

Monthly Newsletter

South African Aerospace, Maritime and Defence Industries Association

Warm Welcome and Congratulations to Our Newly Elected Office Bearers and Working Committee Chairpersons



We are delighted to announce and warmly welcome the newly elected office bearers and the Chairpersons of the AMD Working Committees following our successful Elective AGM that took place last week. The leadership and expertise of these distinguished individuals will undoubtedly guide us towards achieving our strategic goals and continuing to advance the interests of the Aerospace Maritime and Defence Industries Association.

Office Bearers: 2024 - 2026.

- Chairperson:** Vacant (in the process of being filled)
- Vice-Chairperson:** Mr Nico Troostheide
- Honorary Treasurer:** Mr Thivash Moodley
- Honorary Secretary:** Mr Ratilal Rowji

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr Nico Troostheide, Mr Thivash Moodley and Mr Ratilal Rowji on their appointments. Their dedication and vision will undoubtedly be instrumental in steering AMD through the upcoming term. AMD Working Committees and Chairpersons

We also welcome the Chairpersons of our Working Committees, whose leadership will drive the various strategic initiatives crucial to our industry's success:

1. **Policy and Strategic Committee:** Mr Riaz Saloojee
 - **DIP and NIP:** Mr Sicelo Ngubane
 - **SMME, BEE and Skills Development:** Ms Retsibile Sekhukhune
2. **Marketing Committee:** Mr Colin Singarum
3. **Manufacturing Committee:** Mr James Kerr
4. **Innovation and Future Defence Committee:** Dr MC Zondi
5. **Space Committee:** Mr. Zane Cleophas
6. **Exports Committee:** Adm (ret) RW Higgs
7. **Risk and Audit Committee:** Dr Nivan Moodley
8. **REMCO Committee:** Mr Sihle Mayisela

Each of these individuals brings a wealth of experience and knowledge that will be critical in advancing the objectives of their respective committees and the broader goals of AMD.

Chairperson of Stature

We would also like to inform our members that the position of Chairperson remains vacant at this time. However, we are actively engaged in the process of identifying and appointing a suitable candidate to fill this important role. Updates will be communicated as soon as they are available.

Once again, congratulations to all the newly elected office bearers and Chairpersons. We are excited about the future and confident that, under your leadership, AMD will continue to thrive and make significant strides in our industry.



Uniting for Progress: SAAMDEC Strategic Planning Session



In a bid to strengthen the strategic direction of the South African Aerospace and Defence Industry (SADI), the South African Aerospace Maritime and Defence Export Council (SAAMDEC) will convene a pivotal Strategic Planning Session. For practicality and enhanced collaboration, this session will be combined with the AMD Strategic Planning Session.

SAAMDEC Strategic Programme of Action

The primary objective of the SAAMDEC Strategic Planning Session is to develop a comprehensive Programme of Action for the Export Council and its members. This session aims to unify efforts and identify common areas of interest that will drive the export agenda of SADI. Key goals include pinpointing new markets and formulating strategies that will enhance SADI's competitive edge globally.

Key Objectives of the Session:

1. **Developing a Unified Programme of Action:** Establishing a cohesive and strategic Programme of Action that aligns the goals and initiatives of SAAMDEC with the broader objectives of the Export Council and its members.
2. **Identifying Common Interests:** Recognising and addressing areas of mutual interest within SADI to bolster export activities and ensure collective progress.
3. **Exploring New Markets and Strategies:** Identifying potential

new markets and devising strategies to effectively penetrate these markets, thereby expanding SADI's global footprint.

Alignment with the Aerospace and Defence Masterplan

It's crucial to acknowledge that the Aerospace and Defence Masterplan remains relevant and integral to our strategic planning. The SAAMDEC Strategic Planning Session and the ensuing Programme of Action will be designed with foresight and a commitment to effectively implementing factors and priorities within SADI's control.

Looking Ahead

This strategic planning session represents a significant step in fortifying SADI's position as a global leader in the aerospace and defence sectors. By bringing together key stakeholders and aligning our efforts, we aim to create a robust and actionable plan that will propel SADI towards a future of sustained growth and innovation.

We encourage all members to actively participate in this crucial session, as your insights and contributions are invaluable to the success of our collective mission. Together, we can navigate the challenges and seize the opportunities that lie ahead, ensuring that SADI remains at the forefront of global aerospace and defence advancements.

Empowering Women in Defence: AMD to Host SAWID at AAD2024



The Africa Aerospace and Defence Expo (AAD2024) will once again serve as a significant platform for advancing gender equality in the defence sector, as AMD proudly hosts the South African Women in Defence (SAWID). Established in 2014, SAWID is a Non-Profit Organisation dedicated to addressing the unique challenges faced by women in the defence sector and creating opportunities for their growth and development.

Reflecting on the words of former Command in Chief, Mr Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, "Freedom cannot be achieved unless women have been emancipated from all forms of oppression," SAWID continues to champion the cause of women in an industry that remains predominantly male-dominated. Historically, women have played vital roles in defence, particularly during World Wars I and II. However, their contributions have often been undervalued, and they were frequently sidelined once the wars concluded. Today, SAWID seeks to change this narrative by promoting the active recruitment and participation of women, particularly women of colour, in the South African defence sector.

The primary purpose of the SAWID event at AAD2024 is to foster positive engagement among women in the defence sector, empowering them to influence social change both within and beyond the confines of the industry. This occasion will provide a platform for networking, professional development, and the exchange of ideas, with the overarching goal of advancing women's interests in the sector.

Key Objectives of SAWID:

1. **Honouring Trailblazers:** Recognize and reward pioneering women in the South African defence sector.
2. **Inspiring Participation:** Encourage more women to join and thrive in the defence industry.
3. **Advancing Leadership:** Promote the growth of women leaders within the defence sector.
4. **Professional Development:** Provide opportunities for professional growth and networking for SAWID members.
5. **Mentorship Programs:** Offer mentorship for established professionals and create a nurturing environment for young girls from high school to tertiary education.

6. **Networking Forum:** Establish an industry-wide forum to share experiences, challenges and solutions.
7. **Empowerment and Advocacy:** Represent, support, and advance the interests of women in the defence industry.
8. **Global Impact:** Enable the defence industry to make a meaningful impact beyond South Africa's borders.
9. **Educational Development:** Assist in the educational development of young women, encouraging them to pursue careers in defence.
10. **Sharing Experiences:** Create a space for sharing experiences and collaborative problem-solving within the industry.

South Africa has made significant strides in developing legislative and policy frameworks to promote and protect women's rights. The National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, along with the Strategic National Plan on Gender-Based Violence & Femicide, underscores the country's commitment to reducing insecurity and fostering greater peace and security for women.

The SAWID event at AAD2024 will be a testament to this commitment, offering a safe and professional space for women in defence to connect, share their experiences and collaborate on solutions to common challenges.

By bringing together women from across the industry, SAWID aims to capture, retain and develop the female demographic in the South African defence sector, ensuring that their contributions are recognised and valued.

Join us at AAD2024 to support and celebrate the women who are shaping the future of South Africa's defence industry. Together, we can build a more inclusive and equitable sector that harnesses the full potential of all its members.



Countdown to AAD2024: Preparations in Full Swing

With a little under 60 days remaining until AAD2024, significant strides are being made to ensure the success of this flagship 12th edition of the show. Demonstrating our state of readiness, we are pleased to announce that trade visitor registration is now open, alongside applications for food vendors.

The AAD2024 promises to be an extraordinary event, bringing together industry leaders, innovators and enthusiasts from around the world. The opening of trade visitor registration marks a crucial step in preparations, allowing participants to secure their place at this premier event. We invite professionals and stakeholders in the aerospace and defence sectors to register early and be part of this unparalleled opportunity for networking,

learning and collaboration.

Simultaneously, we are excited to welcome food vendors to apply for participation. This is a unique opportunity to showcase diverse culinary offerings to a global audience, contributing to the vibrant atmosphere of AAD2024.

These developments are a testament to our meticulous planning and dedication to making AAD2024 an unforgettable experience. Stay tuned for more updates as we approach the grand opening of AAD2024. We look forward to welcoming you to an event that promises innovation, excellence and a celebration of the best in aerospace and defence.



FEATURE

AMD Whistle-Blowing Channel

We wish to inform you about the introduction of a new "Whistle-Blowing Channel". Reports and concerns related to any whistleblowing within this channel can be directed to the Chairperson of the AMD Risk and Audit Committee, **Dr Nivan Moodley** at nivan.moodley@za.saabgroup.com. Though we have not yet received any reports through this channel, it is crucial to emphasise the significance of this mechanism in fostering transparency and accountability within our association. The establishment of the Whistle-Blowing Channel underscores our commitment to providing a secure avenue for individuals to raise concerns and contribute to maintaining the highest ethical standards in our operations.

