ASSOCIATION FOR MONITORING AND ADVOCACY OF GOVERNMENT PENSIONS (AMAGP)

Website – <https://www.amagp.co.za>

The above association is officially registered as a Non-Profit Organisation. The organisation aims to help protect members of the Government Pension Fund (GEPF)'s pension benefits. AMAGP is sincerely concerned about the sustainability of the GEPF and that members' legitimate interests are protected throughout.  
The Association is composed of voluntary members (pensioned and serving government employees) of the GEPF. National Management is responsible for managing the organization and is backed by supporting structures responsible for media, legal, financial, information and administrative matters.  
The Association studies a wide range of information available across a wide front, and through value adding, meaningful studies are completed and conclusions about the management of the GEPF by the Board of Trustees are made. Although the interests of the members are protected by law, there is a concern in the current economic order that the GEPF's sustainability may be compromised. Injudicious investments and even the risk of state capture are risks that threaten the fund. Those cases that indicate unacceptable risk are analysed in depth and questions asked from, or points of view are made to, the GEPF Council. If such questions are not answered satisfactorily, stakeholders will work together to give impetus to the matter. In many cases the concerns or points of view are promoted via the media and also political representatives to Parliamentary level.  
The Association does not intend to compete with any trade union or to pilfer their members. On the contrary, the organization believes that, through cooperation with these institutions on members' retirement interests, such interests can be better protected. In this aspect, significant pioneering has already been done and much success achieved in wide sensitisation of organisations and individuals. A major breakthrough was the overall resistance to employing GEPF funds to serve as salvage for SAA.  
The Association is in its infancy and additional members are essential to support the pressure group in the important task for the benefit of its members, consisting of approximately 1,3 million serving government employees, and a further approximately 430 000 pensioners and their dependants. The more members that join AMAGP, the stronger our power will be to exert pressure for the protection of our pensions.

**ANTONIE VISSER  
CHAIRPERSON AMAGP**

VERENIGING VIR MONITERING EN VOORSPRAAK VAN STAATSWERKNEMERS PENSIOENE (AMAGP)

Webblad - <https://www.amagp.co.za>

Die akroniem vir die Engelse titel van die Vereniging, AMAGP (ASSOCIATION FOR MONITORING AND ADVOCACY FOR GOVERNMENT PENSIONS), sal hierna gebruik word. Verder sal die algemeen bekende akroniem, GEPF, vir die GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES PENSION FUND, gebruik word wanneer na die STAATSWERKNEMERS PENSIOENFONDS verwys word.  
Bogenoemde vereniging is amptelik geregistreer as ‘n Nie-Winsgewende Organisasie. Die organisasie het ten doel om lede van die Staatswerknemers Pensioenfonds (GEPF) se pensioenvoordele te help beskerm. AMAGP is opreg bekommerd oor die volhoubaarheid van die GEPF en dat lede se regmatige belang deurgaans beskerm word.  
Die Vereniging is saamgestel uit vrywillige lede (pensioenarisse en dienende staatswerknemers) van die GEPF. ‘n Nasionale Bestuur is oorhoofs verantwoordelik vir die bestuur van die organisasie en word gerugsteun deur ondersteunende strukture verantwoordelik vir media, regsaspekte, finansiële aspekte, informasie en administratiewe aangeleenthede.  
Die Vereniging bestudeer ‘n wye reeks van informasie beskikbaar oor ‘n wye front en deur waardetoevoeging word sinvolle studies voltooi en afleidings en gevolgtrekkings gemaak rakende die bestuur van die GEPF deur die Raad van Trustees. Alhoewel die lede se belang in die wet beskerm word, is daar ‘n ongemak in die huidige ekonomiese bestel dat die volhoubaarheid van die GEPF in gedrang kan wees. Onoordeelkundige beleggings en selfs die gevaar van staatskaping is risiko’s wat die GEPF bedreig. Die gevalle wat op onaanvaarbare risiko dui, word in diepte ontleed en daar word vrae en/of standpunte aan die GEPF Raad gestel. Indien sodanige vrae nie bevredigend beantwoord word nie, word daar met belanghebbende instansies saamgewerk om impetus aan die saak te gee. In baie gevalle word die bekommernisse of standpunte gepromulgeer deur die media en ook politieke verteenwoordigers tot op Parlementêre vlak.  
Die Vereniging het geensins ten doel om vir enige vakbond kompetisie te wees of om lede af te rokkel nie. Inteendeel, AMAGP glo dat deur samewerking met hierdie instansies oor lede se pensioenbelang, sodanige belang beter beskerm kan word. Op die terrein is daar alreeds baanbrekerswerk gedoen en is reeds baie bereik om sensitering te doen. ‘n Groot deurbraak was die algehele verset om GEPF fondse aan te wend om as reddingsboei vir SAL te dien.  
Die Vereniging is in sy kinderskoene, en addisionele lede is noodsaaklik om die drukgroep te ondersteun in die belangrike taak tot voordeel van sy lede wat bestaan uit ongeveer 1,3 miljoen staatswerknemers in diens, en ‘n verdere ongeveer 430 000 pensioenarisse en afhanklikes. Hoe meer lede by AMAGP aansluit, hoe sterker word ons vermoë om druk uit te oefen ter beskerming van ons pensioen.

**ANTONIE VISSER  
VOORSITTER AMAGP**