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- The article should represent an original contribution to the current knowledge in the subject field AND/OR provide a comprehensive review of the current body of knowledge.
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## **Editorial**

The African Journal of Public Affairs endeavours to represent public administrative and managerial views from across Africa and beyond. Therefore, the articles usually represent authors from a variety of countries and intellectual diversities. However, as Africa is an integral part of the world, articles are also included from other countries to enable scholars to establish best practice research from e.g. Asia, the USA, Canada, India and Malaysia are also made available.

The annual conference of the *International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration* held in Bangkok, Thailand during July 2012 was used as an opportunity to solicit articles from papers read to represent some of the most recent research on various matters concerning public administration and management.

The discipline of Public Administration and Management has made great strides since the article by Woodrow Wilson: *The study of Administration,* published in 1887. Developments included the addition of Management to the area of study. During the 1970s, New Public Management was proposed as a cure to the bureaucratic tendencies which hampered the efficiency of public services. It proved to be not a solution to the problem due to the unique character of the public sector as an administrative *system* is a prerequisite for any management technique to be successfully implemented. Thus the core discipline was again emphasised. During the 1980s, *governance* was hailed as the *panacea* for the public sector's maladies and its efforts to meet the needs of contemporary society. Again public administration proved to be the framework required to allow governance to be successfully implemented within the public sector terrain. Thus, contributions to the different areas of the domain of public administration, captured under the umbrella of *public affairs* are included to represent the entire spectrum of the Discipline of Public Administration.

In this issue articles cover inter alia: the malady of corruption in Uganda as dealt with in the two articles by Atukwasa, Basheka and Gadenya as well as the one by Basheka, Nagitta and Namara proved to be enlightening and substantive. Nhede's contribution concerns the challenges facing Zimbabwean public administration due to the inability of the Government of National Unity (GNU) to resolve its political differences. Tshiyoyo investigated the possibility of a novel approach to leadership, governance imperatives and policy issues by considering servant-hood as a possible approach to address conflict issues on the continent of Africa. Kuye and Sheroaj investigated the future role of South Africa as an African Giant Tiger which could enter the world economy by exploring exigencies in the acquisition of viable and delegated skills capacity. Nkwana added to the discourse on leadership by investigating the role of leadership in developmental local government. Madumo added to the debate on the same topic by contextualising leadership challenges in municipalities from a developmental perspective and Ile examined the role of leadership in monitoring and evaluation in the South African public service. Mthethwa wrote on the advantages of transformational leadership as a style suitable for the South African public service. Matsunami added a new dimension to leadership by explaining the advantages that Japan has experienced as a result of municipal managers remaining in office for relatively long periods. Koma and Thornhill with Dlamini focussed on policy and the role of municipal councillors in South Africa while Saloojee contributed with an international perspective on the implications of the developmental state on local government. Fourie also focussed on local government by emphasising the need for effective financial management. The two authors Holtzhausen and Van Dijk both dealt with education, the need for competence in the public service and employability of graduates. Kruger promoted quality management for the public sector and Malan added the need for effective intergovernmental relations as a requirement for effective and efficient public services.

J O Kuye Chief Editor

