

REMINDER

Media Statement

Issued by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism

Minister Marthinus van Schalkwyk to Open International Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Conference in Cape Town

THURSDAY, 03 APRIL 2008: Marthinus van Schalkwyk, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism will on Monday, 07 April 2008 open the 8th International Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement in Cape Town, South Africa.

The conference commences on 05 April and concludes on Friday, 11 April 2008.

The 8th Conference will open with two days dedicated to local capacity building and regional networking events. The subsequent five days will feature action-oriented thematic workshops, distinguished keynote speakers, and networking opportunities for over 150 invited participants, and will include a day for field visits to sites of innovative environmental enforcement initiatives in South Africa.

The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE) is the only global network of environmental compliance and enforcement practitioners dedicated to raising awareness of compliance and enforcement; developing networks for enforcement cooperation; and strengthening capacity to implement and enforce environmental requirements. INECE communicates that environmental compliance and enforcement play a fundamental role in building the foundation for the rule of law, good governance, and sustainable development.

Established in May 2005, South Africa's Environmental Management Inspectorate (EMI) popularly referred to as the "Green Scorpions," have made significant strides in the area of environmental enforcement. Capacity of the Green Scorpions has increased from the initial 26 to a total of 866 inspectors countrywide.

The Dutch Inspector General for International Enforcement Cooperation, Gerard Wolters will present the conference opening statement on behalf of the INECE Secretariat after the opening address by Minister van Schalkwyk.

For further information on INECE visit :

<http://www.environment.gov.za/HotIssues/2008/INECE/INECE.html> or www.inece.org

All media are invited. Please note media should RSVP and arrive early for accreditation purposes.

OPENING CEREMONY DETAILS

DATE: Monday, 07 April 2008

VENUE: Vineyard Hotel in Newlands, Cape Town.

TIME: 09:00

RSVP: Juliana Canham on 083 571 7001

For media interviews contact:

Roopa Singh Mobile: 082-225-3076 E-mail: rsingh@deat.gov.za