

**CONSULTATIVE PROCESS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
A REGISTRATION AUTHORITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
PRACTITIONERS IN SOUTH AFRICA**

FINAL DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR COMMENT

The *Working Group* mandated by National Stakeholders presents the *Final Draft Proposal for the Establishment of the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA)* for comment. EAPASA, once established in terms of its Constitution, will apply to the Minister of Environmental Affairs & Tourism to be recognised as a *registration authority* in terms of Section 24H of the National Environmental Management Amendment Act (Act 8 of 2004).

The *Consultative Process*, initiated through a MoU between the Interim Certification Board (ICB) and the Department of Environmental Affairs & Tourism (DEAT) in 2005 has pursued the following outcomes: the registration of National Qualification Standard, which is now in place (Advanced Certificate: Environmental Assessment Practice - NQF Level 7); the establishment of representative and effectively operational registration body (in process); and, an effective legal requirement for compulsory registration of practitioners (in process). The process has specifically sought to engage stakeholders in the content a proposal document which details the constitution, registration process and criteria, code of conduct and sanction processes, structure, and draft 3-year business plan of the Association.

After comments have been received and the Constitution of EAPASA has been finalised, the Working Group, the ICB and all other interested national stakeholders will resolve to form EAPASA. A Board will be nominated and selected and this Board will apply to the Minister for recognition in terms of S24H of NEMA. Should the Minister decide to recognise EAPASA, a date will be published by which all practicing EAPs must be registered. This date will provide for a reasonable phase-in period.

The Final Draft Proposal can be downloaded at www.eapsa.co.za or requested via Glaudin Kruger (PO Box 599, Onrusrivier, 7201, Tel 028 316 2905, Fax 088 028 316 2905, Email kruger@kruger-associates.com). All other relevant documentation, including previous drafts and comments, presentations and communications, is also available.

Please ensure that your comments are submitted no later than 20 March 2009.