

SAGCC: Chairperson's 2017 Annual Report

Item	Description	Notes
1.	<p><u>Foreword by Chairperson:</u></p> <p>At a time where most Business Chambers report a decline in membership numbers, the SAGCC is growing from strength to strength – having its membership numbers increased fourfold over the past three years.</p> <p>We are a young and innovative Business Chamber where all our members have the following in common:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our love for Georgia and its people, and • Our wish for a strong and healthy relationship between Georgia and those countries in the SADC region where the Georgian Ambassador to Pretoria is accredited <p>Though Georgia is far from Southern Africa, we are connected through our mutual belief system, ethics and most important of all, the dream we have for our respective regions.</p> <p>Point 08 below is proof of this and deserves mention. A special thanks to those SAGCC members referred to in Point 08 for their dedication, entrepreneurship and hard work.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Visits to Georgia:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>05 – 11 March 2017: G-SMEG and Marius Heyns:</u> Meetings were held with President of GE Rugby, COO of GE Rugby, Rugby Head Couches of GE National Team as well as the GE U/18 and U/20 Teams, Minister and Deputy Minister of Sport and Youth Developments and Kakheti Sport Officials • <u>16 – 24 September 2017: Marius Heyns accompanied by a delegation consisting of Business and Executives of Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM), visited Tbilisi and Telavi.</u> Meetings were held with MFA, Georgia Chamber of Commerce Industry, Georgia Wine Agency, Deputy Minister of Economic and Sustainable Development, IT and Innovations Hubs Georgia, Enterprise Georgia, Governor and Deputy Governor of Kakheti and Mayor and Vice Mayor of Telavi • <u>17 -23 November 2017: Marius Heyns and Raubex SA, a listed SA construction company, visited Tbilisi.</u> Meetings were held with MFA, Georgia Chamber of Commerce Industry, Deputy Minister of Economic and Sustainable Development, various Georgian Construction companies 	
3.	<p><u>SA/GE Rugby:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A combined SA U/20 team played three warm-up matches in Georgia during the last week of April/first week of May 2017 as part of preparations of the U/20 Rugby World Cup which was hosted by GE during May/June 2017 • The GE U/18 7th Rugby team visited Cape Town from 24 August 2017 till 03 September 2017 for a coaching clinic and three matches against local school teams 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GE National U/20 team will be visiting Cape Town from <u>10 to 22 April 2018</u>. The COO of GE Rugby will accompany the team. He will also visit Pretoria/Johannesburg for meetings with the "Blue Bulls Rugby" and "Lions Rugby" Unions. <u>Remark:</u> Meetings were held during March, September and November 2017 in Tbilisi with GE Ruby in support of these initiatives. 	
4.	<p><u>SA/GE Winemaker Exchange Program:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Georgian Winemakers from Chateau Mukhrani and Shilda Wineries participated during the SA harvest season (February/March 2017). The first female winemaker from Georgia is currently participating in the 2018 SA harvest season. She is hosted by Robertson Winery. Three South African Winemakers from Robertson (x2) and Van Loveren (x1) Wineries participated in the GE harvest season (September/October 2017). <u>Remark 1:</u> Two meetings were held in Tbilisi during March and September 2017 with GE National Wine Agency in support of this initiative. <u>Remark 2:</u> A visit was paid to Robertson, Excelsior and Van Loveren Wineries during February 2017 in support of this initiative. 	
5.	<p><u>Important dates during 2017:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26 May 2017: GE National Day Celebrations. It was attended by +250 guests 14 June 2017 (Stellenbosch) and 26 July 2017 (Telavi): Signing of MoU between CWDM and Kakheti Region 15 June 2017: Seminar on Georgia hosted by Cape Chamber of Commerce (CCCI) in Cape Town. It was attended by 74 business delegates from the Western Cape Province 	
6.	<p><u>Current activities in terms of the MoU between Kakheti Region and Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elmarie Bower is managing the placement of several young trained/qualified South Africans from the CWDM region to visit Kakheti region for 4-6 months to help the local tourism/hospitality industry develop their English-speaking capability. Most of them will also be able to work in GE during their stay. The first group is scheduled to leave first half 2018. The South Africans will be placed at Hotels, Guest houses and Spa's in the Kakheti region. +30 Georgian sport coaches to be hosted sometime during 2018 by G-SMEG in Telavi a 6-month sport/youth development coaching clinic. A financial proposal to this effect has been submitted and the response from Kakheti sport authorities is expected any day soon. A delegation from Kakheti region consisting of local government/tourism officials to visit CWDM during 2018. Program to be finalized soonest. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics agreed on in principle are: Local tourism Hospitality as a 2nd business/industry in a wine region Wine and eco-tourism Sport tourism • The Dean of Faculty Agra Sciences at Telavi State University to visit the Faculty of Wine Sciences at the University of Stellenbosch (US) from 15 till 21 April 2018: Program to be finalized soonest Topics to be agreed on MoU in the process of being finalized 	
7.	<p><u>Meetings held in Georgia: In addition to the meetings referred to in Para 2 above, the following meetings took place:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the Chancellors of both the Free Uni in Tbilisi and State Uni in Telavi • Enterprise Georgia - twice • Various GE Wineries • The Foreign Policy Advisor to the Georgian Prime Minister • With SAGCC members living/working in Tbilisi 	
8.	<p><u>Summary of the bilateral activities of some of our members – surnames first and in alphabetic order:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bouwer Elmarie:</u> Elmarie proposed the following: Welcome letter: A welcome letter be composed and sent to all new SAGCC members upon joining the Business Chamber. A "First Draft" of the said "Welcome Letter" to be submitted to the SAGCC MC by 7 March 2018. Regular meetings with members: The SAGCC MC to meet with members of the SAGCC at least twice per annum. The recommendation was accepted. Ambassador Dvali offered the use of the Embassy for these said meetings. The SAGCC MC to take ownership for coordinating, managing and presenting these meetings. • <u>De Beer Kuun:</u> Kuun invests and manages in two projects: "Black Pearl Live": It is a promotional company established in November 2017. It organizes international concerts, events and festivals. One of the first concerts on offer is James Blunt together with the Parlotones from South Arica and two Georgian Bands. The concert will be held at the Mikheal Meshki Stadion in Tbilisi. Two more concerts are planned for 2018. Batumi Zipline: The second project is a 1, 7 km Zipline to be build in Batumi. This project is in its design phase and is expected to be operational by 01 June 2018 • <u>Hume Fred from Hume International:</u> "Humemeat International": It is in a joint venture with Charles Melville, starting an import business into Georgia, e.g. importing meat into Georgia, and exporting fruit from South Africa into the Caucasus region, including Russia. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Kruger Petro:</u> <u>Collaboration with the Georgian Innovation Hub:</u> We tried to establish direct communication with the Gauteng Innovation Hub, but instead followed a more formal route to discuss opportunities with the DG for Small Business Development. We are hoping for a next meeting mid-March. We are hopeful that this will give us the right contacts for the Georgian Hub to be introduced to the Innovation Hub, SEDA, and the SETA Services organizations. All 3 directly tasked with similar services as though provided by the Georgian Hub. <u>Economic Empowerment:</u> – Petro is hoping to partner with a bigger group who wishes to empower Georgian nationals in areas such as agriculture, tourism, and business & IT consulting. Our initial feasibility study will kick off in Feb this year. <u>Personally:</u> Petro is hoping to establish a small boutique consulting firm and to partner with the Innovation Hub to coach young business and IT professionals. • <u>Melville Charles and Cheryl:</u> <u>Cattle meat and meat retail outlets:</u> During 2017 they added beef cattle (limosins) to their farming operation. During 2018 they would like to look at setting up meat retail outlets in Georgia, and would consider a joint venture with a South African with the right qualification. <u>Joint diary operation:</u> They are also discussing with a South African a joint venture dairy operation in Gardabani. <u>Remark:</u> Also note their joint activities with Hume International - see the point above! • <u>Manyama Casey:</u> <u>Commodity trading:</u> Casey has been facilitating requests from various Georgian companies for skimmed milk and A4 paper from South Africa – the latter has reached the stage of placement of first order for A4 paper. • <u>Maruashvili Juba:</u> The following activities took place during 2017: Hosting potential investors and organizing an individual business trips that included meetings with various Governmental institutions, representatives of private sector and banks. Registration of three new companies by South African investors in the sectors of software development, music production, extreme sport and entertainment. Assist with organizing the visit of SA construction company "Raubex" to Georgia during November 2017 • <u>Van der Westhuizen Juan:</u> Property investment, facilitation of foreign investments into Georgia as well as the exploration of mining sector in Georgia (copper and gold). 	
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Diplomatic functions attended during 2017: National Days of:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Georgia (plus various functions held at the GE Embassy) • Czech Republic (plus two business functions held at the Czech Residence) • Switzerland (plus two business functions held at Swiss Residence) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey (plus one social function held at Residence of Turkish Ambassador) • Austria • Ukraine • Two meetings each with Austrian Trade Commission and Swiss/SA Business Chamber 	
10.	<p><u>Other meetings/functions attended:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GE winetasting in Johannesburg: 25 February 2017 • Two meetings with GM of Turkish Airlines (THY) in Johannesburg • Two meetings with DA MP's • Two meetings with Mr Roelf Meyer and his business partner, Ivor Jenkins • Two meetings with the Georgian Honorary Consul in Cape Town • Meeting each of the GE Honorary Consuls in Gaborone and Maputo • Various meetings with Dawie Roodt, economist • Meeting with the Editor of Diplomatic Society, Kirtan Bhana (An online Magazine) • Meeting with CEO of Cape Chamber and Commerce Industry (CCCI) • Various meetings with Executive Mayor and Heads of Finance and Tourism of Cape Winelands District Municipality (CWDM) • Meeting with CEO of AHI • Visit to the "Academy" of trade union "Solidarity" • Various meetings regarding legal advice to Georgian Companies wanting to do business with SA, as well as the screening/vetting of those SA companies were held with the relevant parties 	
11.	<p><u>Appointment of Georgian Honorary Consuls in SADC countries:</u></p> <p>The Chairperson assisted Ambassador Dvali with the successful identification and appointment of GE Honorary Consuls in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gaborone • Maputo • Maseru (current) 	
12.	<p><u>SAGCC Meetings held:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on 26 April 2017. A new Management Committee was appointed • Managements Committee (MC) meetings were held on 24 August, 31 October 2017 and 25 January 2018. • In addition, two Strat sessions were held respectively on 15th May and 20th of June 2017 	
13.	<p><u>SAGCC Finance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final amount will be updated at the AGM to be held on 08th March 2018 	

14.	<p><u>SAGCC membership:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of paid members will be confirmed at the AGM on 08th March 2018 	
15.	<p><u>SAGCC inter-active web-site (www.sagcc.biz):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The web-site gets updated monthly 	
16.	<p><u>Special thanks for their loyal support and friendship - to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HE Ambassador Beka Dvali and the staff of the Georgian Embassy in Pretoria Honorary Consul of Georgia, Dr Gerald Wolman, Cape Town MFA in Tbilisi Members of the Management Committee (MC) of the SAGCC The SAGCC members Governor and Deputy Governor of Kakheti Region, the Mayor and Vice Mayor of Telavi with their respective support staff Executives of CWDM G-SMEG and WP Rugby Academy Georgia Rugby Various South African and Georgian Wineries Georgia National Wine Agency Turkish Airlines, Johannesburg and Cape Town The Faculties of Wine/Agra Sciences at the Universities of Stellenbosch and Telavi 	