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INTERNATIONAL/GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR VSS

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CONTEXT

- ❖ Policy and legislation is clear and supportive of sustainability in SA
- ❖ Implementation of the above needs to be strengthened
- ❖ Coordination of efforts is critical
- ❖ *Partnerships required to achieve the above and*
 - ✓ *Promote better use of our scarce resources*
 - ✓ *Linkage between trade and sustainability to be acknowledged and embraced*
- ❖ The national standards body can be involved in coordination of such initiatives

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- ❖ **All levels of government – national, provincial and local**
 - ✓ Environmental Affairs
 - ✓ Treasury - sustainable procurement & financing sustainability
 - ✓ Energy & Mining
 - ✓ Agriculture
 - ✓ Science and Technology – national research agenda on sustainability
 - ✓ Social Development, etc, etc
- ❖ **Consumers and other Social players**
 - ✓ *Community organisations & NGOs*
- ❖ **Research and academia**
 - ✓ *New knowledge and education*
- ❖ **Industry – big and small**
 - ✓ *They have a lot to contribute, as most manufacturing lies with them*
- ❖ **Regulators (minding that VSS are used not as punishment but support tools for sustainability of organisations):**
 - ✓ We have several regulators, who are not necessary working together

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- ❖ **Escalate national VSS initiatives to regional and continental platforms – where relevant**
 - ✓ SADCSTAN, ARSO, AFSEC
- ❖ **Joint cooperation on VSS advocacy in international for a:**
 - ✓ ISO, IEC
- ❖ **Cooperation platforms such as**
 - ✓ *IBSA National Standards Bodies' Partnership*
 - ✓ *BRICS National Standards Bodies Working Group*
- ❖ **Formal involvement in national steering committees that participate in national forums, conventions, agreements as relevant**
 - ✓ *Environmental Affairs Working Groups on sustainability matters - SCP*
 - ✓ *Green Economy Initiatives*
 - ✓ *OECD, COP, UN Forums*
- ❖ **Countries that have already developed their own VSS platforms**
 - ✓ *Lessons learnt*
 - ✓ *Best practices*

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ENKOSI
THANK YOU

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