



The South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy  
Founded in 1894

## SYMPOSIUM SERIES S39

The Third Southern African Conference on

# *Base Metals*

*'Southern Africa's response to changing global  
base metals market dynamics'*

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THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING AND METALLURGY

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*'Southern Africa's response to changing global base  
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# Foreword

The Southern African Conference on Base Metals started out in 2001, as a modest concept to get the local base metals industry together. The first conference held in Zimbabwe in 2001, proved to be a huge success and was followed by the second conference in 2002 in South Africa.

After a bit of a lapse, the third conference is being held in Kitwe in Zambia. Because of the strong global demand experienced by all base metals, it is most appropriate to have this conference in the midst of the Copper Belt. Although the current climate is good for base metals, it was not too long ago that most of the base metals' experienced poor demand and very low prices. It is therefore extremely important that the base metals industry, separately and collectively, ensures that we add value for all stakeholders. This we can achieve by being cost-efficient, maximizing revenues, applying scientific and engineering principles innovatively, but above all, by sharing knowledge amongst each other.

Hence this conference is the ideal opportunity to share information, learn new things and establish networks.

It is therefore with great pleasure that I welcome all delegates, from Southern Africa, but also from further afield, to the 3rd Southern African Conference on Base Metals. I trust that you will find the proceedings valuable, will partake in all the deliberations and get maximum value from the conference.

I want to extend a big word of thanks to the members of the organising committee, the secretariat of the SAIMM, our sponsors and the hosts of our post-conference tours. Without your willingness and dedication, this event would not have been!

Finally, I want to dedicate these proceedings to Aubrey Mjacu, a member of the Organising Committee, who recently passed away after a short illness. Aubrey we will miss you dearly!

**Willem van Niekerk**  
*Chairman,*  
*Organising Committee*

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# **The Third Southern African Conference on Base Metals**

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metals market dynamics'*

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