

12 September 2024

TERMS OF REFERENCE

BUSA CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP AND DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (DFFE) BILATERAL ENGAGEMENT

1. Background

The climate change agenda has become increasingly significant for both the public and private sectors. Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) recognizes the importance of a structured dialogue with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) to address climate change challenges and opportunities effectively. This bilateral engagement aims to foster collaboration, share knowledge, and develop actionable strategies to combat climate change.

2. Objectives

- Facilitate Collaboration: Establish a platform for ongoing dialogue between BUSA and DFFE to address climate change issues.
- Share Knowledge: Exchange information, research, and best practices related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Policy Development: Engagement on climate change related policy and regulatory proposals put forward by DFFE.
- Global policy developments: Discuss and propose solutions to deal with emerging global policy developments that have implications for Industry's emission reduction efforts.

3. Scope of Work

- Meetings and Workshops: Organize regular meetings and workshops to discuss climate change topics, policies, and initiatives.
- Research and Analysis: Conduct joint research and analysis on climate change impacts, mitigation strategies, and adaptation measures.
- Reporting and Documentation: Prepare and disseminate reports, minutes, and other documentation related to the bilateral engagements.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- BUSA Climate Change Working Group:
 - Lead and coordinate the private sector's participation in the bilateral engagements.
 - Provide expertise and insights on climate change from a business perspective.
 - Ensure active participation of member companies in discussions and initiatives.
- DFFE:
 - Where possible, facilitate the participation of representatives and provide policy direction, in areas of mutual collaboration.
 - Share government plans, policies, and regulations related to climate change.

5. Governance and Reporting Structure

- Steering Committee: Establish a Steering Committee comprising representatives from BUSA and DFFE to oversee the bilateral engagements and ensure alignment with objectives.
- Working Groups: Form specialized working groups as needed to focus on commonly agreed specific climate change policy topics.

- Reporting: The Steering Committee will report on progress to both BUSA and DFFE leadership on a quarterly basis.

6. Frequency of Engagements

- Quarterly Meetings: Conduct quarterly bilateral meetings to review progress, provide policy updates, address challenges, and plan future activities.
- Ad-hoc Meetings: Organize additional meetings as required to address urgent issues or opportunities.