

Algoa Reconciliation Strategy Study

ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUP (ATSG)

The ATSG will be responsible for general administrative and technical support and will arrange Strategy Steering Committee meetings. They would be responsible for updating the planning scenarios. These updates should include all new information relating to revised yields, water requirements, the benefits of WC/WDM interventions implemented by NMBM and interventions. They would further assist with the drafting of press releases and newsletters and any technical tasks required by the SSC.

1. SUGGESTED FUNCTIONS OF THE ATSG

- 1) Obtain agreement on implications of altering assurance of supply to different sectors
- 2) Communicate climate change research priorities to WRC and other research institutions
- 3) Understand how water allocated to the agricultural sector is used and how the corresponding assurances of supply are implemented
- 4) Review and update requirement scenarios based on findings of further studies (including climate change)
- 5) Update water requirement scenarios
- 6) Develop a more sophisticated water use and requirements tool if adequate levels of detailed data become available
- 7) Define and update monitoring indicators and thresholds of acceptable change to prompt review of projections
- 8) Compare recently recorded requirements with scenarios to guide the choice of scenarios for planning
- 9) Decide on comparison scenario/s to be used for planning of future interventions: low, chosen and high
- 10) Investigate the flexibility of the system in terms of changes in usage patterns and the ability to restrict water use
- 11) Interpret and clarify the way the system is operated in terms of assurance of supply for long-term planning
- 12) Ensure that the way in which the requirements and availability are compared is user friendly and easy to understand
- 13) Participate in the development of relevant Catchment Management Strategies
- 14) Participate in classification processes that may impact on the AWSS
- 15) Promote and provide input into the prioritisation of invasive alien plants clearing programmes
- 16) Participate in the planning for phasing in of the ecological Reserves for existing infrastructure
- 17) Compile appropriate press releases
- 18) Ensure that relevant contact details are provided on all information that is disseminated
- 19) Set up and keep updated a list of media contacts
- 20) Ensure the utilisation of an efficient system to distribute information
- 21) Set up a system for efficient distribution of common information
- 22) Brief relevant municipalities on imminent decisions
- 23) Provide annual updates to all local authorities on the strategy
- 24) Liaise with departments involved in developing provincial strategies and provide agreed strategy steering committee input
- 25) Draft and distribute briefing notes on proposed interventions to MEC's offices
- 26) Nominate representative to sit on the steering committee of the classification studies
- 27) Provide updates of the strategy as required
- 28) Provide and update information for NMBM and DWA websites
- 29) Advise on the development of monitoring and information regulations under the NWA
- 30) Support the information management actions identified to support the reconciliation strategy for the AWSS
- 31) Facilitate the identification and gathering of data and information from other government agencies and sectors which influence the AWSS.

2. PROPOSED INSTITUTIONS/AGENCIES TO BE REPRESENTED ON THE ATSG

Eastern Cape Provincial Government:

- Department of Agriculture: 1 representative

Local Authorities:

- NMBM: 3 representatives
 - Bulk water,
 - Wastewater, and
 - Water demand management

Department of Water Affairs:

- Eastern Cape Regional Office: 3 representatives
 - Institutional support,
 - Regulatory support, and
 - Water sector support
- Integrated Water Resource Planning: 4 representatives
 - National Water Resource Planning,
 - Options Analysis, and
 - Water Resource Planning Systems
 - Water Use Efficiency
- Water Resource Infrastructure Branch: 1 representatives

Water User Associations / Irrigation Boards

- Gamtoos Irrigation Board: 1 representative