



**Welcome Address by Her Worship, Deputy Mayor Peer
on the Occasion of the Institute of Retirement Funds
Africa Annual Conference**

10 September 2017

Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre

- Programme Director,
- President of Institute of Retirement Funds Africa, Mr Wayne van Rensburg,
- Vice President of Institute of Retirement Funds Africa, Ms Geraldine Folwer,
- Directors and members of the Institute and other related organisations,
- Pension Funds Adjudicator,
- Financial Services Board Representatives,
- Pension Funds Registrar,
- Members of the Finance Industry,
- Captains of Industry,

- Speakers in different topics,
- Stakeholders and partners,
- Conference delegates,
- Distinguished guests and dignitaries,
- Ladies and gentlemen,
- All protocol observed,

Sanibonani and good evening ladies and gentlemen!

I would like to take this opportunity and welcome you to the most important conference which is known for being a conference of ideas.

Thank you for returning this conference to Durban, indeed Durban is the best place to host conference in Africa. Durban is the only place where you can do business with pleasure and it is not only that; it is the most liveable city in South Africa.

The recent survey of 231 cities which is aimed at helping companies and organisations determine compensation and hardship allowances for international staff. It uses dozens of criteria such as political stability, health care, education, crime, recreation and transport.

The survey result placed Durban on top of the list in Africa. This is the reason we encourage investors and business to consider Durban. This is the best place for your business and family on top of that we are now encouraging citizens to consider Durban for retirement.

The retirement fund industry plays an important role in securing the futures of the working population and their families. The policies to be adopted at this gathering will help us shape this industry. Therefore have to take the outcomes seriously. We view you as partners in our development, so we are grateful to your organisers for returning to this warm city.

In eThekweni, we aim to be Africa's most caring and liveable City by 2030. This is work in progress since we have already achieved most of our long term goals. It is our wish that our pensioners will be well treated, with good living conditions for them and their families.

EThekweni remains committed to ensuring our employees retire with enough savings. We would like to encourage all pension funds represented here today to think about new ways of encouraging the culture of saving.

A number of grandparents still carry parenting responsibilities to their grandchildren and their children. These realities require that our social security savings vehicle meet the demanding living standards.

Retirement remains a very important part of our future. Through your insights our City; our country; continent and world at large can be a much better place. There is so much to enjoy outside this conference and our weather will allow you to enjoy both indoors and outdoor activities. I invite you to enjoy our warm waters, nice food, shisanyama and bunny chow, sea cruises and valley of the 1000 hills.

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the award-winning City of Durban!

Thank you!