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INDABA 2008 SURPASSES ALL RECORDS

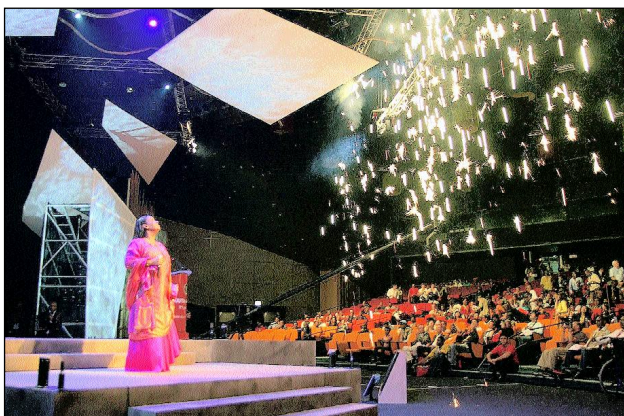
INDABA – Africa’s top travel trade show – ended on groundbreaking note again this year at Durban’s International Convention Centre, having surpassed all records. New benchmarks were not only set in terms of delegate numbers and exhibitors, but in the publicity stakes and in terms of scale with an

unprecedented number of fringe events in and around greater Durban. The most high-profile event was the first World Travel Awards Africa Ceremony to be held on the continent. It was one of four awards events to take place during Indaba, which also included SA Tourism’s Welcome

Awards, and the AA Travel Guide Accommodation Awards. Additional highlights during Indaba were the ever-popular annual Indaba Beach Party at New Beach on Durban’s Golden Mile, the Indaba opening ceremony and Indaba’s annual Global Media Face-Off, which was hosted this year by CNN anchor Fionnuala

Sweeney and dealt with the hot topic of 2010. South African Tourism, the ICC Durban and KwaZulu-Natal can look forward to an even bigger and better Indaba next year, with the 2009 Fifa Confederations Cup and the 2010 Fifa World Cup on the horizon. But let’s not forget that with Emirates flying directly

to Durban from December – the positive impact on Indaba will be felt, with more international Indaba delegates having the easy option of coming through the burgeoning travel hub Dubai to Indaba in May. Planning for Indaba 2009 has already started. See you in Durban next year. – Suren Naidoo

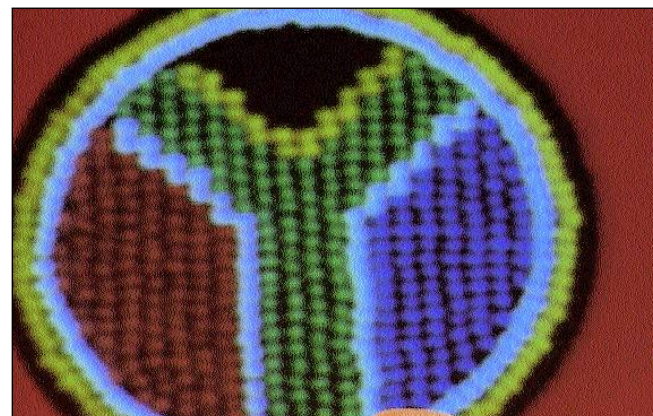


PICTURES: SUREN NAIDOO

SOUTH African songbird Vicky Sampson enralls the audience at the opening ceremony of Indaba 2008 at the ICC, with her hit song *African Dream*



WORLD Travel Awards president Graham Cooke and Manon Han, executive vice-president, World Travel Awards, outside the ICC Durban ahead of the World Travel Awards Africa Ceremony on Monday



SOUTH African Tourism chief executive officer Moeketsi Mosola delivers an address at the Indaba in the opening ceremony on Saturday



THE ICC Durban’s state-of-the-art auditorium is packed for the Indaba opening ceremony



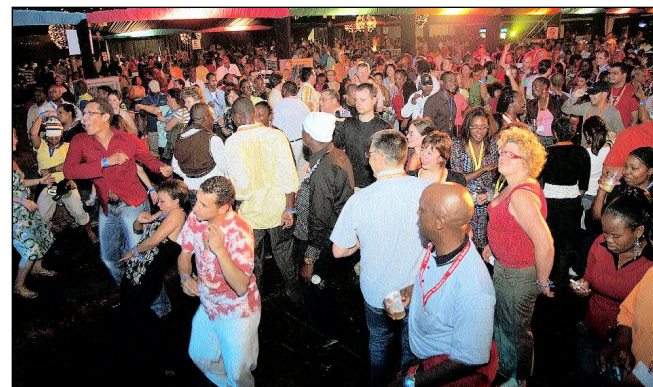
Fairy lights adorn the massive tent for the colourful and festive Indaba beach party



REJOICE Mabudafhasi, deputy minister of environmental affairs and tourism, (right, in black shirt) chats to Durban Africa acting CEO Perry Moodley at the Durban stand at Indaba, during her walkabout on Saturday. In the background (centre) is Sindlile Xulu, South Africa country manager of SA Tourism, and SA Tourism CEO Moeketsi Mosola



DANNY Jordaan, chief executive of the local organising committee of the 2010 Fifa World Cup in South Africa, speaks at the Indaba Global Media Face Off press conference on the country’s preparations for the showpiece event. With Jordaan is SA Tourism boss Moeketsi Mosola and Nozopho January-Bardill, group executive, corporate affairs at MTN



ABOUT 10 000 Indaba delegates from around the world descend on New Beach on Durban’s Golden Mile for the popular annual Indaba beach party. Here the dance floor is packed with revellers

World Travel Awards Africa Winners

- Africa’s Leading Airline – South African Airways
- Africa’s Leading Airport – O R Tambo International Airport, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Travel Exhibition – Indaba
- Africa’s Leading Tourism Agency – South African Tourism
- Africa’s Leading Boutique Hotel – Saxon Boutique Hotel & Spa, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Business Hotel – Conrad Cairo, Egypt
- Africa’s Leading Car Hire – Europcar

- Africa’s Leading Casino Resort – D’Oreale Grande at Emperors Palace, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Conference Centre – International Convention Centre Durban, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Conference Hotel – JW Marriott Hotel Cairo, Egypt
- Africa’s Leading Conservation Company – Shamwari Game Reserve, SA
- Africa’s Leading Destination

- Cape Town
- Africa’s Leading Golf Resort – The Palmeraie Golf Palace, Morocco
- Africa’s Leading Hotel – Mount Nelson Hotel, SA
- Africa’s Leading Hotel Brand – Sun International
- Africa’s Leading Luxury Lodge – Thanda Private Game Reserve, KZN, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Resort – Sun City Resort, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Safari –

- Shamwari Game Reserve, SA
- Africa’s Leading Safari Lodge – Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Spa Resort – Pezula Resort Hotel & Spa, SA
- Africa’s Leading Suite – Nelson Mandela Platinum Suite, Saxon Boutique Hotel & Spa, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Travel Agency – Club Travel, South Africa
- Africa’s Leading Villa –

Queen Cleopatra Villa, Savoy Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

World Travel Awards South African Winners:

- SA’s Leading Boutique Hotel – Saxon Boutique Hotel & Spa
- South Africa’s Leading Safari Lodge – Thanda Private Game Reserve, KZN
- South Africa’s Leading Business Hotel – The Westin Grand Cape Town Arabella Quays
- SA’s Leading Golf Resort – Fancourt Hotel & Country Club
- SA’s Leading Hotel – Cape Grace
- South Africa’s Leading Resort – Sun City Resort

World Travel Award Winners