

## CUSTOMS CLAMPS DOWN ON ILLICIT ACTIVITIES IN THE SCRAP METAL INDUSTRY

Several recent news headline articles have reported on metal recyclers being guilty of contravening the International Trade Administration Act, 71 of 2002, and/or the Customs and Excise Act 91 of 1964; in respect of scrap metal exports.

This negative publicity is damaging to the reputation of the MRA which, as a SAPS accredited association responsible for regulating its members, strives to uphold a positive image of the sector. It is also most unfortunate that these news headlines have coincided with the MRA's present efforts to engage government in moderating ITAC's proposed scrap metal export duties, as gazetted on 18- Oct-2019.

Therefore, whilst membership of the MRA may be voluntary, adherence to the association's Code of Conduct is compulsory and the Executive Committee is obliged to initiate disciplinary proceedings, in terms of Section 21 of the MRA Constitution, against any member deemed to have contravened the Code of Conduct, which states the following:

1. To promote the image and standards of the MRA.
2. To trade in an ethical manner.
3. To provide safe and healthy working conditions.
4. To uphold the concept of free enterprise.
5. To trade in accordance with legislation.
6. To promote the preservation of the environment.
7. To counter the trade of illicit goods.
8. To co-operate with and assist all persons endeavouring to stop unlawful practices.
9. To supply consumers with raw material in accordance with accepted international specification standards.
10. To engage constructively with all stakeholders, including government offices.

In the event that a member is found to have contravened the MRA Code of Conduct, the Executive Committee will initiate disciplinary proceedings in terms of paragraph 21 of the MRA Constitution, which may result in that member being suspended, fined or expelled from the Association.

Sincerely, MRA Administration