# MEDIA STATEMENT

## 20 January 2020

**ECSA GEARS ITSELF TO HOST THE 2020 IEAM**

The annual International Engineering Alliance Meeting (IEAM) scheduled to take place in June 2020 in Cape Town, South Africa is approaching and the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) is gearing up to host the much anticipated “Engineering World Cup”.

The five-day conference to be hosted at the Southern Sun Cape Sun, boasts the attendance of around 200 delegates from 41 jurisdictions and 29 countries/regions.

The conference will see strategic issues relating to best practice in accreditation be considered, policies and procedures be discussed, accreditation reviews be reviewed and decisions on applications for membership be made.

Furthermore, the annual conference aims at facilitating discussions among the IEA members in order to equip them to reach the international bench-marked standards for engineering education and expected competence for engineering practice through the serial of Educational Accords and Competence Agreements.

South Africa is represented in all three accords, namely the Washington, Dublin and Sydney Accord. The Washington Accord was signed in 1999 which is specifically focused on academic programmes which deal with the practice of engineering at the professional level. South Africa became a signatory of the Dublin Accord in 2002 and is one of the four founding members who through this agreement established mutual recognition of the qualifications which underpin the granting of Engineering Technician titles. South Africa became a signatory of the Sydney Accord in 2005 and the Accord is specifically focused on academic programmes dealing with engineering technology.

The broad representation of South Africa in these Accords results in the mobility of professional engineers across the countries where these multi-lateral agreements are in place.

The conference therefore is cut from a different cloth and seeks to be more than just a talk show, but aims to improve the quality of engineering education that is provided at Institutions of Higher Learning to ensure that South Africa is at par with its international counterparts.

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**Issued by the Engineering Council of South Africa**

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