
Bongani Zungu	BIODIVERSITY AREA CO-ORDINATOR: FALSE BAY NATURE RESERVE

PROVIDE SUMMARY OF HOST ORGANISATION / CITY
The seminar was funded and hosted by National Reserve of Etang de Saint-Paul (Réunion), the Ramsar France association and the French Ministry for Ecological Transition. The seminar was held in the auditorium of Stella Matutina in the town of de Saint-Leu on Reunion Island.

4. OBJECTIVE

Messrs. Bongani Zungu and Dalton Gibbs were invited to the Ramsar seminar as part of the South African delegation co-ordinated by the Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries. Their presentations were to show case the work being done by the City of Cape Town at its Ramsar site, the False Bay Nature Reserve. The highly urbanised nature of False bay Nature Reserve as a Ramsar site presents unique challenges and opportunities in the South African context. These challenges and innovations, which have been developed by City staff, were presented to the seminar participants.

The City's participants also gained valuable global perspectives on the management challenges and techniques of other Ramsar wetlands. These perspectives and knowledge will be conveyed to City staff and colleagues in a number of presentations and workshops.

5. OUTCOMES

Messrs. Bongani Zungu and Dalton Gibbs attended the above seminar as part of the South African delegation and delivered presentations on the management of invasive alien vegetation and the contribution of communities in restoration projects. These presentations were well received by the participating countries represented.

6. ACTIONS REQUIRED

Messrs. Bongani Zungu and Dalton Gibbs will present their experience, perspective and findings to the Biodiversity Management Branch.

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Constitutional and Policy Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.2 Environmental implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.3 Financial Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.4 Legal Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.5 Staff Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.6 Risk Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.7 POPIA Compliance

☒ It is confirmed that this report has been checked and considered for POPIA Compliance.

NOTE: POPIA Section MUST be completed otherwise the report will be returned to the author for revision.

Contact your Directorate POPIA Stewards should you require assistance.

The City has a contract in place with Izani Embassy Joint Venture for the safe-keeping of Traveller's personal information as required by the POPI Act.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the feedback report on the trip to the International Ramsar Wetlands Seminar, Reunion Island, undertaken by Messrs. Bongani Zungu and Dalton Gibbs on 19 – 25 May 2024 **be considered and noted.**

AANBEVELINGS

Daar word aanbeveel dat die terugvoeringsverslag oor die internasionale reis na die Rasmar-seminaar oor vleilande, Reunion-eiland, onderneem deur Bongani Zungu en Dalton Gibbs van 19 – 25 Mei 2024 **oorweeg word en daarvan kennis geneem word.**

IZINDULULO

Kundululwe ukuba **makuthathelwe ingqalelo kwaye kuqwalaselwe** ingxelo engemva kohambo oluya kwiSemina yeHlabathi engeMigxobhozo yaseRamsar, eReunion Island, oluthatyathwe ngooCeba Bongani Zungu noDalton Dalton Gibbs ngowe19 ukuya kowama25 kwekaCanzibe 2024.

9. GENERAL DISCUSSION

The False Bay Nature Reserve (FBNR) is a City of Cape Town managed nature reserve and is also an internationally accredited Ramsar Site. As such it is a wetland of international importance and is proclaimed as a Ramsar site number 2219 on 2nd February 2015. The FBNR is managed by the Biodiversity Management Branch of the Environmental Management Department. It is the only truly urban Ramsar site, which provides the City with a huge opportunity to ensure that this reserve benefits and educates the local communities on biodiversity and wetland issues. This is a huge achievement and recognises the importance and uniqueness of the City's natural assets and its ability to manage these assets. In 2022, Cape Town was accredited as Wetland City, the only one in Africa for its protection, restoration and sustainable use of its wetlands.

While South Africa is a signatory to the International Ramsar convention since 1974, it is only recently that Cape Town's wetland assets have only relatively recently been proclaimed. As an urbanised city, Cape Town has had to develop innovative management practises to maintain and restore its wetland systems. These innovations are applicable in a number of places as cities in South Africa, and globally, urbanise. The opportunity to share these management practices comes at an important moment when significant initiatives have been launched to restore Cape Town's waterbodies into liveable spaces. Projects such as the dredging of Zeekoevlei and a new weir structure are significant investments into Cape Town as a water sustainable city. These investments and management innovations were well received by the Ramsar audience and highlighted where Cape Town's commitment to wetland management.

10. ANNEXURES

n/a

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT:

DATE	18 June 2024		
NAME	Dalton Gibbs	CONTACT NUMBER	021 444 7792
E-MAIL ADDRESS	Dalton.gibbs@capetown.gov.za		
DIRECTORATE	Spatial Planning & Environment	FILE REF NO	7/2/23/04/2024
SIGNATURE :			

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROBERT MCGAFFIN

COMMENT:

The ED's signature represents support for report content and confirms POPIA compliance.

SIGNATURE:

NAME

DATE

MANAGER: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

COMMENT:

DR. DENVER VAN SCHALKWYK

SIGNATURE:

DATE

☐ REPORT COMPLIANT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL'S DELEGATIONS, POLICIES, BY-LAWS AND ALL LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

☐ NON-COMPLIANT

COMMENT:

NAME

Certified as legally compliant based on the contents of the report.

TEL

DATE

CITY MANAGER

☒ NOTED

☒ REFER TO THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE VIA THE RELEVANT SECTION 79 COMMITTEE

DATE

COMMENT: