

02 September 2014

Mr. Sindile Ngonyama  
President  
The South African Institute of Architects  
31 Robin Hood Road  
Robindale, Randburg 2125  
South Africa

Dear President,

The UIA Durban 2014 Congress was, undoubtedly, an unqualified success. Not least because it was a people-orientated Congress, as no other has been in the past. This was also evident in the friendliness of the atmosphere that permeated the venues where the events were held.

To you and to the whole team that worked so hard to achieve this fantastic end result I can only say congratulations and thank you. Because you did the UIA proud and you have also set standards to be emulated in the future.

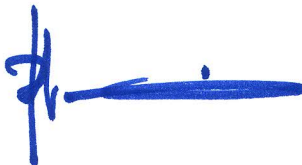
Kindly convey my feelings to all involved and especially to Hassan Asmal, Karen Eicker, Amira Osman, Nina Saunders, Eric Noir and also Trish Emmett.

The Congress was very good for the image of South Africa and, very particularly for the international image of South African architects. There can also be no doubt that visiting architects went back to their respective countries convinced of the quality of South African architecture. The benefits of this are not to be underestimated and will ripple down all the way to students wishing to become internees.

I would appreciate your copying this letter to the Provincial Institutes, some of whose members I had the pleasure to meet, but for most of whom I did not have the opportunity. I am asking this in the belief that they constitute the backbone of the profession in South Africa. And because the message of a successful Congress needs to reach every South African architect. It will be heartening for them to know what South Africa and South African architecture has meant to the world during the Congress and also what potential this has for the future.

Wishing you all and SAIA a good journey ahead.

With warm regards



Vassilis Sgoutas  
UIA Past President  
Hon. Fellow SAIA