

# Support to the Continuation of the Reconciliation Strategy of the KwaZulu-Natal Coastal Metropolitan Area: Phase 2

## Minutes of the Strategy Steering Committee Meeting No. 8

**Wednesday, 9 September 2015, 9:00 – 14:00**  
**Durban Jewish Centre, North Beach, Durban**

<b>Strategy Objectives:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To meet legitimate current and future water requirements</li> <li>To recommend the most suitable interventions to balance water requirements and water resources</li> <li>To identify responsible institutions and provide target dates for implementation of the strategy</li> </ul>
<b>Documentation:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="https://www.dwa.gov.za/Projects/KZN%20Recon/">https://www.dwa.gov.za/Projects/KZN%20Recon/</a></li> </ul>
<b>Purpose of meeting:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To update Strategy Steering Committee on latest information in the Strategy area</li> <li>To provide updated reconciliation scenarios/interventions</li> <li>To receive feedback on actions towards the implementation of the Strategy</li> </ul>

## MINUTES

ITEM	ACTION
<b>1. WELCOME</b>	
<b>1.1 Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson</b>	
Mr Mabuda welcomed all Strategy Steering Committee (SSC) members to the meeting. He requested Ms Angela Masefield, on behalf of the Department of Water & Sanitation, KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Regional Office to welcome SSC members and share introductory remarks.	
<b>1.2 Welcoming Remarks from the KZN Regional Office</b>	
As a way of introduction, Ms Masefield mentioned the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She welcomed all present on behalf of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS).</li> <li>She mentioned that the drought has worsened in the KZN Region since January 2015 and the water restrictions have become tighter.</li> <li>The Department is implementing various interventions in ensuring that the communities have access to water.</li> <li>An update on drought situation will be provided during the course of the SSC meeting.</li> <li>She reminded all present that the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal declared drought as a Provincial Disaster. She requested members to continue working together with the Department in trying to manage the situation in the province.</li> </ul> <p>She thanked SSC members for their continued participation and support of the Reconciliation Strategy of the KZN Coastal Metropolitan Area.</p> <p><i>Note: It was noted that Mr Starkey was attending the Cabinet Lekgotla and will not be joining the meeting.</i></p>	
<b>2. ATTENDANCE &amp; APOLOGIES</b>	
Mr Mabuda requested all SSC members to introduce themselves, the organisations they represent and to submit apologies for the record, if any.	

## ITEM

## ACTION

**2.1 Attendance**

The following SSC members were in attendance (listed alphabetically according to surname):

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
1	Mr Bryan Ashe	GeaSphere
2	Mr Kobus Bester	DWS
3	Mr Gerald de Jager	AECOM
4	Mr Richard Gevers	Graham Muller & Associates
5	Mr Steve Gillham	Umgeni Water
6	Mr Mike Greatwood	Msunduzi Local Municipality
7	Mr Paul Herbst	DWS
8	Mrs Di Jones	Coastwatch KZN
9	Mr Livhuwani Mabuda	DWS
10	Mrs Manisha Maharaj	DWS
11	Mr Kennedy Mandaza	DWS
12	Mr Notha Maphumulo	Ilembe District Municipality
13	Mr Zacharia Maswuma	DWS
14	Ms Angela Masefield	DWS
15	Ms Nozipho Mkhwanazi	South African Sugar Association
16	Mr Richard Mngoma	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
17	Mr Speedy Moodliar	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
18	Ms Thuli Mwelase	Ugu District Municipality
19	Mr Tendani Nditwani	DWS
20	Ms Celiwe Ntuli	DWS
21	Mr Ben Jabulani Ngcobo	Harry Gwala District Municipality
22	Mr Nathaniel Padayachee	KZN Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
23	Mr Bill Pfaff	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
24	Ms Hermien Pieterse	AECOM
25	Mr Jonathan Schroder	AECOM
26	Mr Simon Scruton	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
27	Mr Mark Shepherd	Joat Group
28	Ms Bongi Shinga	AECOM
29	Mr Michael Singh	DWS
30	Mr Percy Sithole	Umgeni Water
31	Ms Bhavna Soni	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
32	Mr Gavin Subramanian	Umgeni Water
33	Ms Mmaphefo Thwala	DWS
34	Ms Bathandwa Vazi	South African Local Government Association
35	Mr Niel van Wyk	DWS

**ITEM****ACTION**

36 Mr Norman Ward DWS

**2.2 Apologies**

The following apologies were received:

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
1	Mr Yakeen Atwaru	DWS
2	Prof Chris Buckley	University of KwaZulu-Natal
3	Mr Rod Bulman	Coastwatch - KZN
4	Ms Lungile Cele	Ugu District Municipality
5	Ms Nicolette (Nicky) Forbes	Marine and Estuarine Research
6	Prof Anthony Forbes	Marine and Estuarine Research
7	Mr Kurt Fortuin	DWS
8	Mr Johan Fourie	DWS
9	Dr Marilyn Govender	South African Sugar Association
10	Mr Geert Grobler	DWS
11	Mr Wade Holland	Mdloti Catchment Forum and Coastwatch
12	Ms Hope Joseph	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
13	Mr Haroon Karodia	Dept of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs, KZN
14	Mr Jaap Kroon	DWS
15	Mr Kevin Meier	Umgeni Water
16	Ms Khumbuzile Moyo	DWS
17	Mr Speedy Moodliar	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
18	Mr Ednick Msweli	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
19	Dr Beason Mwaka	DWS
20	Ms Shane Naidoo	DWS
21	Ms Renelle Karen Pillay	DWS
22	Mr Ashley Starkey	DWS
23	Dr Johan van der Walt	Ugu District Municipality

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved without any changes.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING****4.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- Page 10, Item 5.3.9(e): change “Blue Drop” to “No drop”
- Page 11, Item 7.2.1(c): replace “as part of WC/WDM” with “as a measure to reduce demand on available resources”

Minutes were then accepted with the above-mentioned changes as a true reflection of the previous SSC meeting.

## ITEM

## ACTION

**4.2 Matters arising (not covered in the Agenda)**

Actions arising from the minutes of SSC Meeting No. 7 (25 February 2015) and the applicable status were presented as pages 4 of the Agenda (distributed to all SSC members).

**5. STATUS AND REVIEW OF STRATEGY****5.1 Water requirement projections, including balances**

Mr Jonathan Schroder presented the water requirement projections and water balances. His presentation covered the following:

- Supply areas covered in the Strategy.
- Water requirement projections.
- Revised water balances for three water supply systems (WSSs), namely the South Coast, Mdloti-Mvoti and Mgeni.

*The following comments and were raised and discussed:*

- (a) Mr Moodliar stated that eThekweni Metro has been instructed not to take any more water from the South Coast pipeline. The system is seriously constrained.

**Response:** Mr van Wyk agreed that South Coast system requires urgent interventions which could be the lower uMkhomazi Bulk Water Supply System and/or a Desalination Plant.

- (b) Mr Moodliar informed SSC members that eThekweni was awarded the rights to host the Common Wealth games in 2022. Therefore, with an international event of this scale, it is going to be important that the issue of water shortages is dealt with proactively. He stated that he is pleased that there is now progress on the raising of Hazelmere Dam, which will ultimately reduce water shortages.

He also stated that eThekweni Metro has sent a letter to Umgeni Water requesting urgent implementation of uMkhomazi Water Project, latest by 2022.

**Response:** Mr Bester indicated that one of the requirements for meeting the 2022 deadline is the formal acceptance of the uMWP by municipalities. The uMWP team has held numerous meetings with municipalities in ensuring that there are 'agreements in principle' in order to prevent delays in the implementation of the scheme. He stated that this matter will be dealt with as part of progress feedback provided for uMWP (**Section 5.3.3** of these minutes).

**Response:** Mr van Wyk indicated that comments by Mr Moodliar are raising the profile of the Ngwadini Dam, an off-channel storage dam on the Lower uMkhomazi River.

- (c) Mr Norman Ward asked if the team is reviewing the short term yield of Spring Grove Dam. The volumes of water available at Spring Grove Dam can be increased during the Common Wealth games.

**Response:** Mr Schroder confirmed that the volumes at Spring Grove Dam can be increased. Also, the north coast system needs to be seriously looked at with a view to increase the available yield.

**5.2 Water Balances (included in Section 5.1 above)**

## ITEM

## ACTION

**5.3 Review and updating of Strategy interventions list****5.3.1 Mooi-Mgeni Transfer Scheme (MMTS)**

Mr Zachariah Maswuma presented progress on the MMTS.

- (a) Mr Bryan Ashe indicated that he has raised his concerns at the previous SSC meetings regarding the manner in which resettlement was handled at Spring Grove Dam. He mentioned that resettlement is one of the cornerstones of the World Commission on Dams. He made an appeal to DWS that, in the case of uMWP1 (Smithfield Dam) or any other future schemes, resettlement should be a priority and the resettlement issues experienced at Spring Grove Dam should be avoided.

He indicated that he is concerned that DWS is ignoring the social needs, i.e. only building the houses after the dam has been constructed.

He requested DWS to make a commitment to ensure that there is strict compliance regarding the use of guidelines of World Commission on Dams. Social issues must be sorted before completion of the dam.

**Response:** Mr Maswuma confirmed that he is aware of the issues which have been raised and confirmed that DWS has learnt a great deal from recent experiences. He confirmed that Mr Ashe's recommendations, in line with the guidelines of World Commission on Dams, will be implemented on all future dams.

**5.3.2 Raising of the Hazelmere Dam**

Mr Maswuma presented an update on the raising of the Hazelmere Dam. Comments raised are presented below:

- (a) Mr Bryan Ashe stated that after the previous SSC Meeting 7, he spoke to Prof Sarah Bracking at University of KwaZulu-Natal regarding the raising of the Hazelmere Dam. She expressed concerns that the preliminary land audit done for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was inadequate. There has been no additional work done to date to supplement the land audit. He pointed out the need for DWS to look more carefully at processes that are undertaken for the development.

One of Prof Bracking's criticisms was that in the flood plain there are new developments. The EIA referred to owners as unknown whilst there are people living in the area. He recommended that DWS consults Prof Bracking as she is working with communities in the flood plain.

**Response:** Mr Ashe's remarks were noted and it was confirmed that Mr Maswuma will interact directly with Mr Ashe to get details and then follow up with Prof Bracking. Subsequent to the meeting, the following contact details were obtained (courtesy of Mr Ashe):

- Prof Sarah Bracking  
SARCHI Chair in Applied Poverty Reduction Assessment  
University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Email: [bracking@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:bracking@ukzn.ac.za)  
Tel: 031 031 260 1544

ITEM	ACTION
(b) Mr Notha Maphumulo asked about the possibilities of fast-tracking the Raising of Hazelmere Dam, i.e. bringing the completion date to a much earlier date.	
<b>Response:</b> Mr Maswuma explained that the project has been delayed by more than 2 years; as such DWS is making a concerted effort to fast-track it. DWS is currently engaging the appointed Professional Service Provider (PSP) and Resident Engineer. They have liaised with Traditional Leadership and relevant local Councillors.	
(c) Mr Maphumulo cautioned DWS about social issues that need to be addressed. He stated that at times developers seem to focus on the completion of the project and overlook social issues. People living around the dam may cause social problems especially before local government elections (2016); therefore it will be important to conclude the works as soon as possible.	
<b>Response:</b> Mr Maswuma acknowledged Mr Maphumulo's comments as valid and for team consideration.	
(d) Mr Maphumulo also reminded DWS to carefully consider the recruitment process. One of the area falls under Ilembe District Municipality. Although he is not sure of the recruitment processes, he referred to the labour problems at Medupi Power Station. It is important to learn and avoid similar problems particularly for Hazelmere Dam.	
<b>Response:</b> Mr Maswuma indicated that DWS is engaging the Local Ward Councillors and Traditional Councillors. One of the reasons for engagement relates to creating opportunities for the local small scale businesses in the area during the construction phase.	
(e) The Chairperson, Mr Mabuda encouraged Mr Maswuma to actively engage with the key stakeholders including Mr Maphumulo of Ilembe District Municipality.	ZM

### 5.3.3 uMkhomazi Water Project (uMWP)

Mr Kobus Bester presented an update on the uMWP.

- (a) Mr Ashe indicated that he has not received communication from the EIA team regarding uMWP. He had previously requested to be involved so that he can provide inputs in the EIA process.

**Response:** Mr Bester confirmed that information was passed on to the EIA consultant, Nema Consulting. The Chairperson requested Mr Bester to follow up on this matter.

**Follow-up:** Ms Pieterse followed up with Mr Henning, Nema Consulting regarding Mr Ashe's inclusion in the uMWP database. The main reason that he has not yet received communication was simply because there has not been any communication circulated to registered Interested and Affected Parties. Mr Henning was then encouraged to make contact with Mr Ashe in order to initiate communication and provide an opportunity to Mr Ashe for raising issues he may have on the EIA process.

KB

- (b) Mr Mabuda emphasised the importance of recognising that stakeholders are DWS's partners and want to see actions. It is indeed correct that sometimes the programmes are tight; however an effort should be made to involve them and provide feedback as timeously as possible.

**Response:** Mr Mabuda's comment was noted by uMWP team.

ITEM	ACTION
<p>(c) Mr Moodliar expressed his concern on behalf of eThekweni Metro regarding risks associated with delaying projects. The raising of the Hazelmere Dam wall was supposed to have been commissioned in 2013. This project was postponed and has resulted in the current situation where they are unable to deal with drought. He indicated that it is important for the SSC to be mindful of the risks associated with big projects. He then questioned if 2023 is 'the main date for uMWP'.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Bester confirmed that 2023 is the estimated date for water delivery from Smithfield Dam. This is however subject to the appeal process linked to Environmental Authorisation.</p>	
<p>(d) Mr Gillham asked if it is possible for the normal approval process to be turned around in order to fast track uMWP. He also asked if uMWP will follow the same process undertaken for Spring Grove Dam. He understood that the hold-up in Spring Grove Dam was due to the delays in signing the contracts with the relevant municipalities.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Bester indicated that there are options to fast-track the approval process. The Minister has instructed DWS Regional Office to prioritise the project. However, DWS needs to be cautious of how, when and what is done as the EIA process is currently in progress.</p> <p>There are indeed a number of approval processes that need to be undertaken but the Department still needs to show that it is following due process and does not unsettle legislated processes, e.g. EIA.</p>	
<p>(e) Mr Bester also indicated that there have been delays with the EIA due to resistance experienced from the Macabazini Community by a group referred to as Landless People's Movement. The issues related to the socio-economic survey of the dwellings within the purchase line. The socio-economic survey is therefore incomplete. There however have been engagements with local leadership to resolve these issues.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Ashe stated that the history of dealing with social issues in South Africa is not good. He needs assurance from DWS that issues which happened at Inanda and Spring Grove Dams will not be repeated. There is a need to seriously think about how we are going to deal with issues raised by landless people. These need to be resolved much earlier in the process</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Bester explained that the drafting of the Relocation Action Plan has commenced.</p> <p><b>Suggestion:</b> The Chairperson encouraged Mr Ashe to be involved in the EIA and provide inputs on social aspects (in order to proactively deal and /or avoid social issues).</p>	KB
<p>(f) Mr Moodliar stated that eThekweni Metro undertook a study which has showed that uMWP is needed by 2022. EThekweni Metro has also submitted a letter to Umgeni Water's Chief Executive Office, Mr Cyril Gamede, to raise their concerns and the urgency of uMWP.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Mabuda confirmed that DWS also received a submission from Umgeni Water which was accompanied by a letter from eThekweni Metro.</p>	

### 5.3.3 (a) Risk Analysis

Mr Gerald de Jager presented diagrams on the results of the risk analysis. This covered aspects on the water resources, risk of non-augmentation and the potential impact on the users of the scheme if Smithfield Dam is not commissioned.

*The following comments and/or questions were raised and discussed:*



ITEM	ACTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Bester alerted SSC members that the graph shows significant shortfall in supply in the system prior to the commissioning of Smithfield Dam.</li> <li>Mr Sithole shared his concern and commented on the possibility of creating awareness of the situation amongst water users. There is a need to prepare for a change in consumer behaviour and to start planning accordingly.</li> </ul> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr de Jager supported Mr Sithole's point and said it will be important to create awareness as this could have a significant impact on water use and therefore our ability to manage the shortfall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Ward stated that there is a shortfall of approximately 80 million m<sup>3</sup>, if there are good rains, one can consider over-abstracting the system in the short-term, knowing that when uMWP is commissioned this will alleviate the situation. It is important to not scare consumers unnecessarily as this could have negative impacts on economic growth.</li> </ul> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Ward's comment was noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Mabuda suggested that the slide 'supply is not curtailed' should be at the end of presentation, to help end on a positive note.</li> </ul>	

### 5.3.3 (b) Umgeni Water's Economic Study

Mr Richard Gevers presented the economic risk of shortfalls in water resources. His presentation assessed the impact of augmentation and the impact of non-augmentation in the Umgeni System over the next 30 years.

Mr Ashe asked and/or raised the following comments:

- Is the Economic Study looking at water efficiency in terms of industrial use? Although the matter is quite challenging, he feels that not enough is being done in this aspect.
- What incentives are being provided to encourage water efficiency? People need to be encouraged to incorporate water re-use as an intervention.
- Is the study also taking into account water losses?

**Response:** At the moment the study has focussed on how water is demanded and used, and how this relates to the water supply system. This analysis can be rolled out on all other projects. However, for the purposes of this study, the baseline is uMWP which also serves as a supply constraint. As the study progresses, various scenarios can be tested.

Mr Singh indicated that there are a number of actions and examples happening in the country and some of them are undertaken by local private sector. An initiative led by a locally based team, Unilever, has been an example internationally on water processing. One can start to look at how to support these initiatives, which include rain water recovery and harvesting.

**Response:** Mr Singh's comment was noted, with thanks.

Mr Sithole indicated that his comment links directly to the timeframes that uMWP will have and associated impacts. He requested uMWP team to keep in contact with Umgeni Water regarding any changes that need to be done as part of the economic study.

**Response:** This suggestion was noted, with thanks. AECOM will liaise directly with uMgeni Water.

HSP



## ITEM

## ACTION

5.3.4 Lower Thukela Bulk Water Supply Scheme (LTBWS)

Mr Gavin Subramanian, Umgeni Water, provided an update on the LTBWSS. He explained that the contract consists of six components and summarised progress as follows:

- Water Treatment Works: 72% complete.
- Access roads, weir and abstraction works: 60% complete.
- Mechanical and electrical: 81 % complete.
- Gravity main: 94 % complete.
- Rising main and reservoir: 41 % complete.
- Bulk water supply: 76 % complete.

Practical completion is set for June 2016 and overall completion set for December 2016.

5.3.5 North Coast Pipeline and Hazelmere Supply Infrastructure

Mr Subramanian briefed the meeting that this project is essentially completed.

5.3.6 Lower uMkhomazi Feasibility Study (South Coast)

Mr Subramanian summarised progress as follows:

- Detailed feasibility study is underway, with expected completion date of February 2016.
- EIA is underway, to be completed by November 2016.
- Estimated construction completion date is March 2022.
- Estimated cost of project is R 2.2 billion.

*The following comments and/or questions were raised and discussed:*

Mr Schroder indicated that the project can be implemented in phases; this approach will enable delivery of water to commence much earlier.

**Response:** This approach was confirmed by Mr Subramanian.

5.3.7 Desalination Plants

Mr Subramanian summarised progress as follows:

- Detailed feasibility study completed.
- EIA is underway, to be completed by February 2016.
- Pilot Plant Tender Awarded, 6 Month Construction Period.
- Detailed Feasibility Study Completed. Final Report March 2015.
- Estimated Cost of Project: Approx. R3.4 billion for 150MI/d.
- Total cost of water R10 to R15 per kl.
- Quickest Implementation 2019.

ITEM	ACTION
<p><i>The following comments and/or questions were raised and discussed regarding the Desalination Plants:</i></p>	
<p>(a) Mrs Di Jones stated that she read an article in The Mercury which shared a perspective about energy costs related to desalination plants. Energy seems to be the largest expense for desalination plants and accounts for approximately 50% of the operational costs. She also commented on the critical water resources required to feed the energy intensive industries in the Richards Bay and surrounding areas. The issues to be addressed are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can we afford not to use desalination for industries?</li> <li>• DWS needs to put an economic value on the impact of dams on estuaries.</li> </ul>	
<p>A comparison of economic value could provide guidance on the options to be considered for water provision into the future.</p>	
<p><b>Response:</b> Mr van Wyk explained that DWS is currently busy with the Richards Bay Reconciliation Study which is looking at all the options for water supply and possible interventions to meeting the growing water demands.</p>	
<p>(b) Mr Ashe suggested that the Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Technology as a form of renewable energy generation should be considered. There is pilot plant in the South Coast near Pennington area.</p>	
<p>He further stated that one of the reasons for water shortages in the Richards Bay and iSimangaliso Wetland Park is due to the presence of too many plantations in the area.</p>	
<p><b>Response:</b> Mr Ashe's remarks were noted, with thanks.</p>	
<p>(c) In response to Mrs Jones statements, Mr Gillham provided the following commentary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A number of industries are already using their own processed water.</li> <li>• It is indeed correct that energy requirements for desalination are high.</li> <li>• Desalination is still the most expensive option for industries, however, as efficiencies improve, desalination will become more affordable. Therefore, desalination will eventually become a viable option into the future.</li> <li>• Desalinated water can also be used for more than just for industries. Desalinated water can also be re-used.</li> <li>• As the drought situation worsens, Umgeni Water has observed that municipalities are starting to be less driven by costs; they just need water to be able to satisfy water requirements for their users.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Response:</b> Mr Gillham's contributions were noted, with thanks.</p>	

#### 5.3.8 Outflow Strategy

It was suggested and agreed that Mr Bill Pfaff will report on this item during the next SSC meeting.

BP

## ITEM

## ACTION

5.3.9 Water Conservation and Water Demand Management(WC/WDM)**eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality**

Mr Simon Scruton presented an update on behalf of eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality. He stressed the importance and improvement of customer behaviour, and responsibility in terms of water use, savings and payments.

- (a) Mr Bester requested eThekwini Metro to comment on the system of water shedding. There appears to be a notion that given the current water shortages, we could consider water-shedding. He asked if this is a possibility and if eThekwini Metro knows the system well.

**Response:** Mr Scruton indicated that water shedding will have a huge impact on water infrastructure. Faults appear to increase when you are dealing with unplanned discharging. The opening and closing of valves, reservoirs and ducts can impact the infrastructure negatively. The current system is not designed to be turned on-and-off. This scenario has also happened with Eskom, their faults sky rocketed with the implementation of load shedding.

- (b) Mr Ward asked about the services required and response times to fixing leakages. He asked if there are any penalties to people/companies who are doing poor repair work on infrastructure.

**Response:** eThekwini does have quality management programmes in place. They have however observed that the infrastructure is so fragile and there appears to be multiple areas which require repair work. In most instances, leakages are not from poor repair work but results from an ageing infrastructure.

Mr Ward stated that given the progress that eThekwini is making regarding WC/WDM, perhaps if eThekwini Metro programme was to be increased exponentially, with the 'no-limit on funds' they could potentially save the 80 million m<sup>3</sup>/a deficit which is required by 2022.

- (c) Mr Ash provided the following commentary in response to eThekwini Metro update:

- He appreciated what eThekwini Metro has achieved to date regarding water savings. He encouraged eThekwini Metro to continue to put in a large amount of effort.
- There is a need to re-look at the regularity of forums that are held, this was a suggestion that came from the sanitation platforms which Mr Ashe attends.
- He made an example of the Gonubi Development where tenants have just moved into the houses. It is important that new house owners/tenants are taught how to use water efficiently and how to save water.
- He lives in the older areas of Durban, and it takes 5 days for the faults to be addressed.
- There is definitely a need to resolve issues at eThekwini Metro's call centre in order to respond proactively to the reports for leakages and water meter related issues.

**Response:** Mr Scruton acknowledged that eThekwini Metro has a higher demand of resources and has a backlog for replacing infrastructure. They are currently receiving between 300 - 400 faults a day. There is a lot of work that needs to be done, fortunately leaks are being prioritised. eThekwini has certainly been leading in terms of engaging communities on many platforms. One should also recognise that most communities that are being supplied by eThekwini Metro are pro-poor and there is a lot that needs to be done to change their attitude and increase their knowledge.

## ITEM

## ACTION

**uMgungundlovu District Municipality**

uMgungundlovu District Municipality was not represented at this meeting. Therefore, no feedback and/update was provided.

**Ugu District Municipality**

Ms Thuli Mwelase, Manager: WC/WDM, presented on behalf of Ugu District Municipality. Her presentation covered Ugu DM Strategy and Implementation Plan, and achievements in implementing WC/WDM.

**Msunduzi Local Municipality**

Mr Mark Shepherd, Joat Group, presented on behalf of Msunduzi Local Municipality. His presentation covered the following aspects:

- Non-Revenue Water Reduction Program
- Planned activities for the period 2015/16
- Progress and achievements during the financial year 2015/16.

*The following comments were raised:*

- Mr Greatwood stated that Mr Michael Singh, DWS, has always encouraged District and Local Municipalities to consider getting a specialist service provider to assist with WC/WDM, and Msunduzi Local Municipality subsequently benefitted significantly from using specialists.
- He took the opportunity to encourage municipalities without service providers to consider getting one as they can only benefit from this service.

**Response:** Mr Greatwood's remarks were noted with thanks.

**iLembe District Municipality**

Mr Mark Shepherd, Joat Group, presented on behalf of Ilembe District Municipality. His presentation covered the following aspects:

- Ilembe DM System Characteristics
- Non-Revenue Water Reduction Strategy
- Performance in 2014/15 Financial Year, and
- Progress made in 2015/2016 Financial Year.

*The following comments were raised:*

Mr Schroder stated that it would be interesting to observe the impact after drought i.e. when the systems are back to normal without water shedding, etc.

**Response:** Mr Shepherd explained that it takes a year to start seeing changes and impacts or improvements on the system.

Mr Herbst suggested that Mr Shepherd's graphs (e.g. non-revenue water and inefficiency of use trends) should also show targets.

**Response:** Mr Shepherd indicated that the details are available and are included on the graphs.

ITEM	ACTION
<b>Department Water Sanitation</b>	
Mr Michael Singh presented an update on the role of WC/WDM within the KZN Reconciliation Strategy.	
<p>(a) He stated that the big question is what is going to be done to fund and implement WC/WDM as part of the reconciliation study.</p> <p>(b) Mr Shepherd stated that Kwazulu-Natal is losing 538 Ml/day over 5 Water Service Authorities (eThekweni, Ugu, Ilembe, Umgungundlovu &amp; Msunduzi) in study area, which is estimated at a cost of R623 million per annum. If this water can be saved, it is the most cost effective way to obtain water that is required. Therefore, WC/WDM needs to be prioritised and in terms of allocation of required financial resources.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> He stated that it is interesting when one sees on the graphs how much money is lost (R623 225 141/annum) and then compare it with the total KZN Capex that is required (R725.8 million/annum).</p> <p>(c) Mr Herbst indicated that DWS is tracking progress on all Reconciliation Strategies with assistance from municipalities. He requested all municipalities to provide monthly figures (balances) to Mr Michael Singh.</p> <p>He further requested all municipality representatives to go back to their Councils and develop business plans with strategies which also include associated budgets.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Mabuda thanked Mr Herbst for his inputs.</p>	
WSAs	
<b>6. OPERATIONAL AND DROUGHT MATTERS</b>	
<b>6.1 Drought Situation</b>	
Ms Angela Masefield gave a brief presentation on the drought situation in KwaZulu-Natal, with the focus on the water supply systems where the impacts are most severe. Her presentation highlighted the following key points:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KZN is experiencing drought conditions.</li> <li>• Hazelmere and Goedetrouw dams are both critically low.</li> <li>• DWS is implementing the necessary interventions, including provision of tankers.</li> <li>• Also referred to operational issues, to draw upper dams down to optimise storage volume.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.2 System Operation Management Forum</b>	
Ms Celiwe Ntuli, DWS, and Percy Sithole, Umgeni Water, gave a presentation on the background of the System Operating Forum (SOF) for the Mgeni Water Supply Scheme (WSS) and outcomes from the SOF.	
<i>The following comments and/or questions were raised and discussed:</i>	

ITEM	ACTION
<p>Mr Ward commented on the remark to the department regarding the timeframes for implementing drought measures (between DWS and Municipalities). He suggested that the department moves the drought restriction date by 1 month earlier in order to have sufficient time to implement the decisions.</p> <p>He also supported the Chairperson's pronouncements regarding the need to get the pumping going from Inanda Dam. It is important to weigh long-term risks vs. short term risks and to protect the Umgeni System.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Mr Ward's remarks were noted for consideration by the Department and Umgeni Water.</p>	<p>DWS Umgeni Water</p>
<p>(a) Mr Pfaff stated that from reading newspapers which are distributed within Ilembe District Municipality area, which is suffering a lot from the drought (due to unavailability of water from the Hazelmere Dam), there have been articles/adverts placed by Siza Water which make interesting comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They say a treated effluent from the Frasers Waste Water Treatment Works has been approved by DWS as meeting the potable water criteria.</li> <li>• Then they advertised the sale of water <i>via</i> tanker loads to fill up swimming pools, which implies a certain amount of drinking.</li> <li>• Siza Water is believed to be taking the recycled waste water and feeding it back into the system.</li> </ul> <p>He then asked if this observation of recycling waste water with normal potable water supply is correct. If this is correct, it is a major shift in the area recognising issues that eThekwin Metro has been trying to address.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> Ms Masfield explained that Siza Water is treating water, or have added a treatment component at Frasers Works. They have applied for approval and are using it as grey water. They are currently using 500 -800 Ml/day of this water for all the construction that is happening in Ballito and surroundings. They have been doing this for a number of months now. They have also applied to DWS to use this water for potable purposes.</p> <p>This has been discussed at MuniMEC and with Mayors. A survey has also been conducted and approximately 97% of the consumers were in favour of water re-use, i.e. water being put back into the supply system. The severe restrictions that have been imposed have certainly resulted in a different response to what DWS anticipated without restrictions.</p> <p>She further clarified that DWS has not approved it but an application has been submitted by Siza Water. The understanding is that if the water complies with the potable/drinking water standards, there should not be a problem with approval of the application.</p>	

### 6.3 Emergency interventions

Mr Subramanian's presentation was not discussed, but is available to SSC upon request from the Study Team.

ITEM	ACTION
<b>7. OTHER STUDIES AND INITIATIVES</b>	
<b>7.1 Rainwater Harvesting</b>	
<p>Mr Bryan Ashe, GeaSphere presented on the research of rainwater harvesting (RWH).</p> <p>He spoke about RWH being made mandatory for all new developments (shopping malls, housing developments, etc.). He also shared his views on incentives for Retrofitting for IWRM purposes. He believes that for all high rainfall areas, there is a need for a consultative process and a campaign for RWH in South Africa.</p>	
<p>(a) Mr Ward indicated it is important to explore options for using grey water. Some examples include using water from the washing machine to feed into the toilets.</p>	
<p><b>Response:</b> Grey water is an important issue and all the steps, no matter how small, do contribute towards water savings and dealing with water shortage crisis.</p>	
<b>7.2 uMngeni Ecological Infrastructure Partnership (UEIP)</b>	
<p>UEIP was not represented at this meeting.</p> <p>A brief UEIP written progress report is included as Annexure B.</p>	
<b>7.3 Classification of Water Resources in the Mvoti to Umzimkulu WMA</b>	
<p>Ms Mmaphefo Thwala provided an update on the Classification of significant Water Resources and Determination of the Comprehensive Reserve and Resource Quality Objectives (RQOs) in the Mvoti to Umzimkulu Water Management Area.</p> <p>She highlighted that the final Project Steering Committee meeting for the study will be held on 16 September 2015, which will be the last interaction prior to presenting the recommended water resource classes and RQOs to the general public.</p> <p>Dates for public meetings were announced as 21 and 22 October 2015 in Pietermaritzburg and Durban respectively.</p> <p>SSC members were notified that detailed reports and other supporting documentation can be downloaded from the website <a href="https://www.dwa.gov.za/rdm/WRCs/">https://www.dwa.gov.za/rdm/WRCs/</a> under 'Mvoti – Umzimkulu WMA'</p>	
<b>8. COMMUNICATION</b>	
<b>8.1 Confirmation of SSC Members</b>	
<p>This is a standard item on the Agenda. Members were encouraged to continually review the list and provide feedback in this regard to the study team.</p>	



## ITEM

## ACTION

**8.2 Key messages and focus of Status Report and Media Release**

Mr van Wyk confirmed that the following key messages should feature in the Status Report and Media Release:

- The worsening of the drought situation.
- Consideration of timelines for bringing the schemes on board in order to provide relief to the area. The most important ones are Ngwadini Dam (lower uMkhomazi River) or a Desalination Plant.
- Reinforcement of the importance to fast track the uMkhomazi Water Project.
- WC/WDM requires not only municipal focus, but also the support of water users. Municipalities should recognise the ongoing costs involved and the inclusion thereof on budgets.
- Importance of addressing social issues arising from the proposed developments as they could potentially delay their implementation.

**9. IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGY AND WAY FORWARD****9.1 Key Actions for TSG (Technical Team)**

- Compilation of a Press Release.  
The Press Release was circulated to all SSC members for comment on 29 September 2015.
- Need to hold another TSG meeting during November 2015.  
The next TSG meeting is scheduled for 25 November 2015.
- Compilation of Status Report.

**9.2 Key Actions for SSC Members**

- All SSC members were encouraged to report back to their constituents.
- They were reminded about the importance of providing feedback on matters that are discussed at these SSC meetings.
- It was pointed out that there are a few members representing public. Mr van Wyk suggested that representation needs to be looked at in preparation for the next SSC meeting in 2016.

**10. DATE FOR NEXT SSC MEETING**

The proposed date for SSC Meeting No. 9 was confirmed as Thursday, 25 February 2016 at Durban Jewish Centre.

*Subsequent to the meeting, the date was changed to **Thursday, 03 March 2016** at the Durban Jewish Centre.*

Notifications were circulated to all SSC members.

Bongi  
Shinga

**ITEM****ACTION****11. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM SSC MEMBERS**

The Chairperson gave an opportunity to Mr Michael Singh, DWS: KZN Regional Office, to provide closing remarks for the SSC Meeting No.8. The following remarks were received:

- (a) He thanked the participation of the SSC members.
- (b) He indicated that on behalf of the KZN Region, it is appreciated to have the relevant expertise, support and inputs at this meeting both from the private and public sectors.
- (c) He also appreciated inputs received from community or civil society representatives.
- (d) He stated that the Mgeni System is the vital part of the KZN economy, and is essentially the heart and soul of the KZN Province. In order to move towards sustainable water supply, we need to plan and make sure that the Mgeni System is provided for, protected and managed.

**12. CLOSURE**

The Chairperson thanked the SSC members and study team for their attendance and participation in the discussions.

Mr Mabuda then closed the meeting.

## **Annexure A: Attendance Register**

Section 2.1 of the minutes provides a list of attendees. A copy of the signed attendance register can be provided upon request.

## **Annexure B: Presentations**

- Due to the file size of presentations, they will be provided upon request.
- A brief progress report for uMngeni Ecological Infrastructure Partnership (UEIP) accompanies these minutes.