

## ***A short personal profile of G J R Coetzee – current lead scientist at SAWS.***

*Mr Gerrie Coetzee (born on 21 December 1956 in Durban) joined the South African Service during December 1973, at the age of 16 years (early Dec 1973), as a learner technician at the Durban Weather Office. BSc-meteorology degree at the University of Pretoria, which were completed in 1980.*

*During his third year of university studies Mr Coetzee was promoted to a Meteorological Technician due to the gaining of sufficient practical and theoretical experience. For the period 1980 until April 1983 the officer was trained and assigned as a weather forecaster in the central forecasting office in Pretoria.*

*In May 1983, Mr Coetzee resigned to take up a post as meteorologist at a subsidiary company called Kentron Circle, (Advena), ARMSCOR (later Denel). He became a chief scientist of - specialisation in meteorology with regards to the RSA's Nuclear Meteorology Warfare and Development. Company was shut down completely by the Government and Mr. Coetzee and many others was retrenched and hence applied for a post at the Weather Service. – June 1992.*

*As meteorologist the officer was responsible for the Weather Services ozone monitoring and research work since June 1992. , Assistant director during 1994. Deputy Director: Climate Research and GAW on 1 January 1996. (Serving the GAW and RGSCS Groups) . Major Achievements in the past: -*

*During the late 90's and early 2000's he served as the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change - IPCC Focal Point. He was also a Steering Committee member of the South African Antarctic Research Program –SANAP.*

*Mr. Coetzee served on the SASAS council during 1995/1996 and during 2002/03. During all these years he always actively participated in SASAS events.*

*He was a member of the International Ozone Commission 2000 - 2008.*

*Certificate received from, USA, NASA Group Award for being a PI in the SHADOZ program (1997- until present)*

*In 2001 appointed by the Minister of Environmental Affairs to preside as co-main Project Evaluator of the international Southern African Fire Initiative – SAFARI2000 field campaign.*

*Certificate of Appreciation from UNEP 2013, for ongoing Ozone Work (Dobson total Ozone, Ozone soundings, UV monitoring) since 1992, such as 1) Ozone assessment Panel Inputs 2010 and also in 2000 co-author of a sub chapter. 2) Being the Reporteur for Africa on UNEP O3 Research Manager Meetings (5 meetings for 15 years have been attended in this period)*

*Remaining a WMO Dobson Ad Hoc member for OZONE Scientific Advisory Group and still a member of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Dobson Ozone Spectrophotometer Ad Hoc Working Group.*

*Mr. Coetzee also served as a member of the WMO JSSC OPAG EPAG (2006-2008)*

*Since the appointment of Senior Scientist on 1 December 2008, Mr Coetzee has returned towards a scientific working sphere with specialisation in Ozone and UVB. He is also tried to assist to address solar radiation matters in the past and was the master mind behind the initiation of the current Solys Solar network of the SAWS until 2012, but focus now remains on ozone matters and some UV radiation work. Mr Coetzee is currently busy training many new scientist over the last few years.*

*Mr G JR Coetzee was elected as the WMO/UNEP Co chair for the 2013 [9ORM] Ozone Research Managers meeting, as well as the 10ORM in 2017 and served until the 11<sup>th</sup> ORM in July 2021. He also served during this time on the Advisory Committee of the UN Vienna Convention Trust Fund.*

*Finally mentioning. He is retiring end 2021 and his almost fifty years of meteorological career has been excellent and he would take it all over one thousand times.*

Gert Johannes Rudolph Coetzee – November 2021