



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### **SA-Cuba sign joint statement to continue cooperation agreement on water resource management.**

27 September 2017

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INRH) signed a joint statement on behalf of South Africa and Cuba, committing to extend their cooperation agreement on water resource management and water supply.

The joint statement, which was signed in Pretoria on 27 September 2017, seeks to build on the successes of the agreement that was signed in 2013 between the two nations.

The 2013 agreement between the two countries expires next year and the joint statement paves the way to extend the existing agreement to 2023.

Key elements envisaged in the extended agreement include, amongst others, the insertion of short course Article wherein a Trainer-of-Trainer Programme for a period of not more than six months. This will either be implemented at DWS's Roodeplaat Training Centre or any training centre of the INRH in Cuba.

Secondly the new agreement will see the inclusion of the long-term training Article, either in Honours or Masters Degrees through the Higher education and Training foreign application. These studies will take place at the University of Cuba.

It is expected that the new agreement will be signed in February next year.

Before signing the agreement, Deputy Minister of DWS, Mrs Pamela Tshwete, praised the work that was being carried out since February 2015 when 35 Cubans were deployed to South Africa as mentors, describing it as an immense contribution to the field of water and sanitation.

Deputy Minister Tshwete said the Cuban engineers have provided valuable assistance in the light of the devastating that is currently gripping the country. She praised their skills in maintenance and operation of water infrastructure.

Representing Cuba at the signing of the joint statement, Vice President of INRH, Eng. Mr Bladimir Matos Moya, said the new agreement represented a new phase of collaboration between the two nations.

He said although the envisaged agreement was an extension of the old one, it entailed higher quality and moving from practical experience to being strategic.

He said: "The relationship of brotherhood should still continue, President Ines Waugh Chapman (of INRH) and Minister Nomvula Mokonyane had endorsed the current

Agreement and therefore the two partners must continue in implementing the RSA-Cuba Agreement."



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Vice President Eng. Mr Bladimir Matos Moya said the relationship has to instil a path of effectiveness not only for the people but also to positively impact on the economy and to ensure that it complies with environmental regulations.

He said the Cuban strength lay in the human resource development and forging human relations, emphasising that capacity-building and technical transfer were at the heart of ensuring continuity between the two countries.

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