



55th National Congress of the
Ophthalmological Society
of South Africa

Invitation & Registration

Masterclasses: Wednesday, 10 March 2027

Congress: Thursday, 11 – Saturday, 13 March 2027

Cape Town International Convention Centre
South Africa



EVO ICL™

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EVO ICL Peer-Reviewed/
Scientific Publications

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR THE EVO/EVO+ ICL: All physicians must complete the STAAR Surgical™ Visian ICL Physician Training Certification Program prior to using the EVO/EVO+ ICL in a clinical setting. Please review the EVO/EVO+ ICL Directions For Use (DFU) completely before performing a clinical procedure. **INDICATIONS:** The EVO/EVO+ ICL is indicated for phakic patients 21-60 years with an anterior chamber depth (ACD) 2.8 mm or greater to correct/reduce myopia ranging from -0.5 diopters to -20.0 diopters with up to 6.0 D of astigmatism. The EVO/EVO+ ICL is intended for placement in the posterior chamber of the eye. **WARNING/PRECAUTION:** Careful preoperative evaluation and sound clinical judgment should be used by the surgeon to decide the risk/benefit ratio before implanting a lens in a patient with any of the conditions described in the DFU. Prior to surgery, physicians should inform prospective patients of possible risks and benefits associated with the EVO/EVO+ ICL.

ATTENTION: Reference the EVO/EVO+ ICL DFU for a complete listing of indications, contraindications, warnings and precautions.

Thank you to **Evolution Vision** and
National Medical Supplies
for sponsoring this invitation

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Programme at a glance

BR - Ballroom

Wednesday, 10 March				Thursday, 11 March				Friday, 12 March				Saturday, 13 March			
Morning	08:00	Registration until 17:00	Registration Foyer	07:00	Registration	Registration Foyer	07:00	Registration	Registration Foyer	07:00	Registration	Registration Foyer			
	07:00	College of Ophthalmology & HOD meetings	Room 1.51	08:30	Ophthalmology	Ballroom East	07:30	Bloemfontein Alumni	Ballroom West	07:00	WOSA Breakfast TBC	Room 1.41-44			
	10:00	Retina Masterclass 1A	Room 1.41-42	08:30	SASPOS	Ballroom West	07:30	UKZN Alumni	Room 1.61-62	08:30	Ophthalmology A	Ballroom East			
	10:00	Cornea Masterclass 1B	Room 1.43-44	08:30	Allied Health	Room 1.41-44	08:30	Ophthalmology A	Ballroom East	08:30	Ophthalmology B	Room 1.41-44			
				08:30	Administrators	Room 1.61-62	08:30	Ophthalmology B	Ballroom West						
							08:30	Allied Health	Room 1.41-44						
							08:30	Administrators	Room 1.61-62						
	11:30	Refreshments	Landing	10:15	Refreshments & Exhibition	Hall 2	10:15	Refreshments & Exhibition	Hall 2	10:25	Refreshments & Exhibition	Hall 2			
	12:00	Morning masterclasses continue	Room 1.41-42	11:00	Welcome & Opening Plenary	Ballroom East	11:00	Plenary	Ballroom East	11:00	Ethics Session	Ballroom East			
				11:10	DJ Wood Lecture Dr Chris Gouws			Motivational speaker Hein Wagner Topic TBC			All delegates welcome				
										12:45	Congress closure				
										13:00	Adjourn				
	13:15	Lunch (for Ophthalmologists)	Landing	12:00	Lunch & Exhibition	Hall 2	12:00	Lunch, Exhibition & Poster session	Hall 2						
Afternoon	14:00	Cataract Masterclass 2A	Room 1.41-42	13:00	Trade Symposium 1	Ballroom East	13:00	Trade Symposium 3	Ballroom East						
		Oculoplastic Masterclass 2B	Room 1.43-44	13:00	Trade Symposium 2	Ballroom West	13:00	Trade Symposium 4	Ballroom West						
				13:00	Allied Health	Room 1.41-44	13:00	Allied Health	Room 1.41-44						
				13:00	Administrators	Room 1.61-62	13:00	Administrators	Room 1.61-62						
				14:00	Ophthalmology (Registrars)	Ballroom East	14:00	Ophthalmology A	Ballroom East						
				14:00	Ophthalmology B	Ballroom West	14:00	Ophthalmology B	Ballroom West						
	15:30	Refreshments	Landing	15:30	Refreshments & Exhibition	Hall 2	15:30	Refreshments & Exhibition	Hall 2						
	16:00	Afternoon masterclasses continue	Room 1.41-42	16:00	Ophthalmology A	Ballroom East	16:00	OSSA AGM	Ballroom East						
				16:00	Ophthalmology B	Ballroom West									
				16:00	Allied Health	Room 1.41-44									
	17:30	Adjourn		16:00	Administrators	Room 1.61-62	17:00	OMG AGM	Ballroom East						
Evening	17:30	YO symposium	Room 1.43-44	17:30	Meet & Greet Function	Hall 2	19:00	OSSA Banquet	Ballroom West						
	17:30	OSSA EXCO Meeting	Room 1.51												







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Invitation from the chair

DEAR FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES, POTENTIAL GUESTS FROM AFAR, OPHTHALMIC COMMUNITY AND TRADE REPRESENTATIVES.

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to the OSSA Congress in Cape Town South Africa from 10 -13 March 2027.

The academic programme remains the main focus of the congress with renowned international and local speakers. The masterclasses, lunch time symposia, auxiliary programmes, motivational speaker and trade exhibition give further substance to the colourful matrix of the congress.

The social gatherings need no elaboration and speak for themselves. From the foot of Table Mountain, OSSA Congress 2027 is calling!

Looking forward to hosting you!

*"If your eye is healthy,
your whole body is full of light".*

Sincerely
Dr Johann Eloff

Congress Chair, Central Region of OSSA
On behalf of the Organizing Committee

Venue

OSSA 2027 will take place at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

With its breath-taking scenery, immense cultural and natural heritage, and world-class conferencing and hotel facilities, Cape Town is one of the world's most sought-after travel destinations. Known as the Mother City, this busy cosmopolitan hub, located in the Western Cape, is becoming increasingly celebrated on the conference and convention scene, both locally and internationally.

The Cape Town International Convention Centre is in the heart of the city. The convention centre has it all: it is accessible and highly accommodating and provides flexible facilities that will meet the needs of delegates, sponsors and exhibitors.

www.cticc.co.za

Further information & important dates

Programme on congress website:	2 October 2026
Deadline for early bird registrations:	6 November 2026
Block bookings expire at hotels	29 January 2027

Website & summary of links

Please click on a button below to go to the relevant page on the congress website.

Home

Subscribe to mailing list

Important dates

Programme

International speakers

Attendance

Registration Info

Payment

Accommodation

Trade

Enquiries

Organisational & administrative aspects
Exhibitions & sponsorships

R K Communication

Rhyno Kriek	General
Heyns du Preez	Sponsorships & Exhibitions
Sonja Bührmann	Registration
Hilda Bouwer	Speakers & Administration
Tel.:	Domestic calls: 051 436 7733 International calls: + 27 51 436 7733
E-mail:	ossacongress@rkcommunication.co.za

OSSA matters & membership

Please [click here](#) to apply for OSSA membership.

National Secretariat

Sharon Beeming

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E-mail: ossacongress@rkcommunication.co.za
Website: www.ossa.co.za

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Turners House
38 Jonsson Lane
Durban
4000





Academic committee

Only enquiries relating to the contents of the different academic programmes

Congress Chair

Dr Johann Eloff

Tel: 083 715 8682
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Ophthalmology Programme

Prof Wayne Marais

Tel: 083 452 4081
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Dr Lynette Venter

Tel: 082 490 6736
E-mail: dr@lyneye.co.za

Dr Jaco Maartens

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Allied Health Programme

Dr Schabert de Jager

Tel: 082 463 9983
E-mail: pjsdejager@gmail.com

Dr Dawie Botes

Tel: 083 295 1307
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Managers & Administrators programme

Mr Antonie du Plessis

Tel: 083 309 1928
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Young Ophthalmologists

Dr Ismail Makda

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Additional Members

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EXCO Representative

Dr Jaco Maartens

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SASPOS Programme

Dr Helga Abrahamse-Pillay

Tel: 082 377 9832
E-mail: helga@sun.ac.za



Invited international speakers

	Institution, City & Country	Fields of expertise
Prof Maria Berrocal	University of Puerto Rico	Retina, vitreoretinal surgery, pinguecula, X-linked retinitis pigmentosa, retinal diseases & degeneration, OCT, fluorescein angiography and macular degeneration
Dr Brendan Cronin	Queensland Eye Institute, Brisbane, Australia	Cataract surgery, corneal, refractive and anterior segment surgery including laser eye surgery, LASIK, lens replacement surgery, pterygium surgery, keratoconus treatment and corneal transplant surgery
Dr Uday Devgan	Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA School of Medicine and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles, USA	Ocular surgery, cataract, lens and Lasik eye surgery
Mr Raman Malhotra	Harley Street Specialist Hospital, London, England	Aesthetic eyelid surgery, ptosis surgery, thyroid eye disease, watery eyes, facial palsy, eyelid skin cancer management and reconstruction and facial dystonias such as blepharospasm
Prof Ogugua Okonkwo	Eye Foundation Retina Institute & Eye Foundation Hospital, Nigera	Retinal diseases and retinal surgery
Dr Tarek Shaarawy	Glaucoma surgery research group at the University of Geneva Hospitals	Glaucoma
Mr Damien Yeo	Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool, United Kingdom	Paediatric ophthalmology, strabismus & ocular motility disorders

Academic programme

The entire Academic Programme will be on the Congress website by **2 October 2026**.

Masterclasses

Wednesday, 10 March 2027

The four programmes will be available in **October 2026**

10:00	Retina Co-ordinator: Dr Chris Gouws & Dr Schalk du Toit Early vitrectomy vs repeated anti-VEGF injections in PDR Prof Maria Berrocal University of Puerto Rico Vitrectomy in the ill patient (diabetes, hypertension, kidney failure, etc) Prof Maria Berrocal Medical retina: Sub-threshold laser Dr Joanne Miller Medical retina: OCT Angiography Dr Schalk du Toit Panel discussion Retina quizz	Cornea Co-ordinator: Dr Dawie Botes Dr Brendan Cronin Queensland Eye Institute and Focus Vision Clinic, Brisbane, Australia. He co-developed the Brisbane CAIRS Nomogram and CAIRSPlan surgical-planning platform and performed the first report combining Bowman's membrane transplantation and CAIRS procedure. The Corneal Masterclass will feature focused, practical lectures by Dr Cronin alongside leading South African corneal experts. Sessions will address modern approaches to keratoconus, corneal cross-linking, CAIRS, corneal transplantation, ocular-surface disease and other common but challenging corneal problems. The programme will conclude with an interactive expert panel discussing difficult cases, differing surgical approaches and practical management strategies.
14:00	Cataract Co-ordinators: Prof Wayne Marais & Dr Schabert de Jager Dr Uday Devgan Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA School of Medicine and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles, USA Best of cataract coach Interactive panel discussion Level: Intermediate to advanced	Oculoplastic Co-ordinator: Dr Lynette Venter Mr Raman Malhotra Harley Street Specialist Hospital, London, England General surgical principles for • Lids • Entropion • Ectropion and ptosis • Sockets Management of facial palsy Update on TED Toxin in palsies and spasms



Events during congress

Wednesday, 10 March, 17:30 for 18:00

Young Ophthalmologists Symposium

(For Registrars, Medical officers & Ophthalmologists in their first five years post-graduation)

Venue: Room 1.43-44

Dress: Casual

Cost: Free of charge for all registered young Ophthalmologists.
R385 for additional guests.

Free evening for all other delegates

Thursday, 11 March, 18:00

Meet & Greet function

Venue: Exhibition Hall 2

Dress: Casual

Cost: Free of charge for all registered delegates. R385 for additional guests.

Friday, 12 March, 19:00 for 19:30

OSSA Banquet (Limited seating)

Venue: Ballroom West

Dress: Black Tie / Day suit / Traditional

Cost: R500 for all delegates and additional guests

Saturday, 13 March, 07:00

Women in Ophthalmology (WOSA) Breakfast

(For Registrars, Medical officers & Ophthalmologists and is not exclusively for women)

Speakers: Information to follow

Venue: Room 1.41-44

Cost: Free of charge for all registered Registrars,
Medical officers & Ophthalmologists.

Registration

Registration procedure

- Delegates should register online by **6 November 2026** to qualify for the early bird registration fee.
Registrations submitted after this date will still be accepted, but a higher fee will apply.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that the organisers have received your registration form. You will receive a personalised confirmation by e-mail from the organisers within 10 working days.
- Registrations for the Congress can only be finalised once full payment has been received.
- All speakers are required to register.

Important request to companies sponsoring delegates:

Please let us have the delegate's personal e-mail address and other contact information.

Step 1	Click here to register ONLINE
Step 2	E-MAIL proof of payment (if applicable) to ossacongress@rkcommunication.co.za
Step 3	Ensure that you receive a confirmation via e-mail from the organisers within 10 working days.

Payment options

PREFERRED method of payment:

EFT / bank deposit

Standard Bank (Menlyn)

Branch code: 012345

Account number: 012 150 053

Swift code: SBZAJJ

(for international transfers)

Account name: OSSA Congress

Reference: Your name and surname as they appear on the registration form.

Please e-mail proof of payment to
ossacongress@rkcommunication.co.za

ALTERNATIVE method of payment:

If you encounter difficulty or cannot make an EFT or direct bank deposit, please pay via the Mobipaid link provided on the congress website's registration page.

Mobipaid link: mpaid.us/cwUvZ

PLEASE NOTE: We do not accept
Diners or American Express Cards.

This account number is the same as the 2026 Congress account number



Fee entitlements

Included in congress registration fee

- Congress sessions for specific days as indicated in the programme for all groups
Two-day programmes for the **allied delegates** (optometrists, assistants, nurses, practice managers & administrators) included.
- Trade exhibition, lunches & refreshments during breaks.
- Young Ophthalmologists Symposium (For Registrars, Medical officers & Ophthalmologists in their first five years post-graduation)
- Meet & Greet function

Excluded from congress registration fee (to be booked at an additional fee)

- Meet & Greet - if not registered for the full congress
- OSSA Banquet
- Masterclasses

Cancellation policy

Notice of cancellation must be received in writing.

The congress organisers shall be entitled to levy a cancellation fee as indicated below:

- Up until 90 days prior to the first day of the event: 10% of the registration fee
- Between 89 and 30 days prior to the first day of the event: 50% of the registration fee
- Within 30 days of the first day of the event: 100% of the registration fee



Registration fees

ONSITE FEE: Late fee PLUS 10%

15% VAT Included	EARLY BIRD Register AND pay UNTIL 6 Nov 2026		STANDARD FEE Register AND pay FROM 7 Nov 2026		LATE FEE Register AND pay FROM 29 Jan 2027	
	Entire duration	Specific days	Entire duration	Specific days	Entire duration	Specific days

MEMBERS (Please refer to "Membership" below)

Ophthalmologist in private practice or limited private practice	R8 800	R3 600 /d	R9 925	R3 990 /d	R11 100	R4 850 /d
Ophthalmologist in public service with no private practice	R6 500	R2 625 /d	R7 350	R2 950 /d	R8 250	R3 760 /d
Medical associate member: Registrar in Ophthalmology, Medical Officers and GPs	R3 700	R1 520 /d	R4 200	R1 700 /d	R4 725	R2 090 /d
Medical Associate member: Ophthalmologists practicing overseas	R8 800	R3 600 /d	R9 925	R3 990 /d	R11 100	R4 850 /d
Non-Medical Associate member Registered with other Boards or Councils	R4 400	R1 800 /d	R4 950	R2 000 /d	R5 550	R2 600 /d
*Honorary life member (Over 65 and retired)	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Honorary life member: Must be 65 years and older and should also be a retired member.

NON-MEMBERS (Please refer to "Membership" below)

Ophthalmologist in private practice or part-time private practice	R14 700	R5 900 /d	R15 700	R6 300 /d	R16 600	R6 700 /d
Ophthalmologist in full-time public service with no private practice	R11 600	R4 620 /d	R12 600	R5 040 /d	R13 800	R5 550 /d
Ophthalmologist other African countries (Excluding South Africa)	R7 650	R3 150 /d	R8 600	R3 460 /d	R9 700	R3 900 /d
Ophthalmologist from abroad	R14 700	R5 900 /d	R15 700	R6 300 /d	R16 600	R6 650 /d
Optometrist in private practice	R7 300	R3 800 /d	R8 200	R3 280 /d	R9 250	R3 700 /d
Medical officer in Ophthalmology / Registrar / GPs	R4 400	R1 700 /d	R4 850	R1 995 /d	R5 350	R2 600 /d
Practice Manager & Administrator / Ophthalmic Assistant / Ophthalmic Nurse /	R4 400 (2-day pro- gramme)	R2 500 /d	R4 850 (2-day pro- gramme)	R2 750 /d	R5 350 (2-day pro- gramme)	R3 000 /d
Optometrist in full-time government or tertiary employment / Orthoptist / Ocularist / Community Field Worker	R4 400 (2-day pro- gramme)	R2 500 /d	R4 850 (2-day pro- gramme)	R2 750 /d	R5 350 (2-day pro- gramme)	R3 000 /d



15% VAT Included	EARLY BIRD Register AND pay UNTIL 6 Nov 2026		STANDARD FEE Register AND pay FROM 7 Nov 2026		LATE FEE Register AND pay FROM 29 Jan 2027	
	Entire duration	Specific days	Entire duration	Specific days	Entire duration	Specific days
ADDITIONAL TRADE DELEGATES (More than the 2 free delegates per stand)	R6 400	R2 570 /d	R7 150	R3 045 /d	R8 200	R3 250 /d

Please note that **ONLY** trade delegates / representatives in the service of companies participating in the Trade Exhibition **OR** involved as sponsors will be allowed to attend the congress.

	Ophthal- mologist	MO / Registrar	Ophthal- mologist	MO / Registrar	Ophthal- mologist	MO / Registrar
PARALLEL MASTERCLASSES						
Retina OR Cornea (10:00 – 13:15)	R800	R400	R1 000	R500	R1 200	R600
Cataract OR Oculoplastic (14:00 – 17:30)	R800	R400	R1 000	R500	R1 200	R600

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS: The Meet & Greet Function is free of charge for delegates registered for the ENTIRE Academic Congress.

OSSA Banquet excluded: R500 for all registered delegates and additional guests (Trade delegates most welcome.) Limited seating.

Young Ophthalmologists Symposium (Wednesday, 10 March) Free evening for all other delegates	Free of charge for all registered registrars, MO's & young Ophthalmologist in their first five years post-graduation. R385 for additional guests.
Meet & Greet Function (Thursday, 11 March)	Free of charge for all delegates registered for entire congress R385 / person for additional guests
OSSA Banquet (Friday, 12 March)	R500 for all registered delegates and additional guests. Limited seating.

Registrations will open during August 2026

Click here to register ONLINE

You are personally responsible for full payment of these fees if your institution or company does not pay them.

Membership

- **OSSA member:** Delegate who is a member of OSSA whose latest membership invoice has been paid and updated on the OSSA Autoprax platform.
- **Non-member:** Delegate who is not a registered member of OSSA or a member whose latest membership invoice has not been paid and updated on the OSSA Autoprax platform.
- If you register as a member and your latest membership invoice on the OSSA Autoprax system is outstanding, the registrations manager will correct your registration amount and charge you accordingly.
- Should you wish to become a Member of OSSA, please apply online:
<https://www.ossa.co.za/website/join>

Accommodation arrangements

You are responsible for your **own accommodation arrangements and payment**. We urge you to book now!

We have secured group accommodation at the hotels below:

- These rooms will be reserved for congress delegates **until 29 January 2027** and will be available on a first-come, first serve-basis.
- Rates include breakfast & 15% VAT but exclude incidental expenses & 1% tourism levy.
- Rates are subject to change without prior notice.
- **Check-in time:** 14:00 (An early check-in, if required, may be requested and will be prioritised. This is, however, not guaranteed.)
- **Check-out time:** 11:00
- The accommodation establishment's cancellation policy will apply.
- All travellers are requested to please **travel with a copy of his or her identification document or passport** as the accommodation establishments are mandated to obtain a copy of this.

The Westin Cape Town

Distance from CTICC:	Opposite the CTICC (Direct connection with the CTICC)
Star grading:	5 Star
Rates:	
Single:	R4 950
Double:	R5 400 - for both guests
Wi-Fi:	Free
Parking:	R150 per day
Website:	Click here to visit the website
Tel:	021 412 9999
E-mail:	Leigh-ann.Lyons@westin.com
How to make a reservation:	Please click here to book your room
Contact person:	Leigh Ann Lyons
Reservation number:	2843822

Southern Sun - The Cullinan

Distance from CTICC:	Opposite the CTICC (250m)
Star grading:	4 Star
Rates:	Single: R4 850
	Double: R5 100 - for both guests
Wi-Fi:	Free
Parking:	R60.00 per vehicle per night
Website:	Click here to visit the website
Tel:	021 492 0404
E-mail:	sscullinan.reservations@southernsun.com CapeTown.GroupReservations@southernsun.com
How to make a reservation:	Please click here to book your room
Contact person:	Ibtisaam Brown
Reservation number:	5125163

Hotel Sky

Distance from CTICC:	Opposite the CTICC (30m)
Star grading:	4 Star
Rates:	Single: R2 700
	Double: R2 900 for both guests (Superior queen room)
Wi-Fi:	Free
Parking:	Complimentary on a first come first park basis
Website:	Click here to visit the website
Tel:	021 879 5040
E-mail:	reservations.capetown@hotelsky.co.za
How to make a reservation:	E-mail your booking request to the address above
Contact person:	Reservations department

Southern Sun - Waterfront Cape Town

Distance from CTICC:	850m
Star grading:	4 Star
Rates:	Single: R4 350
	Double: R4 600 - for both guests
Wi-Fi:	Free
Parking:	R60.00 per vehicle per night
Website:	Click here to visit the website
Tel:	021 492 0404
E-mail:	sswaterfront.reservations@southernsun.com CapeTown.GroupReservations@southernsun.com
How to make a reservation:	Please click here to book your room Alternatively contact reservations
Contact person:	Ibtisaam Brown
Reservation number:	5125163

Please reserve your room before

29 January 2027

You are responsible for your own accommodation arrangements.

Travel arrangements & shuttle service

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

Please note that there will be no shuttle service between any of the above-mentioned hotels and the CTICC.

There **will not be** a shuttle service provided from the Cape Town International Airport to the CTICC. We would like to recommend that you make use of **Uber** or of one of the other shuttle services.





General information

Annual General Meetings

Friday, 12 March 2027

OSSA AGM 16:00

OMG AGM 17:00

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points

The Congress will be accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa and registered for CPD points.

Language

The official language of the Congress will be English. No simultaneous translation into any other language will be provided.

Currency

ZAR South African Rand.

Climate

Average temperatures: 14 – 26° C. Light jacket essential for the evenings.

Electricity

The electricity supply in South Africa is 220 / 230 volts, AC 50 Hz.

If you are visiting from another country and would like to know if you will need an adapter, please follow this link to get the answer <https://world-power-plugs.com/south-africa>.

Insurance

The Congress Organisers cannot accept any liability for personal injuries sustained, or for loss of, or damage to, property belonging to Congress participants (or their accompanying persons), either during, or as a result of, the Congress. Please check the validity of your own insurance.

Visas

It is strongly recommended that all travellers check the latest visa requirements with the nearest South African Embassy or Consulate before travelling, OR [click here](#).

The passports of all travellers entering South Africa must contain at least two clean (unstamped) visa pages each time entry is sought.

Travellers entering South Africa from countries where yellow fever is endemic are often required to present their yellow World Health Organisation (WHO) vaccination record or other proof of inoculation. If they are unable to do so, they must be inoculated at the airport in order to be permitted entry.

Special dietary requirements

Halaal & vegetarian: Please indicate your requirements on the registration form.

Kosher meals & other dietary preferences: Please contact the organisers in this regard.

Time zone

South Africa is GMT + 2 hours.

Tourism & activities

<https://www.capetown.travel/>