

## Invitation: Presentation on Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA)

Dear Colleagues

It gives me pleasure to invite you to a presentation on the Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA), one of Africa's foremost professional bodies for research and innovation management practitioners, to be held on Wednesday 13 May 2009, at 10:00 at the South African Mission to the European Union in Brussels (Rue Montoyer 17-19, Brussels, Metro: Trone.)

SARIMA has an important membership of research and innovation managers at universities and other organisations throughout South Africa but also elsewhere in Southern Africa, active in fields across the knowledge general value chain, i.e. spanning from research management to commercialization of research. SARIMA's primary objectives include the professional development of its members, the identification of research and innovation management best practices and their diffusion, acting in an advocacy role with regard to processes of research and innovation policy formulation, as well as creating awareness of the importance of research and innovation as tools for socio-economic development.

SARIMA further seeks to promote international research and innovation partnerships, both through undertaking activities to enhance the research and innovation management capacities of its members to collaborate internationally, as well as through fostering institutional cooperation with sister bodies such as the European Association of Research Managers and Administrators (EARMA.) SARIMA is, thus, also a key agent in building Africa-EU science and technology partnerships. Further information on SARIMA is available at <http://www.sarima.co.za>.

The presentation will be delivered as part of the European South African Science and Technology Advancement Programme (ESASTAP - <http://www.esastap.org.za>) by Prof Pieter Van der Bijl, of South Africa's Stellenbosch University, on behalf of the SARIMA Executive. The presentation will be of relevance to all those interested in better understanding the unique opportunities and challenges related to research and innovation partnerships with Africa. The programme, including Prof Van der Bijl's presentation and an opportunity for discussion, will run from 10:00 till 11:30. Light refreshments will be served to permit further informal networking following the conclusion.

Should you be interested in attending, please confirm your participation with Ms Francoise Dassy at [francoise.dassy@belgacom.net](mailto:francoise.dassy@belgacom.net).

Kind regards

Daan du Toit

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