

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Buffalo City Municipality to host international waste conference**

Buffalo City is hoping it will finally put an end to the thorny challenge of waste management when its host delegates from Southern Africa in an international waste management conference.

BCM in partnership with the Netherlands Association of Municipalities (VNG) will be hosting the conference at the East London City Hall from 09 -12 November 2010.

The City has just introduced a R1; 9 million street litter bins roll out and also released a revived refuse collection schedule in efforts to consolidate challenges around waste management.

We also have closed down the Second Creek dump site following several challenges over the years with BCM Council recently (October 26) approving a housing project of over 200 houses.

The conference will be attended by waste management representatives from international and local authorities such as the Dutch City of Leiden and, Namibia (Windhoek), Kenya (Lilongwe) and Lesotho (Maseru); and from municipalities across the country.

Themed: "Let's talk waste"; the conference aims at unpacking, evaluating and sharing experiences and mapping the way forward for waste management projects funded by VNG international in various local authorities across African countries including South Africa.

According to BCM Solid Waste Management General Manager Yoliswa Sinyanya the conference will bring invaluable benefits to BCM efforts of reducing waste management backlog.

"We will be sharing ideas and experience with our international counter-parts on ways and methods to improve service delivery " adds Sinyanya.

Also attending will key waste management policy-makers from the national department of Water Affairs and Environmental services, department of Co-operative Government and Provincial department of Economic Affairs and Environmental Services.

In 2006, BCM and the Netherlands' City of Leiden launched a Sustainable Waste Project in Duncan Village which includes waste management awareness programmes and the construction of drop-off points.

Delegates will be visiting various waste management sites in the city including plastic recycle plant, glass collectors and landfill site. (See programme attached)

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