



REPORT TO: THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

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**1. ITEM NUMBER**

**2. SUBJECT**

**FEEDBACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL/OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE  
RSA TRIP UNDERTAKEN FROM 27 FEBRUARY 2023 TO 02 MARCH 2023  
TO ATTEND THE MOBILE WORLD CONGRESS IN BARCELONA, SPAIN**

**ONDERWERP**

**TERUGVOERING OOR DIE REIS NA DIE BUITELAND/BUITE DIE GRENSE  
VAN DIE RSA ONDERNEEM VAN 27 FEBRUARIE 2023 TOT 2 MAART  
2023 OM DIE 'MOBILE WORLD'-KONGRES IN BARCELONA, SPANJE, BY  
TE WOON**

**ISIHLOKO**

**INGXELO EMALUNGA NEHAMBO KUMAZWE APHESHEYA/  
ANGAPHANDLE KWEMIDA YASEMZANTSI AFRIKA EQHUTYWE  
UKUSUSELA NGOWAMA27 KWEYOMDUMBA UKUYA KOWE 02  
KWEYOKWINDLA 2023 UKUZIMASA INKOMFA YEHLABATHI (I-MOBILE  
WORLD) ESEBARCELONA, ESPAIN**

**P2951**

### 3. EVENT SUMMARY

EVENT DETAILS	
CONFERENCE/SEMINAR	Mobile World Congress (MWC)
OTHER	N/A
DATE	27 February to 2 March 2023
VENUE	<b>FIRA Barcelona</b>
TOTAL COST TO THE CITY	City: R130 682, 34 (for both delegates, see below) Sponsored: R254 632, 31 (for both delegates, see below)
CITY	<b>Barcelona</b>
COUNTRY	<b>SPAIN</b>

ATTENDEE DETAILS	
NAMES AND SURNAMES	DESIGNATIONS
Lungelo Mbandazayo	<b>CITY MANAGER</b>
Denver van Schalkwyk	<b>MANAGER: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS</b>
<b>PROVIDE SUMMARY OF HOST ORGANISATION AND CITY</b>	
<p>Fira de Barcelona, officially founded in 1932, is a consortium made up of Barcelona City Council, the Catalan Government, and the Chamber of Commerce of Barcelona, combining public ownership with autonomous business management. It is one of the most important trade fair organisations in Europe in terms of the volume and quality of its events, the high level of its venues and its organisational experience and professionalism. It has two large venues that provide 400,000 sqm of exhibition area, among the largest in Europe, and it offers exhibitors, organisers and visitors all the resources of a modern and efficient institution. Its annual contribution to the economy of the city and the surrounding area is estimated to be worth more than 4.7 billion euros and over 35,000 jobs.</p> <p>Barcelona is the capital and largest city of the autonomous community of Catalonia, located on the north-eastern coast of Spain. As a City, it is one of the largest metropolitan areas on the Mediterranean Sea, and the second most populous municipality in Spain, with a population of 1.6 million people in the City centre. However, when extending beyond the city limits to include the broader provincial population of Catalonia, the population increases to approximately 5.7 million people, making it one of the most populous regional areas in Western Europe. The City of Barcelona is a cultural, economic, and financial centre in south-western Europe. Although the City of Madrid is the political and financial capital of Spain, Barcelona is regarded as its most culturally and industrially vibrant city. Barcelona accounts for more than a quarter of Spain's GDP, due to a large tertiary sector, various manufacturing industries and growth in 'Technical' parks for high-tech industry. For example, Barcelona is the main biotech hub in Spain. In addition, it is also a major transport hub, due to the Port of Barcelona being one of Europe's main seaports and busiest passenger port. Complementing the port is an international airport, called Barcelona–El Prat Airport, which manages a volume of over 50 million passengers per year. The City also has an extensive motorway network, and high-speed rail line which links the City (and Spain) to France and the rest of Europe.</p>	

#### 4. OBJECTIVE

Attending the Congress exposed the City Manager to the very latest technology offerings in the space as well as provide access to tech leaders, investors and inventors.

#### 5. OUTCOMES

The opportunity to connect with industry leaders and to gain insights into knowledge and best practices. Also, to showcase Cape Town on a global platform.

#### 6. ACTIONS REQUIRED

- 6.1 Recommend to all relevant City Directorates to consider attending the Mobile World Congress in future (**Responsible: International Relations Unit**).
- 6.2 Recommend to all relevant City Directorates to consider attending the World Congress on Innovation and Technology in October 2023 in Sarawak, Malaysia (**Responsible: International Relations Unit**).
- 6.3 Submit research information as requested by the Executive Mayor as related to parks, squares, plazas, and public open spaces (**Responsible International Relations Unit**).

#### 7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Constitutional and Policy Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.2 Environmental implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.3 Financial Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.4 Legal Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.5 Staff Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.6 Risk Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

##### 7.7 POPIA Compliance

- ☒ It is confirmed that this report has been checked and considered for POPIA Compliance.

*NOTE: POPIA Section MUST be completed otherwise the report will be returned to the author for revision.*

*Contact your Directorate POPIA Stewards should you require assistance.*



The City has a contract in place with XL Embassy Travel for the safe-keeping of Traveller's personal information as required by the POPI Act.

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the feedback report on the trip to Spain undertaken by the City Manager from 27 February 2023 to 02 March **be considered and noted.**

### AANBEVELINGS

Daar word aanbeveel dat die terugvoeringsverslag oor die reis na Spanje onderneem deur die Stadsbestuurder van 27 Februarie 2023 tot 2 Maart 2023 oorweeg en daarvan kennis geneem word

### IZINDULULO

Kundululwe ukuba makuthathelwe ingqalelo kwaye kuqwalaselwe ingxelo yangasemva kohambo ebijoliswe eSpain, eqhutywe nguMphathi weSixeko ukususela ngowama27 kweyoMdumba ukuya kowe 02 kweyoKwindla 2023.

## 9. GENERAL DISCUSSION

In terms of clause 10.2 of the Travel Management Policy, a post travel report is to be submitted to the Delegated Authority for the purpose of providing feedback on the travel and evidence of the benefit to the City.

The Group Speciale Mobile Association (GSMA) Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2023 is the largest and most influential event for the mobile connectivity ecosystem, and was hosted at the Fira de Barcelona. The event targeted global mobile operators, device manufacturers, technology providers, vendors, content owners, and those involved in future technology sectors. It attracted just over 80 000 attendees, with over 2000 exhibitors, representing 200 countries.

The Congress was divided into five tracks that took place in parallel with each other. These included the (i) Main Conference, (ii) 4YFN start-ups area, (iii) Partner Programmes, (iv) Sponsored Roundtables and Summits, as well as (v) Topic Tours. Several of the World's leading Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), from companies such as Maersk, the Ericsson Group, Ernst & Young, and Nokia, to mention only a few, were keynote speakers discussing topical and current issues within the mobile technology space. The MWC 2023 was the first time that the event was again in-person since 2020 with five themes running across all tracks and days of the programme.

In addition to paying visits to numerous exhibitions over the course of the Congress, the delegation also attended a number of Conference sessions focusing on:

- Available technologies to drive the global energy transition. In response to climate change, new energy sources are emerging, and power producers must transform in a world that is seeking more robust security, higher efficiency, and a greener future. Energy transformation digital journeys, coupled with innovative green development options were shared.



- Accelerating the digital journey of education where it was acknowledged that the educational sector is well on its way towards digital transformation by drawing on the latest technologies such as cloud computing, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and so forth. Ideas on how to build smart campuses were shared.
- Industry digital transformation experts presented on digital transformation developments in the government and public service sector from a global perspective, shared relevant practices and achievements, conveyed national digital infrastructure concepts, and presented the evolution path and digital transformation solutions of specific business scenarios. The Minister of Utility and Telecommunications for Malaysia noted, for example, that they are focusing more on digital implementation in rural areas such as Sarawak because coverage is already better in urban areas. To achieve this, they developed a Post Covid-19 Development Strategy. The Digital Minister of Uganda emphasised that his government is edging closer towards mainly investing and building infrastructure, but they do it mostly in partnership with the private sector. In addition, a representative of Punto Vuela in Spain noted that their model is 100% public working through a consortium of local and provincial governments to look after, and maintain the digital infrastructure.
- Accelerating Change through smarter, greener finance where the focus was on how the finance sector is transforming through innovation and its pursuit of the ultimate customer experience. For instance, financial institutions are developing secure digital services through data-driven transformation to optimise customer digital engagement and experience across all points. The Chief Innovation Officer of DBS Bank highlighted how they are extending leadership by advocating and using technologies such as cloud, Blockchain, AI, and tech hubs, as well as Site Reliability Engineering (SRE). The CEO of Qorus cautioned that if financial services institutions do not adapt to the so-called subscription economy age, that they might face closure in the near future. He used Discovery Bank in South Africa as a good example of a financial service provider adapting quick, and winning awards for its efforts. The director of Innovation at Caixa Bank listed the Bank's innovation goals as the early adoption of new technologies, driving innovation in its digital channels, and guaranteeing the impact of innovation throughout the organisation. The Information Communication and Technology Director of Itau Bank stressed its ability to technologically adapting, innovating and rapidly changing as part of its success approach.
- e-Government, for example, the Deputy of Innovation of the Alicante Provincial Government presented on how they are using e-services to improve service efficiency and public experience. Their attempts include one leading government network; full connectivity for all concerned; AI, and putting security systems in place as related to cybersecurity.
- Simplified Networks, Building a Digital Foundation for the Ultimate Experience where trends in multi-cloud and hybrid work were explored with a focus on simplified architecture and ultimate experience. During his presentation on key trends shaping the networking market, Christian Canales from Gartner for example argued that enterprises who want to create a cloud-inspired experience in their data centre require tools such as higher levels of automation, orchestration and security. Also, hybrid work is becoming the norm, and for this reason, organisations must rightsize wired LAN investment in their efforts to prioritise Wi-Fi, and work from home connectivity.

Furthermore, in response to a request by the Executive Mayor, the delegation conducted in-market research and site visits in Barcelona focusing on examples of best practices as related to public open spaces, and parks, as well as squares. The rationale was to gauge Barcelona's approach concerning the above-mentioned, and to contemplate how this approach could either be modified for, or duplicated in Cape Town and its suburbs and areas. Some of the examples included the Olympic Complex Park, Arc de Triomf Plaza, Barcelona Cathedral Square, Barcelona Beach Public Open Space (for skating, cycling, jogging, sitting down); and Park of the Labyrinth of Horta.

## 10. ANNEXURES

### FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT:

DATE			
NAME	Lungelo Mbandazayo	CONTACT NUMBER	021 400 1331
E-MAIL ADDRESS	Amanda.Naidoo@capetown.gov.za		
DIRECTORATE	OCM	FILE REF NO	
SIGNATURE :	 Digitally signed by Lungelo Mbandazayo Date: 2023.03.10 18:33:56 +02'00'		

**MANAGER: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**COMMENT:**

Actions for completion noted.

DR. DENVER VAN SCHALKWYK

SIGNATURE: Dr Denver van Schalkwyk  
 DATE

Digitally signed by Dr  
 Denver van Schalkwyk  
 Date: 2023.03.11  
 12:40:50 +02'00'

Joan-  
 Mari Holt

Digitally signed by  
 Joan-Mari Holt  
 Date: 2023.03.13  
 07:50:23 +02'00'

☐ REPORT COMPLIANT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL'S DELEGATIONS, POLICIES, BY-LAWS AND ALL LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION.

**LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

☐ NON-COMPLIANT

**COMMENT:**

NAME

Certified as legally compliant based on the contents of the report.

TEL

DATE

15/03/23

*[Signature]*

EXECUTIVE MAYOR



NOTED



REFER TO THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE

DATE

COMMENT: