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Message from the CEO – If we want change, we need to do more

Last week the country arguably held one of its most important elections since 1994. While I know many of us spent long hours in a queue, there was still only a 58% voter turnout. The turnout is measured as a percentage of the number of people who voted against those people registered to vote. The people who registered to vote represent less than half the South African population.

In numbers (rounded to nearest whole number):

	Number of people	Percentage of total South African population	Voter turnout
Population (2022 census)	62 million	100%	
Eligible to vote	42 million	67%	
Registered voters	27 million	45%	
People who voted	16 million	26%	58%

While I am extremely proud of those who voted – including my own immediate circle of family and friends – we all need to do more if we want to change the lived reality of our country and its people.

A new Parliament and provincial legislatures will be formed. As finance professionals we have a responsibility to share our knowledge of public sector financial management with them, along with all that it takes to operate a well-run, people-centric, government administration.

We also have a responsibility as finance professionals to keep educating as many people as we can about the role and importance of the budget, financial statements, performance information and the audit report to hold government accountable. We should also encourage others to participate in the public consultation processes when the budget and annual plan are developed, and to read the financial statements and audit report to ensure what elected officials said they would do, they actually execute.

I strongly believe that as finance professionals, we have an important role to play in shaping the new government and influencing others to be more involved in government and its processes.

#proudlysouthafrican #voteforchangein2024

Meet the ASB Board - Professor Rashied Small



Professor Small strives to develop human capital by improving learning and development through innovative education pedagogies.

Professor Small is the executive at the South African Institute of Professional Accountants (SAIPA) who oversees the implementation of competency-based learning and development programmes. He redesigned the competency framework for the Professional Accountant (SA) in practice, business, and public sector, as well as for Business Advisor (SA) and Professional Tax Practitioner (SA).

His qualifications include a PHD in Competency-based Education and a PHD in Islamic Finance.

His expertise and work experience included the role of Head of Department at the following institutions:

- Peninsula Technikon - he introduced a portfolio of evidence as a basis of assessment, as well as designed and implemented policies and processes for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)
- University of Western Cape - he introduced “team-teaching” and student-centred teaching and learning methodologies.
- King Faisal University - he introduced accounting programmes and significantly increased student registrations in both accountancy and finance. He also introduced and implemented education quality engagement systems and assisted with the establishment of the Professional Accountancy Organisation.

He serves on a number of Committees and initiatives, including:

- Pan African Federation of Accountants (PAFA) where he is chairperson of the Learning and Development committee responsible for developing a combined competency framework for Africa.
- Afrosai-e and African Professionalisation Initiative (API) – Chairperson of the Academic Advisory Committee responsible for the development of the Professional Accountancy competency framework for the public sector as well as being the subject matter expert for the materials development of topics on both the API programmes for the Incumbents and the Specialisation. He also oversees the development of the competency framework and curriculum for the qualification for the public sector (students programme).

Prof Rashied is one of five new Board members at the ASB. Access more information about the ASB Board [here](#).

Meet the ASB Board – Ms. Lebogang Senne



Ms. Senne is a Technical Director at the Pan African Federation of Accountants (PAFA) and the Deputy Chairperson of the Financial Reporting Standards Council (FRSC) of South Africa.

She is a member of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) and holds an MBA from the Gordon Institute of Business Sciences (GIBS).

In her role at PAFA, she has been instrumental in developing and supporting the organisational strategy and for the organisation’s technical excellence strategic pillar which seeks to promote the development, adoption, and implementation of international standards relevant to the accountancy profession in Africa and to ensure that the African voice is heard at international standard setting boards.

Ms. Senne is the Africa representative on the Sustainability Standards Advisory Forum (SSAF) and represents PAFA on the International Forum of Accounting Standard Setters (IFASS). In addition, she is co-secretariat for the Africa Integrated Reporting Council (AIRC), the vehicle through which PAFA and the World Bank, as co-convenors, seek to promote and support the adoption of sustainability reporting, integrated thinking and Integrated Reporting in Africa.

She is also an independent non-executive director and serves as a chair or member of audit committees in several public sector entities.

Ms. Senne is one of five new Board members at the ASB. Access more information about the ASB Board [here](#).

Meet the new ASB Board member – Ms. Annalien Carstens



Ms. Carstens' solution specialisms include IFRS, IFRS for SMEs, IPSAS, GRAP, ISAs, ISQM 1 and SCM. She has more than 25 years of experience in the finance field. She has an MCom degree, is a CA(SA), a Registered Auditor, a Chartered Tax Adviser and the Managing Director of Altimax.

In the public sector, Ms. Carstens leads consulting and training projects for all spheres of government. She also managed several projects sponsored by the European Union and other foreign donor agencies.

She served more than 200 private audit firms with firm monitoring reviews, engagement quality and file monitoring reviews, methodology development, policy development, ISQM 1 implementations, CA2025 implementations and professional and trainee training.

Ms. Carstens is the lead director on the external quality assurance of the Auditor General South Africa (AGSA) ISQM 1 implementation. She also serves as pre-issuance reviewer for the AGSA since 2006 for the annual PFMA, MFMA and TVET cycles.

Ms. Carstens serves on the following committees:

- Member of the Financial Reporting Technical Committee of the Financial Reporting Standards Council.
- Chairperson of the SAICA Northern Region Public Sector Committee.
- Member of the SAICA National Public Sector Committee.
- Public sector representative on both the SAICA Northern Region Council and the SAICA Pretoria District Committee.

She was a finalist in both the 2022 and 2023 SAICA Difference Maker awards for the categories of Public Sector and Nation Building respectively.

Ms. Carstens is one of five new Board members at the ASB. Access more information about the ASB Board [here](#).



Contact us

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