



**SABCO**

SOUTH AFRICAN  
BUSINESS COUNCIL

**AGM  
&  
COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS**

**Annual General Meeting  
29<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

# Agenda

## 1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Welcome members and introduce HE Yacoob Abba Omar to address the members.

## 2. HE YACCOB ABBA OMAR

## 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2010-2011

## 4. TREASURER'S REPORT 2010-2011

Financial achievements for 2010-2011 and progress made towards the strategic vision

## 5. SECRETARY GENERAL

# Agenda continued ...

Committee 2012

Vacant positions

The following executive committee members have resigned from the committee and are standing down:

Natalie Warren – President

Nsizwa Khumalo – Vice President

Julek Szczawinski – Secretary General

Adrian Roberts - Treasurer

Neil Hamp Adams – Social Desk

Margaret Ramukumba - Membership

# Agenda continued ...

## Re- Election

The following Executive Committee members who have nominated for re-election are:  
Richard Harris

## Nominees

The following members who are nominating for election on the Executive committee are:

Anna Heystek  
Diana Geldenhuys  
Gabby Pits  
Henri Schomper  
Henry Hollaway  
Ilana Meyer  
Nicholas Couvaras  
Michael Malet- Warden  
Phebus Georgiades  
Walter Knight

Will officially announce the election of the executive

## 6. FAREWELL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President's vote of thanks

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

# Nominations

## Existing Committee Re-standing

Richard Harris

## New Committee Nominations

Anna Heystek

Diana Geldenhuys

Gabby Pits

Henri Schomper

Henry Hollaway

Ilana Meyer

Mobeen Motara

Michael Malet-Warden

Nicholas Couvaras

Phebus Georgiades

Walter Knight

# Richard Harris



## Current business/role:

Managing Director

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Richard brings over 20 years of internationally based business experience with extensive internationally honed skills. His experience has been gained in a wide variety of organisations ranging from New Zealand's largest manufacturing company to the world's largest publically listed communications group, Omnicom, based in London and Europe.

# Anna Heystek



## Current business/role:

Founder and Director, Management Consulting and IT company  
goBlue International Ltd.

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

An entrepreneur and seasoned business woman with more than 20 years operational, management and consulting experience.

In 2005 she relocated to the UAE and took up the position of HR Divisional Manager in the Al Futtaim group, whereafter in 2007, she founded a management consulting and IT company - goBlue International LTD.

She holds a BA(HONS) degree in Industrial Sociology from the University of Pretoria and Operations Management Post Graduate Diploma from Wits. Her key to success is perserverance and passion for what she does and her vision is to expand her business into the GCC and SA.

She believes that she can make a difference by supporting and promoting the SA community in the UAE by demonstrating the work ethic and uniqueness of all South Africans.

# Diana Geldenhuys



## Current business/role:

COO Gulf Solutions Group and Founder/ Manager of Outsourced Payroll Solutions

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

With more than a decade in Dubai, Diana Geldenhuys has seen tremendous progress in the UAE. Hailing from Pretoria, where she obtained her Masters degree in Human Resource Management from TUKS, she has worked in the corporate and government sectors in the UAE, before establishing Outsourced Payroll Solutions (OPS), in 2008. In addition to managing OPS, she is also the COO of the Gulf Solutions Group, an Internet City based company that had been in existence since 1999.

As one of the wardens of the SA Consulate, Diana has a passion to contribute to community welfare and feels that serving on the Executive Committee of the South African Business Council would enable her to support business growth for South African companies.'

# Gabby Pits



## Current business/role:

Sales, Admin, Facilities Management and Office Management

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Gabby has lived in Dubai for 11 years and worked in various fields during that time - from Sales, Admin and Facilities Management to Office Management. She has done freelance event management during this time as well. She describes herself as born and bred in the Mother City with a go-getter attitude.

She enjoys reading, writing and getting together with good friends.

# Henri Schomper



## Current business/role:

MD, Integrity Risk Consultants FZE

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Holds a Law degree from the University of Pretoria in South Africa, which he completed in 1988. Since then he has had various roles including working for the Public Prosecutor in Soweto and leading the anti-corruption task force, which dealt with especially Police corruption and Illegal Gambling.

In 1999 he joined MasterCard Worldwide and was tasked to open a Security and Risk Services Department in Dubai for the Middle East and North Africa Region.

He joined a large Master Developer in Abu Dhabi in 2009 and was tasked with fraud prevention and ethics and integrity management as the Director Corporate Integrity, before starting *Integrity Risk Consultants FZE*.

He is a keen golfer, enjoys writing, reading and riding his motorcycle. He has also been liaison officer for various international Rugby 7's teams for the past three years.

# Henri Holloway



## Current business/role:

Manager, Etisalat Occupational Health, Safety and Environment

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Henry Holloway has been resident in the UAE since late 1998, when he first took up an appointment with Etisalat at their Head Office in Abu Dhabi. He holds responsibility for the company's Occupational Health, Safety and Environment activities across their 18 international operations.

While Henry and his family has been Abu Dhabi based, he has always taken a keen interest in community activities and was a founder member of SABCO in Dubai, later serving on the executives of the Abu Dhabi Chapter. His wife Sandra shares his passion in staying connected to South Africa and her peoples, serving the South African community in the UAE through her involvement with various youth groups and churches.

# Ilana Meyer



## Current business/role:

Associate Director at Acuma Corporate Solutions

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

An Organisational Change and HR specialist with 20 years strategic, consultative and operational experience managing and leading teams of upto 50 employees. For the past 4 years Ilana has chosen to pursue various disciplines and industries to expand her width and depth of knowledge of doing business. This has equipped her with a wider range of competencies in the financial, marketing, operational and business management arena that she can use and apply to better impact organisational performance.

Her core competencies are change management, business facilitation, HR and business process redesign as well as strategic workforce planning.

She have worked on assignments, and permanent positions, in the electricity, energy and engineering business, retail, hospitality, services, real estate and IT and telecoms industry.

Ilana loves a challenge and has earned the title of an impact player. She looks forward to working with companies that want to move from "start to smart" and from "good to great"

# Mobeen Motara



## Current business/role:

CEO / MD OF International Centre of Excellence, Ice Aviation, Creative Works for Advertising and Publishing and Global Environmental Solutions.

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Mobeen is a recipient of the Wall Street Journal Asia's "Best Professor in Management Award" (co-sponsored by CMO Asia) and led his organization to the prestigious "Asia's Best Business School" Award. He is also the recipient of the "Premier's Award" conferred on him while he served as a Senior Manager in a post-democratic South African Government. He also held positions at Local Government Level.

Mobeen was extensively involved in contributions towards legislation and policy compilation in South Africa and internationally. He chaired provincial parliamentary committees charged with high-profile events involving key figures including the South African President, Ministers and corporate leaders.

Mobeen's deep knowledge and understanding of large organizations allows him to extract best performances from first-line, middle and top managers. His inimitable style is client-centric, experiential and incisive and he trains and consults for private and public sectors in Corporate Strategy, Management, International Business, Leadership, Education and Marketing.

# Michael Malet-Warden



## Current business/role:

Senior Consultant working for Holborn Assets in Dubai

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Michael worked in South Africa and London before coming to Dubai. He has held positions including Advertising Executive, at Highbury Monarch Communications in Cape Town, to being a stock broker at Ascension Securities in the UK. He is now a Senior Consultant at Holborn Assets.

His interests include diving, he is a qualified diving instructor and traveling, he has travelled widely in Africa, Europe and the America's.

# Nicholas Couvaras



## Current business/role:

Global Head of Marketing and Innovation for Foodfund International

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Nicholas Couvaras, was born and grew up in Pretoria, South Africa but originally of Greek origin.

He studied at TUKS and UNISA and majored in Marketing and Business management.

In 1999 joined Vodacom as a Sales and Marketing manager and worked there until 2007. In 2007 Nicholas opened his own restaurant/café, which he left to the Middle East in 2008 as the Ribs and Rumps Middle East Brand manager. He is now Global Head of Marketing and Innovation for Foodfund International-(Current position) Foodfund International has stores located in Africa, UAE, Gulf, UK and Australia.

# Phebus Georgiades



## Current business/role:

Founder, Grand Grill

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Phebus has had extensive Management experience [25 years] in the Retail and Hospitality sectors.

As an Operations Manager in the Game Retail Group [R.S.A], he was in charge of opening 9 new Game retail stores .

As a franchisee in 1995 of The Diggers Grill Steakhouse this was the beginning for Phebus's career in service and hospitality sectors.

As General Manager of The Meat Company, Dubai he built a remarkably successful business. He is the founding partner of The Grand Grill, which was awarded the "What's On Best Brunch Award".

As an active member and sponsor in SABCO, Phebus & Grand Grill have been involved in contributing towards special prizes and supporting the organization where ever support is required. His outstanding attributes are his Operational excellence, coupled with exemplary leadership and people skills.

As the leader of this dynamic and competent team he commands committed, dedicated and enthusiastic follower ship from his team.

# Walter Knight



## Current business/role:

General Manager of Citymax Bur Dubai

## Skills & experience to bring to committee:

Walter was educated in Treverton Prep and College in Mooiriver Natal and completed his metric in Damlin Johannesburg. After serving his two years of military service he soon found comfort in sales and marketing which led him to the hospitality industry where he found his true calling.

For the last 13 years of his career Walter has been able to grow within the hotel industry and through this has been privileged to live and work in countries like Kazakhstan, Pakistan and the UAE. Currently Walter is the General Manager of Citymax Bur Dubai, a 691 roomed hotel with 5 food and beverage outlets.

He lives in Dubai with his wife Marie and daughter Annabel.