

REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2024

COMPANY MATTERS

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors of the FSE are required by the Companies Act of South Africa, to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the content and integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements fairly present the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the period then ended, in conformity with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities. The external auditors are engaged to express an independent opinion on the annual financial statements.

AP Bosman Accountant and Tax Consultant prepared the FSE's annual financial statements for the year ended 29 February 2024 in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

Burger & Vorster Inc continued in office as auditors for the company for 2024.

Burger & Vorster reported:

“We have audited the annual financial statements of Federation for a Sustainable Environment (RF) NPC (the company) set out on pages 10 to 19, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 29 February 2024, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the notes to the annual financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the annual financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Federation for a Sustainable Environment (RF) NPC as at 29 February 2024, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities and the requirements of the Companies Act of South Africa.”

*“In connection with our audit of the annual financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the annual financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. **We have nothing to report in this regard.**”*

(Emphasis added.)

NARRATIVE ANNUAL REPORT

The FSE submitted its Narrative Annual Report for the period 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024 to ngoLAW for submission to the Department of Social Development.

ngoLAW submitted, on behalf of the FSE, the FSE's Narrative Annual Report with its audited Annual Financial Statements for the same period to the Department of Social Development on the 31st of October, 2024. The FSE's Narrative Annual Report and Annual Financial Statements are subjoined hereunder:



2024 - 2023 FSE
NARRATIVE REPORT /

TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

A tax clearance certificate was issued on the 3rd of October, 2024, confirming the FSE's tax compliance status.



Tax Clearance letter
03.10.2024.pdf

FRAUDULENT ACTIVITIES

The FSE experienced fraudulent activities on its bank account on the 19th of October, 2024. The FSE was in the position to block its card and its bank account, and to report the matter to FNB. FNB provided the FSE with a fraud reference number. The hacking of the FSE's bank accounts resulted in loss of R2 000 to the FSE. The FSE submitted payment reversal request to FNB. The matter was also reported to the Police and a case was opened. The case number is: 384-10-2024.

As a consequence, the FSE considered it prudent to publish the following notice:

Important Notice: As a result of fraudulent activities, the FSE shall no longer deliver payments to persons or entities not listed as accredited service providers or consultants on the FSE's database. All requests for funding to protect the environment and advance environmental rights are to be directed to the Environmental Justice Fund (EJF).

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

The FSE entered into a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with IT Stronghold for IT assistance.

ERC AFRETRACT PROJECT (Environmental Histories of Resource Extraction in Africa: Understanding Cultural and Political Responses to Environmental Transformation)

The FSE was requested to is co-author an article, focusing on the impact of gold mine dumps on marginalized communities, for a special issue of the Canadian Journal of African Studies. (Tholithemba Lorenzo Ndaba, Environmental Histories of Resource Extraction in Africa. University of Groningen.)

The abstract is subjoined hereunder.



2024 FSE ABSTRACT -
LORENZO NDABA AN

PRESENTATIONS AND SITE VISITS

- 29 October 2024. The FSE was requested to present to Adam Matthew of the Church of England's Pension Fund, M&G Investment and others by Pan African Resources and to participate in a site visit of 2L24 within Snake Park, Soweto. The FSE's presentation is subjoined hereunder.



2024 NINETY ONE,
CHURCH OF ENGLAN

SUMMIT

- 16 October 2024. Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment: 2024 Priority Area Summit.

The FSE was requested to present on “Civil society’s role and perspective on Air Quality Management focusing on mine sector in the regime of priority area regulations and the implementation of targeted interventions to improve air quality.” The FSE’s presentation is subjoined hereunder.



2024 DFFE AIR
QUALITY PRIORITY AR

NEWS MEDIA

- 19 October 2024. Interview with GroundUp Media on the proposed Springfield Colliery Application and the FSE’s comments. The FSE’s comments are subjoined hereunder.



PARTICIPATION IN:

- 3 October 2024. Launch of Pan African Resources' MTR gold treatment plant. West Rand.
- 14 October 2024. Engagement with Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mr David Mhalobo regarding political, racial and pollution issues pertaining to the Hartbeespoort Dam. DWS Area Office, Hartbeespoort Dam.
- 17 October 2024: Department of Water and Sanitation: Interdepartmental Inland Water Ecosystem Liaison Committee meeting. (Reference: Adian Morgan). The Agenda Items included:
 - Progress update on Classification & Resource Quality Objectives.: Ms. L. Matlala.
 - "Update on High Confidence Reserves & SWSA's: Mr. Y. Atwaru.
 - Progress on the Development of the National Eutrophication Strategy: Ms T Nyamande
 - Update on the EI4WS Project: Ms J Zungu
 - Water-related - Ecological infrastructure accounts: N. Mahlangu & A Ginsburg.
 - Updated status of the National Wetland Map of South Africa: Ms. N. Job
 - Status of the Freshwater comp. of the Nat. Biodiversity Assessment: Ms. N. Job
 - Update on the current LIMCOM UNDP-GEF project: Dr. E. Riddell
- 18 October 2024: Pan African Resources' kick-off planning session for site visit by the Church of England Pensions board and shareholders. (Reference: Hethen Hira)

CONTRIBUTION TO:

- 10 October 2024: South Deep Mine TSF Stakeholder Meeting. (Powerpoint presentation)
- Case study for ICMM of Gold Fields' interaction with and knowledge of "prominent mining activists, communally referred to as Human Rights Defenders".
- Rand Leases Mining Programme (Information)

SUBMISSIONS

- 13th of October, 2024. Resubmission on the 23rd of October, 2024.

SUBMISSION TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES IN SUPPORT OF THE MERAFOG ENVIRONMENTAL RISK COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP ON THE SEWAGE POLLUTION CAUSED BY THE MERAFOG CITY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND SINKHOLE FORMATION WITHIN KHUTSONG”.



2024 FSE
SUBMISSION - SEWA

- 21 October 2024: SUBMISSION TO THE DWS OF ONGOING POLLUTION OF HENNOPS RIVER AND CENTURION LAKE AND UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES BY THE CoT IN TERMS OF S19 AND S21 OF THE NWA - WITH IMPUNITY

On 28 October 2011, the DWS issued a water use license (WUL) to the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality (CoT) in terms of section 21 of the NWA. The WUL was for the removal of sand and silt from the Centurion Lake and the deposition of the silt on a registered hazardous land fill site. Please refer to the attached WUL for ease of reference.

The WUL was valid for 12 years. The conditions of the WUL were set out in Appendix II of the WUL. The conditions prescribed the activities that the Municipality must undertake and the regulatory and financial obligations of the Municipality.

The WUL authorized the Municipality to:

- Impede or divert the flow of water in a watercourse and permitted in terms of section 21(c) of the NWA; and
- Alter the bed, banks, course or characteristic of a watercourse as permitted in terms of section 21 (i) of the NWA.

One of the conditions of the WUL was that the CoT must comply with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (attached) when carrying out its duties under the WUL.

The DWS conducted a WUL Compliance Audit on 22 October 2019 and ordered the Municipality to compile an Action Plan, to address the Municipality’s noncompliance, unauthorised activities as well as any contraventions identified during the audit. On 6 February 2021, the DWS issued the Municipality with a Notice of Intention to Issue a Directive for the rehabilitation of the Lake. The DWS indicated that it had reasonable grounds to conclude that the Municipality had engaged in an activity that was likely to cause pollution of the water resource and had failed to comply with the conditions of the WUL.

The CoT continues to unlawfully:

- Impede or divert the flow of water in a watercourse and permitted in terms of section 21(c) of the NWA; and
- Alter the bed, banks, course or characteristic of a watercourse as permitted in terms of section 21 (i) of the NWA

The subjoined photographs provide authentic photographic evidence of the ongoing and worsening sewage pollution of the Hennops River and Centurion Lake. The photographs were supplied by Ms Wilna Savio of Redefine Properties on the 21st of October, 2024.





COMMENTS ON:

- Launch of the Vaal River Anti Pollution Forum meeting (Reference: Mazwi Raquel Nomathemba).
- The Inception Meeting for the Development of the North West Biodiversity Sector Plan and the North West Protected Area Expansion Strategy for 2024 to 2030.

ENGAGEMENTS WITH:

- Earthlife Africa, Gunter Wippel et al regarding DMRE's talks with diplomats at the US Embassy on the sale of South African uranium to Washington.
<https://www.africaintelligence.com/southern-africa-and-islands/2024/10/14/washington-in-talks-with-pretoria-over-uranium-procurement,110326873-bre>
- Willie Burger of Voster and Burger regarding the FSE's annual financial statements.
- Dr Koos Pretorius regarding proposed MOUs and annual financial statements.
- Hassen Lorgat and Henk Smith regarding the proposed amendments to the MPRDA and the FSE's comments on the DMRE's presentation on the proposed amendments.
- Zak Wood of DBK Advisory regarding the Courageous Conversation Dialogue and n tailings and the management of tailings.
- Paddy Waller, Bronkhorstspuit Catchment Management Forum regarding 3 prospecting applications BARs and EMPs submitted) around the Bronkhorstspuit Dam.
- Catherine Horsfield of Centre for Environmental Rights regarding EWT's and FSE's Appeal to the SCA: Heads of Argument.
- Tasmania Limited regarding rehabilitation of mine contaminated soil.
- Rico Euripidou of groundWork regarding dustfallout from TSFs within the Witwatersrand goldfields, in particular Soweto.
- Mark Kayter of the Riverlea Mining Forum regarding issues of relevance to the RMF.

- Junior Langa regarding waste management and the establishment of a waste management council.
- Gold Prospecting Applications within Skeerpoort, within the Magaliesberg Biosphere (Dr Wessel Swart).
- Southern Africa Resource Watch regarding the FSE's invitation to present during the High-Level Dialogue on Human Rights Protection and Environmental Sustainability in Mining Areas in South Africa (Reference: Gerson Mendes).
- Retha Weir regarding an application for prospecting rights dge across about 12000 ha on the Springbokvlakte, Waterberg District, Limpopo.

MEETINGS

- 2 October 2024. Monthly meeting with Harmony Gold Mining Company: Environmental matters. (Reference: Nivashni Govender) – virtual
- 4 & 5 October 2024. Meetings regarding financial management of FSE's resources (Reference: Perspective Investment Management)
- 4 & 5 October 2024. Technical advice on construction and management of Tailings Storage Facilities within the platinum sector. (Reference: Civil Project Engineer · Infrastructure Project and Design Engineer.)
- 7 – 10 October 2024. Specialist Training in Wetland Assessment, Biodiversity and Water Management. (Independent Specialist Consultant.)
- 24 October 2024. Following up discussion on Gauteng's water issues. (Reference: Dave Freeman, US Embassy) - virtual
- 15 October 2024. Meeting with Harmony Gold Mining Company regarding water use (Reference: Nivashni Govender & Thigesh Vather) – in person
- 16 October 2024. Meeting with Pan African Resources and Amatshe Mining regarding MR 206, MR 132 and MR 133 and rehabilitation objectives – in person. (Reference: Eddie Milne, Izak van Zyl, Faith Chademara.) In person.
- 21 October 2024. Meeting with Quirina Roode-Gutzmer (Research Scientist, Water Assessment, Wismut GmbH / Thuringian Water Innovation Cluster Friedrich Schiller University Jena Germany) regarding visit to South Africa, and research on acid mine drainage and Western Basin AMD Treatment Plant. Virtual.
- 22 October 2024. Vee Zivava. PhD Preliminary Survey. This meeting's aim was to gather valuable input on the preliminary survey for the research focused on the role and impact of women in the Far West Rand region. The goal is to collaboratively shape the scope of the study based on participants' insights. The feedback will be crucial in refining the focus and ensuring that the survey addresses key areas of importance for understanding women's participation in this region's development. Virtual.
- 24 October 2024. Meeting with Sonwabo Modimoeng and Trustees of the Waterpan Trust regarding the repurposing of Sibanye-Stillwater's Ezulwini Mine's infrastructure to benefit its host communities. Virtual.
- 25 October 2024. Meeting with John-Mark Killian of Umsizi Sustainable Social Solutions and Wayne Swanepoel of DRDGOld regarding sustainable social solutions for the Witwatersrand gold fields and platinum mining areas. In person.
- 25 October 2024. Meeting with Mona-Lisa Bango and Ann Laudati regarding proposed visit of Ohio University in 2025. Virtual.

- 30 October 2024. Meeting with Jay Naidoo and Belinda Cooper regarding Chrome Washing Plants within the North West Province and environmental issues pertaining to the Magaliesberg Biosphere.

RESEARCH ASISTANCE

- Quirina Roode-Gutzmer (Research Scientist, Water Assessment, Wismut GmbH / Thuringian Water Innovation Cluster Friedrich Schiller University Jena Germany) – assistance with information on Acid Mine Drainage (Western Basin)
- Dr Richard Kwame Adom & Prof Mulala Simatele (School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies, University of the Witwatersrand) “Enhancing Water Management and Governance in South Africa: The Need for Efficiency and Effectiveness in Monitoring and Evaluation Programmes.” (Review)
- Vee Zivava. PhD Preliminary Survey. Assistance in refining the focus and ensuring that the survey addresses key areas of importance for understanding women's participation in this Far West Rand's development.

SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

- The FSE assisted with South Deep Mine's Prizes for its Heritage Day Competition

NOTIFICATIONS

- Dustfall from Mill Site TSF Cluster: An investigation was conducted by Sibanye-Stillwater and a report was submitted.
- Dustfall from TSFs within Sibanye-Stillwater's Driefontein operations: An investigation was conducted by Sibanye-Stillwater and a report was submitted. (Ref. Frans de Bruyn).
- Fire Incident: Geluksdal. An investigation was conducted and engagements are ongoing.
- Harmony Gold Mine's Tshepong operations – water related issues. Harmony Gold Mine responded and the matter was closed.

CATCHMENT FORUM MEETINGS

The FSE contributed to the revision of the:

- Minutes of the Rietspruit CMF meeting
- Minutes of the Klip River CMF meeting

ASSISTANCE:

- Owe2Green Economy (Reference: Nkosinathi Hlabeni)
- Let's Grow (Reference: Michael Benham)
- Redefine Properties (Reference: Wilna Savio)
- Trustees of Waterpan Trust (Reference: Wonder Modise)

ATTENDANCE OF:

- 15 & 16 October 2024. Benchmarks Foundation Conference. (Reference: Simo Gumede)