



Mr. Denis Beckett is one of South Africa's finest writers and journalists, a perennial optimist with a keen eye, sharp wit, and enormous affection for his country, its peoples, and the incredible stories they generate. Like a few others amongst us, he was a lawyer to start with, the brand of 'pure' lawyer that in Britain is called a 'barrister' and in South Africa an 'advocate'. He defected early into journalism, where, he says, there was "less money and status, but the great privilege of coming to your own conclusions." For eleven years he published and edited a leading magazine, Frontline, which won numerous journalism prizes and numerous banning orders from the quasi-fascist pre-Mandela state. In 1994

he re-defected into television and hosted Beckett's Trek, a weekly series on the SABC that was a distant cousin of Sixty Minutes, with a fraction of the budget and probably many times the fun. Since 2001, Beckett has returned to print journalism and book writing. His eighth book, Redeeming Features (Penguin, 2004) is currently being reviewed in the South African press. Samples: "Richly textured, cliché free writing which is funny and thought-provoking and intensely human", Cape Talk. "As funny as Bryson and as perceptive as Theroux, but with a love in it that neither of those two luminaries know," ThisDay.

Denis may be reached at dbeckett@global.co.za.

SubmergingMarkets™ is delighted to welcome Denis as a **Contributing Editor**.

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