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**In the picture: Kim Senogles, 1<sup>st</sup> runner up for the Miss Earth South Africa (in association with Consol), helping to feed an immature penguin at SANCCOB (Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds).**

This weekend is the Penguin Festival in Simons Town. The weekend is organized by SANParks: Boulders, Boulders Beach Lodge and SANCCOB. All proceeds will go towards helping SANCCOB continue their world-renowned work to save the vulnerable African penguin.

The weekend is kicked off with a "by-invite-only" auction hosted by the Boulders Beach Lodge. This will be a semi-formal semi-masked event that will be attended by Alderman Nicki Holderness, Simon Grindrod and Michelle Garforth will be Master of Ceremonies. The entertainment, food and auction promises to be a glamorous and a fantastic start to the Penguin Festival.

On Saturday and Sunday many activities will be offered that promise to keep the whole family entertained. These include, beach games (pop-a-balloon, sand castles, etc), face painting, kiddies rides, art competition, food for sale. Wonderful prizes are to be won by young and old!

The festival aims to make people aware of the plight of the African penguin. African penguins are endemic to South Africa. Their numbers have decreased drastically and conditions that influence their numbers negatively are still prevails. These negative factors include food shortages, oil spills and inadequate breeding ground. Research has shown that SANCCOB's rehabilitation efforts are making a considerable difference to conserve the African penguins.

Boulders Beach is very unique with the penguins that chose to live between the people. This weekend, the penguins rule in Simons Town. Join us as we celebrate the African penguin!

**END.**

**For further information, please contact:**

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***Board of Directors:** S Steward (Chairman), C McClelland (Treasurer), Adv. M Edmunds, A Moldan, S Ozinsky, Prof. L Underhill, Dr. C Nxomani, Dr. S Petersen, V Strauss (CEO).*