



The GM Operations, Mboniseni Dlamini (left) received the award from the Deputy Mayor of Durban, Logie Naidoo

### PMR

Umgeni Water received an award from Professional Management Review (PMR) for its contribution to the economy of KwaZulu-Natal. The organisation was judged the most effective among other water utilities in KwaZulu insofar as its role in economic development is concerned. The award was made at a breakfast function on 28th September 2009 in Durban.



The Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Dr Zweli Mkhize, in discussion with Minister Buyelwa Sonjica at the KZN Water Summit

### KWAZULU-NATAL WATER SUMMIT 2009

The Office of the CE and Operations Division of Umgeni Water joined a planning committee set up by the Department of Water Affairs to handle all the logistics for a Water Summit that took place on 2nd and 3rd November 2009 and was hosted by the Office of KwaZulu-Natal Premier and Department of Water Affairs. The Summit was requested by the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs to develop plans to address water backlog challenges in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. Senior leaders in Government, including Minister Buyelwa Sonjica and Premier Zweli Mkhize, addressed the Summit. A working breakfast was also held on the morning of the 2nd November 2009 which was attended by the Minister and Chairpersons of the three water utilities in KwaZulu-Natal.

### GARDEN SHOW

Umgeni Water participated in the Garden & Leisure Show which was hosted by the Royal Agricultural Society from 25th - 27th September 2009 at the Royal Show Grounds. An outdoor stand depicting indigenous plants was constructed by staff of the Social Development Unit of E&SS (Rob Burgess) and the Office of the CE (Fiona Ellis and Thokozani Hammond), and went on display at the Garden Show. Umgeni Water received a Silver Certificate for the quality of its display. Umgeni Water's participation was co-ordinated by the Office of the CE for the purpose of branding.



Umgeni Water exhibit at the Garden and Leisure Show

The Garden & Leisure Show is a spectacular international event. It attracts in excess of 24 000 visitors during a 3-day period.

### ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATIONS

In October a series of briefings on Umgeni Water's performance, highlights and achievements in the Financial Year 2008 - 2009 was held for stakeholders in Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg. Presentations on the financial and non-financial content of Annual Report 2008 - 2009 were made by the Chairperson of the Board and Executive Management to the following stakeholders:



Umgeni Water's 2008/2009 Annual Report presentation

**Media:** Journalists from mainstream media (daily newspapers and radio) and community newspapers attended a morning briefing session on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 at the Hilton Hotel in Durban. Umgeni Water received positive coverage in Business Report, Natal Witness, South Coast Herald and from the South African Press Association.

**Municipalities and investors:** A briefing session was held in the evening of 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 at the Hilton Hotel and attended by representatives of some of Umgeni Water's municipal customers and Durban-based financial institutions. There was positive response to the performance of Umgeni Water.

**Investors:** In the week 26<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009, presentations were made to investors, first in Cape Town and later Johannesburg. Again, there was positive response to Umgeni Water's financial performance and to its plans for future funding of its Capex through the re-issuing of bonds.



Umgeni Water branding at Umzimkulu

### ERADICATION OF MUD SCHOOLS PROGRAMME AT UMZIMKULU

Umzimkulu residents are excited and happy about the new local school, eMangeni Junior Secondary School. This school was an inappropriate structure (mud school). It is one of the 90 schools that were transferred from Eastern Cape to KwaZulu-Natal. The Independent Development Trust (IDT) approached the national Department of Works with the aim of eradicating all inappropriate school structures nationally (as per call by the then President of South Africa). Government put aside R2.7 billion for this project to be rolled out throughout the country.

Umzimkulu is one of the areas that has been targeted, with a budget of R687 million. This allocation will be spent on various school projects by the KZN DOE over the MTEF period from 2008/9 - 2010/11. UW has forged a strong partnership with the provincial Department of Education to provide toilets, laboratories, libraries, computer rooms, multi-purpose classrooms and also renovate boarding schools.

Umgeni Water has 4 projects currently running, of which 2 are in Umzimkulu viz. Victory Junior Secondary School and Nhlambamasoka Secondary School. Planning on 8 other projects has been completed, and these are to go on construction soon. Of the eight (8), five (5) are in Umzimkulu. Umgeni Water subscribes fully to the priority attention the Government is giving to education, especially Maths and Science as critical factors for economic growth.



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