

# World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council

"LIBRARIES FOR THE FUTURE: PROGRESS, DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS"

19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa

With just over 12 weeks until the commencement of IFLA/WLIC 2007 Congress in Durban we bring you the second issue of our Delegate Newsletter. This newsletter includes some updates and additional highlights and attractions of Durban.

## Social Events

The social events during the Congress have now been confirmed and the updated schedule is detailed below. Delegates will note that the Cultural Evening and Gala Event have been combined creating a free night on the Tuesday.

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Sunday 19 August    | Opening Ceremony            |
| • Sunday 19 August    | Exhibition Official Opening |
| • Monday 20 August    | Beach Party                 |
| • Tuesday 21 August   | Free evening                |
| • Wednesday 22 August | Cultural/Gala Evening       |

Further information will be placed on the website as it becomes available, <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/index.htm>

## Early Registration

The early registration deadline of the 15 May has now passed and the current registration fees are detailed below:

	Euro	Rand
• IFLA Member	460	4600
• Non Member	540	5400
• Student	200	2000
• Accompanying Guest	260	2600
• Day Registration	125	1250

The pre-registration closing date is 1 August. Onsite registration fees will be published after this date.

## Durban the City

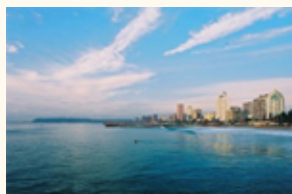
Durban is known not only for its reputation as an excellent Conference City but as a superb holiday destination and has been regularly referred to as "Africa's seaside playground in the sun". The attractions range from nature and wildlife to the cultural and historical. In addition to these attractions you can enjoy aquariums, bird parks, boat charters, casinos, markets, walks and hikes, snake parks, steam and mini trains, waterfronts and zoos; the list is endless.

## The Beachfront

The "Golden Mile" is the string of beaches stretching along Durban's coastline. These beaches are patrolled by life guards during the day and protected year round from sharks by nets. The Golden Mile is known as a prime surfing spot and the swimmers, surfers and body-surfers happily share the sea with designated areas for each. Should visitors wish to try surfing or board-sailing then Addington Beach is considered the ideal location with smaller, more manageable waves, or indeed you can enjoy Durban's "hang-ten" history on dry land at the "Time-warp Surfing Museum".

## uShaka Marine World

Should you wish to enjoy the marine life present around Durban then the uShaka Marine World is the place to visit. Covering 15 hectares of the beach front and is the largest marine theme park within Africa and is home to the fifth-largest aquarium in the world. The theme is based on the recreation of a 1920s shipwreck and incorporates natural materials with fresh and sea water. With daily dolphin displays, wild water rides and the aquarium there is a wide variety of experiences to be had or alternatively sample the cuisine at the restaurants, shop in the uShaka Retail Village or simply sunbath on the Beach.





### **Fitzsimons Snake Park**

Another popular attraction is the Fitzsimons Snake Park which is located on Durban's Marine Parade and is home to many indigenous and exotic snakes. Visitors are able to view not only South African Snakes but snakes from other parts of the world in addition to crocodiles, spiders, lizards and even cockroaches. The highlight at the park is the Adventure Walk where visitors can stroll through the corridors viewing the variety of snakes which are kept in secure glass viewing enclosures.



### **Umgeni River Bird Park**

The Umgeni River Bird Park houses over 3000 exotic and indigenous birds as well as 4 waterfalls, lush vegetation and several endangered species. Visitors can view the rarest breeds of birds or watch the activities of the "baby room" where chicks are being reared by foster-parents.



### **Botanic Gardens**

The Botanic Gardens is the oldest natural attraction within Durban, it was established in 1851 and is renowned for the finest collection of botanic species in Africa. The indigenous and exotic trees are as much an attraction as the Orchid House display.



### **Museums and Art Galleries**

Durban has many historic and spectacular buildings and one of the most important ones to see is the Embassy Building which is rated among Africa's 50 tallest buildings, it is 120 metres high and has 28 floors. The ICC is a prime example of this as a relatively new building it has already hosted the World Economic Forum, Non-aligned Movement, Commonwealth Heads of Government and the World AIDS Convention.



Close by is the Old Fort where visitors will find a collection of military memorabilia that focuses on South African involvement in the two World Wars. The Old Court House Museum is situated across from the Old Fort and here you can experience Durban's early settlements where you can view photographs, artefacts and documents that relate to Mahatma Gandhi's spiritual and non-violent political 'apprenticeship'.

The African Arts Centre is the place for genuine Zulu art work. Many rural artists sell their work here and the centres history has aimed at shifting public opinion to African art as an authentic expression in its own right. Another haven for traditional artists is the BAT Centre (Bartle Arts Trust) which is a multi-functional, multi-discipline arts and culture centre and is the only restaurant in town serving authentic African dishes.

The original railway station building is now the home of Durban's Tourist Bureau where the Indian High Commission is also located. A short distance away is the area around Grey Street's Great Mosque. There is a large Indian population within Durban, this is showcased at The Indian Street market which is a bustling interesting place with Mosques and Temples as well as plenty of shops and delicious food.

### **Sport Events**

In addition to the business and holiday destination reputation, Durban is also renowned as a great venue for sports. Durban has played host to countless national and international contests at many of their venues which also include the beach. These events include the Comrades Marathon, the Clipper Yacht Race and the Dusi Canoe Marathon. In addition the A1 Grand Prix is hosted every year. As well as the water sports previously mentioned golf can be played inland or alongside the ocean. Durban is host to two of the country's premier horseracing events, the Gold Cup and the Durban July Handicap. Alternatively visitors can try your luck at either of the beachfront Casinos, Suncoast Casino and Entertainment Kingdom.

To read more about these different attractions please visit <http://www.durban.kzn.org.za/durban/>. In addition to these wonderful sights and sounds of Durban please note the various pre-arranged tours that are on offer during the Congress and can be booked via the website detailed below.

We look forward to meeting you in Durban and if you need any assistance with your participation please do not hesitate in contacting us.

For more information on how to register for the conference, please visit: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/index.htm>

or email

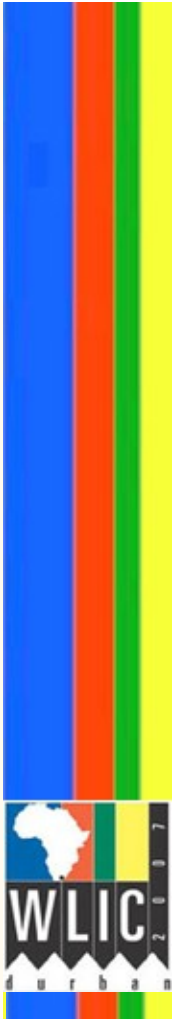
[wlic2007@congrex.com](mailto:wlic2007@congrex.com)






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