



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**20 November 2025**

### **The City of Johannesburg Demonstrates World-Class Disaster Preparedness for G20 Summit 2025**

The City of Johannesburg (CoJ) is poised to host one of the most significant global gatherings, the G20 Summit, which will take place at the NASREC precinct from 22 to 23 November 2025. This milestone event marks South Africa's tenure as G20 chair and underscores the CoJ's reputation as the country's economic hub and a vital corridor for business across Africa.

The build-up to the summit has been characterised by a series of impactful side and parallel events designed to foster inclusive dialogue and collaboration. Among these were the G20 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Conference held in July 2025, as well as U20 and B20 engagements, which brought together urban leaders, business communities, citizens, and youth. These initiatives reflect the city and South Africa's commitment to addressing global challenges through multi-stakeholder participation.

As part of its preparations, the city's Office of the Chief Operations Officer has prioritised safety and disaster resilience in line with the Disaster Management Centre's strategic objectives. The Centre developed a comprehensive contingency plan informed by strategic risk registers and emerging international risks. This proactive approach ensures the city is prepared to manage potential disruptions during the summit.

In alignment with the Safety at Sports and Recreational Events Act 2 of 2010, as the legislation of first instance, Disaster Management collaborated closely with the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) to conduct two full-scale dry runs. These exercises tested operational readiness and coordination among and with key stakeholders. Following the final dry run on November 15, 2025, the NASREC precinct was declared sterile, confirming the venue's security integrity.

Central to the summit's operational framework is the Venue Operations Centre (VOC), led by an authorised member and supported by the Event Safety and Security Committee, which includes the Disaster Management team. This structure ensures real-time decision-making and rapid response capabilities throughout the event.

Complementing these efforts, the Sandton Disaster Management Centre has activated its Disaster Operations Centre Joint Operations Committee (JOC). This multi-agency platform brings together critical stakeholders and city departments and entities, including City Power, Joburg Water, Joburg Roads Agency, Pikitup, Emergency Medical Services from both Gauteng Province and the CoJ, and Group Risk Assurance Services. The JOC serves as the

nerve centre for monitoring, coordination, and communication, reinforcing the city's ability to maintain essential services and respond effectively to any incidents.

The CoJ's preparations for the G20 Summit exemplify its standing as a world-class African city capable of hosting events of global significance. Through meticulous planning, robust partnerships, and unwavering commitment to safety, the city is ready to welcome international leaders and delegates for discussions that will shape the future of global cooperation.

As the summit unfolds, the CoJ will not only showcase its public safety and disaster readiness, as well as its logistical and operational excellence, but also reaffirm its role as a gateway for economic growth and innovation on the continent. The city's disaster readiness reflects a broader vision of resilience, inclusivity, and progress, which values that resonate far beyond the summit itself.

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