



Paraffin Safety Association
Southern Africa

For immediate release

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It's time to review strategies around Household Energy Safety

The Paraffin Safety Association is calling all role-players and community organisations to a Household Energy Safety Seminar to be held at the University of Cape Town, this **Sunday, August 31, 2008** to collectively come and review what has worked and what can be done to effectively address challenges around Household Energy Safety in our beloved country, South Africa.

The ultimate goal of this Seminar is to come up with an advocacy programme aimed at lobbying government around establishing an education programme on household energy safety, increase resources at the various burn units, mandatory counselling services for fire and ingestion survivors and tackle the employability issues of burn survivors and other related issues.

This Seminar links with the International Society for Violence and Injury Prevention's Children and Injuries conference taking place at the same venue from September 01 – 03, 2008. The major aim of this conference is to bring together all people who carry at heart the wish to make the world a safer place for children and are prepared to make a difference. According to the ISVIP conference organisers, Violence and Injury prevention can only be achieved by collaborative involvement and effort of all role players: Society itself, Policy Makers, NGO's and Scientists. It is envisaged that the ISVIP conference will produce clear and founding guidelines regarding child injury and violence prevention globally but also specific for Sub-Saharan Africa. The Managing Director of the Paraffin Safety Association's Patrick Kulati says: "Recently we made a submission on the National Energy Bill during their public hearings in parliament. This submission was heavily drawn from the declaration of policy proposals agreed to during our Household Energy Summits held across the country in 2007".

Along with all the experts that have been invited to this Seminar, speakers will include Prof. Sebastian Van As, National President of CHILDSAFE, the country's largest advocacy group for child accident prevention and senior management from the Association drawing back from the Experts Forum held in Cape Town and Gauteng in 2004. Mr. Patrick Kulati concluded by saying: "I hope that the interactions, collaborations and deliberations that this event generates will ensure that people's views are included in any energy policy process that would impact heavily on them"

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