

# Deployment Challenges of Peace Keeping Operations in Africa Conference

10 -12 September 2007



The three-day conference held at the Blue Bay Lodge and hosted by Military Academy, supported by AMD and Armscor was successfully concluded Wednesday afternoon at the Blue Bay Lodge in Saldhna. The 26 speakers delivered papers in three concurrent sessions on Monday and plenary sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Bringing together major role-players and highly acclaimed speakers from Africa, Canada, and South Africa which included Col Waweru **of the Kenyan Defence Force** , Lt Col M. Goodspeed **of the Canadian Defence Force** , Mr H. Smid de Grunck **of the International Committee of the Red Cross** and Mr. S. Booi **of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Defence**, the conference provided an opportunity for the sharing of strategies and created a unique knowledge platform for all delegates to gain key insights on the Deployment Challenges of Peace Keeping Operations in Africa.



The aim of the Conference focused on the Deployment Challenges of Peace Keeping Operations in Africa and the aim was to get members of the United Nations, the African Union, members of the Defence Industry and members of the South African National Defence Force together to debate this issue. The Military Academy's specific aim was to introduce Generals, Directors of the Department of Defence and members of the Defence Industry to the Military Academy and in the process to secure their support for this valued institution.

The sponsorship s procured from the Defence-Related Industry indicated the value of the conference for the industry and the organisers would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their support. The positive feedback from numerous Generals and Directors indicated that success has also been achieved in these two focus groups. The conference registered over 100 delegates, mainly representing the defence-related industry, Government and Military Personnel.

To make the conference educational, fun and memorable, the Military Academy introduced the delegates to the West Coast by hosting a boat trip on the Langebaan Lagoon on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> as well as a wine tasting experience at Simonsig as well as a



formal banquet on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2007.

In conclusion, the Deployment Challenges of Peace Keeping Operations in Africa conference generally left an impression that the conference succeeded in its aim of influencing the delegates in favour of the Military Academy. The conference will be remembered as the start of something huge and it is hoped that the relationships established during the conference will flourish into the future.

The Military Academy will be back next year with a fresh input to ensure that the conference delivers a helpful and sought-after conference to the Defence Industry.

For more information on The Deployment Challenges of Peace Keeping Operations in Africa Conference email [admin@aadexpo.co.za](mailto:admin@aadexpo.co.za).