



## SANCOLD 2015: YOUNG ENGINEER`S FORUM (YEF)

**MINUTES OF MEETING 1 SEPTEMBER 2015  
HELD AT LAGOON BEACH HOTEL, MILNERTON, CAPE  
TOWN**

### ATTENDANCE LIST

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Danie Badenhorst	SANCOLD MC
Paul Roberts	SANCOLD MC
Quentin Shaw	SANCOLD MC
David Cameron-Ellis	SANCOLD MC
Michelle Blaeser	SANCOLD MC
Louis Hattingh	SANCOLD MC
Henriette Anderson	Verve Consulting Engineers

ITEM	DISCUSSIONS
1.	<b>WELCOME</b>
	<p>The chairperson (Mr. HJ Wright) welcomed all present at the meeting (18:00) and apologised for Mr. Motebele Moshodi (<a href="mailto:moshodim@dwa.gov.za">moshodim@dwa.gov.za</a>) not attending the meeting. Mr. Wright advised that he will act as chairperson for this meeting.</p>
2.	<b>ICOLD, SANCOLD and YEF</b>
	<p>Mr. Wright briefly provided background on ICOLD, its committees and annual meetings, and that the broader goal of these communities is to share knowledge. Mr. Wright also briefly discussed the activities of the ICOLD 2015 YEF held in Stavanger (refer to the attached minutes of meeting held in Norway) and emphasised the benefit we have in South Africa of having English as business language.</p> <p>It was noted that the ICOLD YEF criteria is being younger than 40 years, whilst SANCOLD YEF has an age restriction of 35 years.</p>
3.	<b>Introductions</b>
	<p>Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and to state what they want to gain and expect from the SANCOLD YEF. The following summarises the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills/knowledge transfer from older engineers to young engineers to attempt to fill the age gap.</li> <li>• Not to only gain knowledge but to share as well.</li> <li>• Organise more annual events and work groups.</li> <li>• To form part of communication platforms not just annually.</li> <li>• Enabling young engineers to become APPs.</li> <li>• Networking and career opportunities.</li> <li>• Informal discussion forum.</li> <li>• Engaging in mentorship for professional registration.</li> </ul>
4.	<b>General Discussions</b>
	<p>Dr. CPR Roberts (SANCOLD secretary) stated that a list of various technical committees are available and that members can contact him to join the various working groups.</p> <p>Dr. Roberts also highlights the importance to showcase South Africa's young engineers at next year's ICOLD Meeting in Johannesburg and thus requested them to submit abstracts not later than end of September 2015. Refer to <a href="http://www.icold2016.org">www.icold2016.org</a> for the programme and details for submitting papers.</p> <p>Mr. D Badenhorst also stated the importance in engaging in mentorship.</p> <p>Dr. Q Shaw stated that the world of civil engineering and dam design has changed vastly over the years and that it has become much more</p>

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	<p>competitive not only in South Africa but in the world. Engineers, especially young engineers are competing with engineers getting paid a lot less (example Indian and Turkish engineers). Ownership starts with the young engineers to make sure they get the knowledge, experience and exposure to develop themselves. All efforts are required to ensure South Africa's engineers remain world class.</p> <p>Mr. L Hattingh stated that for an engineer to become an APP he will need to do relevant work. Mr. Hattingh stated that is important to get as much experience as possible. Mr. D Cameron-Ellis advised that being an APP has certain risks for individuals and that each person should think if he/she is willing to become an APP.</p>
5.	<p><b>Closing</b></p>
	<p>Mr. Wright thanked all the inputs that was provided by all and summarised some of the importuned topics that were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young Engineers must form a networking forum that arranges activities all year round and not only once a year at the SANCOLD Annual Conference.</li> <li>• Workshops should be arranged where experienced engineers can transfer skills.</li> <li>• Engaging in a Mentorship is each person's own responsibility.</li> <li>• Communication by the YEF should be improved.</li> <li>• Young engineers need to take ownership of their own career.</li> <li>• The ICOLD and SANCOLD website has details of the ICOLD 2016 event and details on paper submission.</li> <li>• Visit the ECSA and SAICE websites for registration information and refer to the short course information on road to registration.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. HJ Wright thanked everyone again for attending and informed every one of the social event afterwards.</p> <p>Meeting Closed at 19:00.</p>