

Message from Prof. Cas Badenhorst, SAIOH Vice President

Our President, Karen du Preez, has made the difficult decision to step down from her role, effective 1 January 2026, due to extenuating circumstances and personal reasons associated with these circumstances. While this decision comes midway through her term, it follows careful consideration and is rooted in her need to prioritise matters of personal importance at this time. We fully support her decision and recognise the commitment and integrity with which she has always approached her responsibilities, both professionally and personally.

On behalf of the SAIOH Management Board and Council, as well as the entire membership, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Karen for her dedicated service, strategic insight, and steadfast leadership. During her tenure, she has contributed meaningfully

to strengthening our Institute, advancing the occupational hygiene profession and values, and fostering an engaged and collaborative community. We extend our best wishes to Karen during this time and remain confident that she will continue to be part of our wider professional community.

As the current Vice President of SAIOH, I will step into the role of SAIOH President on 1 January 2026, and a new SAIOH Vice President will be elected early in 2026. The SAIOH Management Board will share further information in the next few weeks regarding the interim leadership arrangements and next steps to ensure continuity of our programmes, governance, and activities.

We thank you for your understanding and continued support. 