



SANCOLD

SANCOLD ANNUAL REPORT 2009

The strategic review of SANCOLD culminated with the adoption of its new Constitution in September 2008, and the formation of an Interim Management Committee. SANCOLD was formed in 1965 and the composition of the governing Committee was based on corporate representation. The new Constitution now makes provision for corporate and individual members and for a democratic system of representation on the Management Committee. The Management Committee members have staggered terms of office to facilitate continuity and our first election will be taking place at this meeting for three vacant positions.

The major objectives of the restructured SANCOLD are to:

- Create and promote an awareness and understanding amongst South Africans of the role of dams in the beneficial and sustainable development of South Africa's water resources;
- Advance the knowledge and skills relating to the science and art of planning, design, construction, management, operation, maintenance, rehabilitation and decommissioning of dams amongst its members in a safe, financially sound, ecologically and socially sustainable manner;
- Provide a democratically elected national committee in South Africa to effectively manage the organisation and represent South Africa on the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD);
- Provide forums for local interaction between interested participants in the dam industry; and
- Engage with other African countries in support of initiatives such as those of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) as well as those of ICOLD.

I would now like to focus on the major activities of 2009. The Interim Management Committee realised that the restructuring of SANCOLD required a dedicated person and appointed Dr Paul Roberts as Secretary. Paul has extensive experience of the water sector, SANCOLD and ICOLD.

The membership drive was successful and today we have 38 paid-up corporate members and 77 individual members. We are still keen to expand our membership and your assistance in this respect is requested.

Communication with the membership and public was deemed to be critical and the SANCOLD website was expanded and improved. I am pleased to report that we have a large number of hits both nationally and internationally. A recent innovation on our website is the South African Register of Large Dams which provides information on 1 082 dams with a height of over 15 m. Regular electronic newsletters have been instituted and to date 12 editions of SANCOLD News have

been circulated. SANCOLD has also published several articles in journals in South Africa and internationally. I am of the opinion that all of these activities have added to the profile of SANCOLD and have been of direct benefit to our members and the general public.

During the year SANCOLD has been co-operating with the Water Research Commission and the Stellenbosch Department of Civil Engineering in updating the Guideline on Freeboard for Dams which will be released early in 2010.

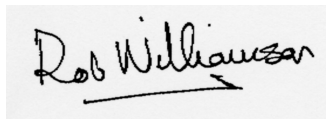
The SANCOLD Conference we are holding is a particular highlight in this year's activities and our appreciation is extended to all those involved in its organisation.

SANCOLD is the local national committee which represents the country on the International Commission on Large Dams. South Africans currently chair two ICOLD Technical Committees and are represented on 13 out of 24 ICOLD Committees. We had a delegation of 21 attending the recent ICOLD Annual Meeting and Congress in Brasilia.

The finances of SANCOLD are sound and we essentially have a balanced budget. Events such as courses and conferences play an important role in the income stream in addition to annual membership fees.

Looking ahead to 2010, we aim to put the finishing touches to our restructuring process, increase membership and also to extend the activities locally.

I wish to extend my appreciation to all of my SANCOLD Colleagues for their vital support during the year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Williamson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

**Chairman: SANCOLD
November 2009**