



Logistics Division

Department:
Defence

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CALL FOR MILITARY HERITAGE SYMPOSIUM EXHIBITORS

Castle of Good Hope, Cape Town, South Africa

28 – 29 October 2025

Dear Heritage Colleague

The South African National Defense Force (SANDF) is hosting its inaugural Military Heritage Symposium at the Castle of Good Hope from 28 – 29 October 2025. Chief Logistics, Vice-Admiral D.M. Mkhonto, in partnership with the Centre for Military Studies (CEMIS) of the Faculty for Military Science of Stellenbosch University, will be hosting the symposium.

A broad heritage exhibition will complement the Military Heritage Symposium, offering stakeholders in the heritage industry an opportunity to exhibit both products and services to symposium attendees and the general public. You are invited to showcase and promote your services or products, in addition to networking with other heritage practitioners; or attend and participate as part of the heritage audience in the proceedings at the academic and scientific symposium.

Attendance at both the symposium and exhibition is free. However, exhibitors are expected to provide their own equipment (seating, table, gazebo etc) for the duration of the 2-day event. Allocation of stands will be done strictly on the first-come-first-served basis and other criteria which may depend on the nature of your requirements and the ability of the Castle to satisfy them. More information will be provided once all the submissions of expression of interest have been received.



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SYMPOSIUM DETAIL

Theme: *Sustainable Military Heritage - Preparing in the Present for the Future*

Militaries, traditionally, are the owners of a vast portfolio of prized property – both movable and immovable. Managing the military heritage environment - an activity other than war - to the benefit of both the military and the general public is, however, a challenging undertaking. Resource constraints in particular and the lack of appropriate professional competence to manage this environment appropriately, is of specific concern and is a global challenge. These developments, collectively, have created significant interest in the scientific study and preservation, as well as for the promotion of military history and heritage, and its value for national identity and social cohesion. Furthermore, the role of communities in participative governance and in civil-military relations has become an important part of national life.

According to the 2015 Defence Review, the South African Department of Defence committed itself to considering entering into joint ventures with developers and conservation / heritage organisations in an effort to minimise the cost of managing its vast range of heritage assets and to improve defence infrastructure without drawing on additional state funds.



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Broad Topics (non- exhaustive):

Focus 1: Governance & Strategic Management of Military Heritage

- Military Heritage and Integrated Environmental Management
- Co-governance of Military Heritage Sites and Buildings
- Military Heritage Conservation: Challenges and Solutions
- Funding of Military Heritage
- Veterans and Military Heritage
- Military Museums, Archives and the Digital Age
- Military Heritage and Force Preparation
- Military Heritage and Sustainable Development Goals

Focus 2: Implementation: The Sights and Sounds of Military Heritage

- Heraldry and Military Heritage
- Intangible Military History
- Hidden Histories and Oral Histories
- Historic Military Environment Education & Literacy
- Music and the Military
- Visual Art and the Military
- The Military Built Environment
- Military Sport Heritage
- Military Heritage Entrepreneurship
- Graves, Remembrance and Commemoration

Submissions of Expressions of Interest and enquiries can be directed to:

- E-mail: **cemis@ sun.ac.za**
- Deadline: **12 September 2025**
- Feedback on applications: **22 September 2025**



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