

# REGIONAL NEWS

## SOUTHERN AFRICA

### Editorial

Dear readers,

I would like to invite you to support this very important petition: The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) demands that the Federal Council and parliament make electronic voting available to all Swiss abroad by 2021. For us in Southern Africa this is especially important, because the voting documentation very often arrives too late, due to our poor local postal service. I find it highly frustrating not to be able to use my right as a Swiss citizen to participate in the voting and elections. Please see the article in this issue for details about the petition and how to sign it.

Happy reading,  
Gisela Piercey



GISELA PIERCEY,  
EDITOR SWISS REVIEW  
SOUTHERN AFRICA

**New Swiss Ambassador to Zimbabwe and Malawi accredited**  
Niculin Jäger is the new Swiss Ambassador to Zimbabwe and Malawi and has pledged to strengthen existing bilateral relations between Switzerland and the two Southern African countries.

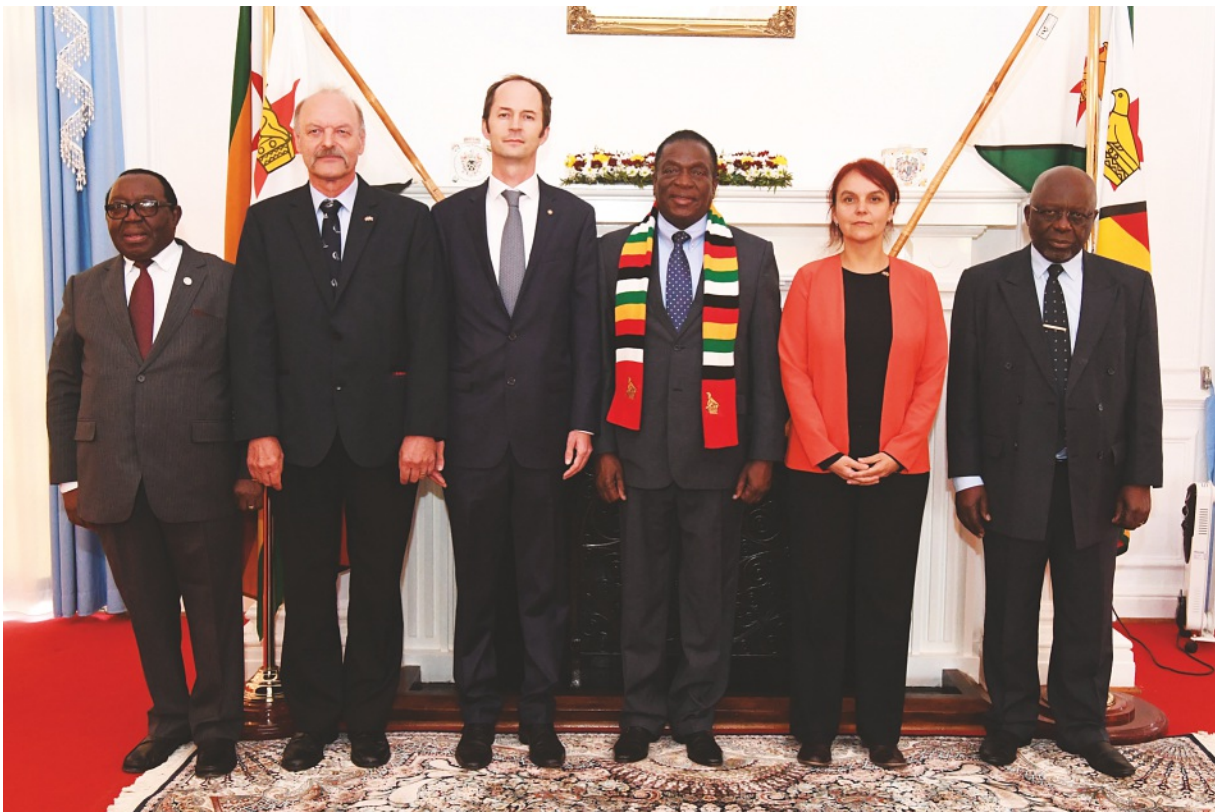
On presenting his credentials to the President of Zimbabwe, H.E. Emmerson Mnangagwa at the end

of June, Ambassador Jäger took special note of the excellent relations that have existed between Switzerland and Zimbabwe since the country got its independence in 1980.

“Our relations with Zimbabwe are excellent. We are a long standing partner and we recognised Zimbabwe right away

from independence and since then our relations have been maintained throughout the years. I think they are going to be further strengthened in the near future and one of the major focus will be in the economic field,” said Ambassador Jäger.

Ambassador Jäger said he is looking forward to enhancing



L-R: Zimbabwe Minister of Media, Information and Broadcasting Services, Simon Khaya Moyo; Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation Regional Director, Manuel Thurnhofer; Switzerland Ambassador to Zimbabwe and Malawi, Niculin Jäger; The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, H.E. Emmerson Mnangagwa; outgoing Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation Regional Director, Mrs. Juliane Ineichen and Zimbabwe's Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Joey Bimha during accreditation in Harare.

Swiss investments in Zimbabwe, while applauding the resilience of Swiss companies that have weathered the various economic challenges and have remained open providing the much needed employment to the locals.

President Mnangagwa and Ambassador Jäger also deliberated on the President's recent visit to Davos during the World Economic Forum where he met with his Swiss counterpart; the Swiss Development Cooperation that has seen the relocation of the regional office from Pretoria, South Africa to Harare and the work that Switzerland is engaged in Zimbabwe, in the area of peace and democracy and elections among

others.

Ambassador Niculin succeeds H.E. Mrs. Ruth Huber, whose ambassadorial tour of duty in Zimbabwe and Malawi concluded in February 2018.

### **New Regional Director for Cooperation takes office**

The Swiss Development Agency for Cooperation (SDC) Southern Africa Regional Office based in Harare has a new Regional Director, Mr. Manuel Thurnhofer, who takes over from Mrs. Juliane Ineichen. Mr. Thurnhofer joins the Harare office from Angola where he has been leading the Development Cooperation.

### **Communication to the Swiss Residents in Namibia**

**The Embassy of Switzerland in Pretoria is in charge of the bilateral diplomatic relations between the republic of Namibia and Switzerland. As from 1 September 2018, both diplomatic and consular matters will be centralized in Pretoria.**

Please contact the Regional Consular Centre for Southern Africa (RCC) for all consular related questions:

Regional Consular Center  
for Southern Africa  
225 Veale Street,  
New Muckleneuk  
0181 Pretoria

Tel. +27 12 452 06 60

E-mail:

[southernafrica@eda.admin.ch](mailto:southernafrica@eda.admin.ch)

The RCC team looks forward to providing the consular services to you in the future.

### **Save the date for the 2019 Consular days in Maurice, Maputo and Windhoek**

**The Regional Consular Centre for Southern Africa (RCC) in Pretoria is pleased to inform that it will hold consultation days as follows:**

*Maurice:*

Monday 11th and

Tuesday 12th March 2019

*Maputo:*

Tuesday 19th March 2019

*Windhoek:*

Thursday 28th March 2019

Swiss citizens will have the opportunity to discuss consular matters and apply for a Swiss passport and an identity card as we will have a mobile passport station to capture the biometric data. If you would like take this opportunity to meet us, please contact the RCC by e-mail at [southernafrica@eda.admin.ch](mailto:southernafrica@eda.admin.ch) until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

We look forward to meeting you and to bring consular services to your neighbourhood.



Daniela Brugger is in South Africa for six months.

### **Swiss artist in residence in Johannesburg**

**Daniela Brugger ([www.danielabrugger.ch](http://www.danielabrugger.ch)) is an artist based in Basel and is in South Africa until December 2018 for a six-month residency between Johannesburg and Cape Town in collaboration with Basel-based residency organisation, Atelier Mondial (<http://www.ateliermondial.com/en/home.html>).**

Within her trans-disciplinary work Daniela Brugger focuses on structures of society, investigating its forms and contents. Her works often include supposedly known situations, objects and material and concentrates on the ambivalence within the seemingly familiar. Her art practice involves different media such as installation, video, writing, drawing, performance and collaborative projects. During her

time in South Africa she will be exploring collaborations within feminist and self-organised networks and wants to develop a new body of work.

Brugger studied art education (BA) at the ZHdK (Zurich University of the Arts) and Fine Arts (MFA, Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst) in Basel. She has worked as an educator in several institutions, self-organised art- and socio-cultural projects and was co-director of Ausstellungssaal Klingental in Basel.

She is founder of Who writes his\_tory?, a collaborative project that questions and works against structural discrimination online and specifically on Wikipedia.

## Petition: Electronic Voting for all Swiss Abroad

The Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) is a private foundation founded in 1916, which represents the interests of the 751,800 Swiss abroad. It is launching a petition calling for the introduction of electronic voting for all Swiss abroad by 2021. Often, because the voting documentation arrives too late, the Swiss abroad cannot participate in the voting and elections.

This petition aims to enable the 172,100 Swiss people around the world registered on an electoral register to exercise their political rights.

The OSA hopes that at least 10,000 signatories will support the petition. The petition can be signed until 28 November 2018 and will be submitted to the Federal Chancellery on 30 November 2018.

Find out more about the starting point and the justification

of the petition: <https://www.evoting2021.ch/text.html>

### Objective of the petition

To give Swiss abroad who are eligible to vote the possibility to participate in elections and ballots, respectively to exercise their political rights, which is often not possible due to the late delivery of the necessary documents. On 4.3.2018, 172,100 Swiss abroad were registered in a voting register, which corresponds with the electorate of the canton of Thurgau.

### Who may sign the petition?

The Federal Constitution provides for a petition right: «Every person has the right to send petitions to the authorities; this may not result in any disadvantages.» Therefore, the petition can be signed by every person, irrespective of their age, sex, nationality or place of residence (in Switzerland or abroad).

## Swiss Club info

### SWISS CLUB IN JOHANNESBURG:

Swiss Society Helvetia, 31 Moerdyk Ave, Vorna Valley, Midrand, Chairman: Mario Valli, 082 451 8040; office: Max Waspe 083 412 0161, T 0118053039, [www.swissclubjhb.co.za](http://www.swissclubjhb.co.za), Swiss Country Club Rest. «The Courier», Wolfgang Wollauz, T/F 0118053040, C 0825610063, Tue-Sat 11-21h30 Rest./kitchen, 11-24h Bar, Sun 10-17h, T/F 011 805 3040, C 082561 0063, [www.dining-out.co.za](http://www.dining-out.co.za) «The Courier».

Please visit our website for information and updates on events at the club.

Our Clubs of Society: Afro Gugge, Amicale Suisse Romande, Boccia, Skittling Club. Associated Groups: Swiss Choir, Swiss Rifle Club, Swiss Golf, G.S.N.A. Senior Swiss Circle meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month for Lunch. Swiss Ladies meet every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month for lunch. Swiss Rifle Club Johannesburg: We shoot every 4th Sat of the month, from 9am. We normally shoot two different programs, with Swiss rifles, provided by the club. Visit our Facebook site or call Daniel: 082-5699146.

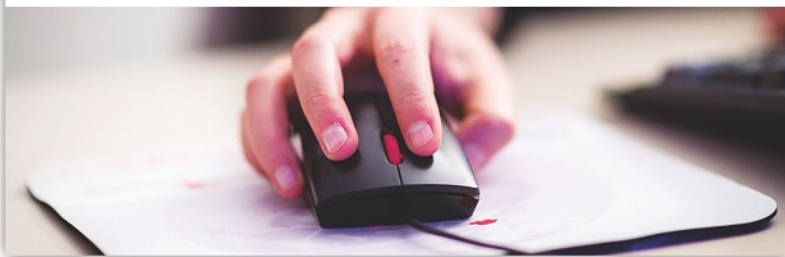
### SWISS CLUB IN PRETORIA:

Swiss Society Alpina, Hans-Georg Bosch, President, T 0123478310, C0825510222, [swissclub.pta@hbosch.com](mailto:swissclub.pta@hbosch.com),

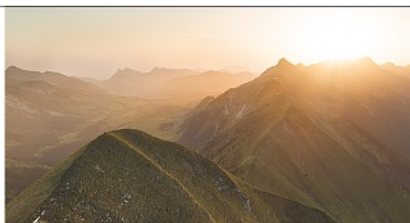
## Online Petition E-Voting



Sign the Online Petition  
«Electronic Voting for all Swiss Abroad»  
now on [www.evoting2021.ch](http://www.evoting2021.ch).



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## IMPRESSUM

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NEXT DEADLINES - 2018

Issue	Next Deadline	Distribution
SR 01/19	22/12/2019	31/01/2019

FOR ADDRESS CHANGES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICIAL SWISS REPRESENTATION IN YOUR COUNTRY DIRECTLY.

Biffy van Rooyen, Secretary  
[bvrooyen@gmail.com](mailto:bvrooyen@gmail.com) Facebook  
 group: Swiss Club Alpina.  
 The Year End Function on 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 November is to be held at the the  
 Church Hall of the  
 Johannesgemeinde (adjacent to  
 the Deutsche Schule Pretoria).

**SWISS CLUB IN CAPE TOWN:**

Swiss Social&Sports Club, Green  
 Point Common, Off Bill Peters  
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 T 0214348405

[www.swissclub.co.za](http://www.swissclub.co.za)

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 921 7729 VICE PRESIDENT/

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 C 083 297 3803.

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[aso@swissclub.co.za](mailto:aso@swissclub.co.za),  
[catering@swissclub.co.za](mailto:catering@swissclub.co.za)

C 076 389 7824

To receive the “newsflash” contact  
 the club at  
[catering@swissclub.co.za](mailto:catering@swissclub.co.za) or on  
 0214348405.

The Swiss club Cape Town is open  
 for dinner every Thursday  
 evening. Every 1st Thursday of the  
 month is Pensioner's Lunch. Join  
 the Swiss Jass players every LAST  
 thursday of the month.

There is much more happening at  
 our club, meeting friends, host a

party, club events etc. For more  
 information, please send an email  
 to: [info@swissclub.co.za](mailto:info@swissclub.co.za)

**SWISS CLUB NATAL:**

President Philippe Lanz  
 C 082 4932673, T 031 765 1625,  
[p.lanz@absamail.co.za](mailto:p.lanz@absamail.co.za)

JASS EVENINGS held second  
 Friday of every month at the  
 LAPA, Ethelbert Village,

5 Park Road, Malvern at 7 pm  
 commencing 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018.

SPORT TARGET SHOOTING – held  
 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every  
 month (weather permitting) at  
 0830 am commencing 27<sup>th</sup>  
 October, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 December, 2018.

BENVIE OPEN GARDENS,  
 HOWICK – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>  
 September 2018– 0930 am

followed by lunch at the  
 Yellowwood Restaurant.

YEAR END FUNCTION – Sunday  
 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 11 am –

Krantzkloof. PRIZE JASSEN – 14<sup>th</sup>  
 December 2018 – 6 pm the LAPA,  
 Ethelbert Village, 5 Park Road,

Malvern. SWISS FILM EVENING  
 and supper – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January  
 2019 at Augusta Estate, Gillitts.

AGM – 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019. All future  
 events/outings (for October,  
 November 2018 & January,  
 February 2019) will be listed as  
 soon as possible.

For more up-to-date information  
 regarding times/venues/

directions, any changes, please  
 visit our WEBSITE –

[www.swissclubnatal.org.za](http://www.swissclubnatal.org.za)

**SWISS CLUB PORT ELIZABETH:**

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 C0823214693, T w 0413671422;  
 Heidi Schultes, secretary,  
 C0613696598

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**SWISS CLUB IN MAURITIUS:**

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[pyroten@mac.com](mailto:pyroten@mac.com), [www.swiss-](http://www.swiss-club-mu.com)

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