

NOTES OF THE SAMESG COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON 27 AUGUST 2020 AT 11:30

VIA ZOOM

Present: T Steele-Schober (Chairperson)
A Botha
K Davies
C Dixon
N Fisher
R Horn
J Lake
Dr T Marshall
L Selby
R Singh
M Smith

Apologies: A Botha

In Attendance: Ms T Letlhaku (SAIMM)
Ms G Charlie (SAIMM)

1. WELCOME

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that an apology had been received from Ms Anneli Botha.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND KEY ACTION ITEMS

Ms Steele-Schober asked whether everyone had received a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes of that meeting held on 28 May 2020 were taken as read.

The action items from the minutes were discussed as follows:

Ms Carol Dixon had been requested to provide the SAMESG Committee with the correct e-mail address for Ms Stefina Mudau from the Minerals Council and it was confirmed that this had been done and Ms Mudau was now on the distribution list.

Ms Steele-Schober reported that she had not been able to confirm with Ms Mudau whether she was going to be involved and undertook to follow up on that.

ACTION: T Steele-Schober

Regarding the write-up on SAMESG for publication in SAIMM and GSSA journals, it was confirmed that this had not yet been done. A draft write-up had been done after the last quarterly meeting for the SAMCODES website. The comments would be sorted out and published.

ACTION: T Steele-Schober

In connection with addressing anonymity issues on the SAMESG Readers' Panel analysis stats, it was agreed that this had been resolved by Ms Botha and Mr Selby.

The Terms of Reference had been sent to all new members.

The 'Introduction to SAMREC and SAMCODES' presentation had been delivered by Dr Marshall and those who attended all found it very useful. Another call was made for anyone who wanted an introduction to SAMESG to please inform the Committee so that a training session can be arranged. A series of training days were being held on the various SAMCODES for authors of CPRs and their application, and Ms Steele-Schober presented on ESG.

There had been no developments on the preliminary Squirrel Awards.

3. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

New members were welcomed in the overall welcome.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 SAMESG READERS' PANEL ANALYSIS

Ms Steele-Schober advised that this could be closed, as it had been discussed in the previous meeting.

3.2 UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROJECT

This matter could also be closed, as there had been no further development or calls.

3.3 AMENDMENTS TO SAMESG GUIDELINE

Ms Steele-Schober had mentioned before that SAMESG had been invited to present jointly with PERC (the European equivalent of the SAMCODES) at the CRIRSCO Annual General Meeting, which was to be held on 17 September 2020. Ruth Allington from PERC and Ms Steele-Schober were engaging and preparing for that presentation. PERC was in the 'fortunate' position compared to SAMCODES, because they are not tied to a Stock Exchange, and they are a Standard and not a Code, so they have a fair amount of flexibility in terms of when and how to do updates and the frequency thereof.

They are currently updating the PERC Standard and incorporating a lot of ESG components into that as they proceed. Discussions had been held with them around the fact that SAMESG wanted to update the Guidelines and there was going to be quite a lot of work done there. This was not necessarily all of it needing to be aligned with what PERC was doing; but they were going through a similar process.

The intended update to SAMESG is to achieve the goal of making the SAMESG Guidelines far more user friendly for a low-resourced (financial and human resources, not minerals) geologist sitting in the field who had to prepare a CPR and did not have the finances to employ an environmental consultant. SAMESG needs to make the Guideline a lot clearer in terms of guidance and practical tips that such a person could use to apply SAMESG. To do that would mean more work than Ms Botha and Ms Steele-Schober were able to do independently and it would require more than two people to do the updating. Ms Steele-Schober asked if any member of the Committee would like to be part of the SAMESG update sub-committee. Ideally, she would like there to be at least three additional people as part of this process, but she would welcome any additional members who would like to join. She suggested that Richard Horn could be part of this, as he was currently the token 'hard-core' geologist on the Committee; and asked if he would be willing to be involved.

Mr Horn agreed and believed it would be a great learning experience. The following members also volunteered:

Nikki Fisher
Mia Smith
Revash Singh

Tania Marshall and Kevin Davies offered to act in review capacities

Everything that was done would be circulated to the broader Committee for comment, so that everyone would have the opportunity to participate.

Mr Singh advised that he was a geological consultant, working for a consulting company called Rastech. He had been invited to participate in this Committee by Dr Marshall. He agreed to send his contact details to Ms Steele-Schober.

Ms Steele-Schober would set up a meeting within the next few weeks to work out a plan of action.

ACTION: T Steele-Schober

5. SAMESG SQUIRREL AWARDS FOR 2021

Discussed under item 2.

6. GSSA ESG DAY – 22 SEPTEMBER 2020

Ms Steele-Schober shared the draft agenda that had been put together for the ESG Day. She advised that Mr Lomborg would not be available to present, but that there was quite an interesting line-up. The aim was to educate members of the GSSA and other associations, so hopefully there would be a wide range of people attending. Ms Botha would talk about why ESG was important. Ms Dixon had offered to have a brief discussion around ESG from a legal perspective. Dr Marshall would be talking about the JSE requirements and the Squirrel Awards. Mr Johnstone had kindly offered to talk about the value of gathering ESG data early in the exploration phase. Ms Steele-Schober would talk to the development of the SAMESG Guidelines. It had been hoped that Mr Lomborg would be able to talk about the integration of SAMESG, SAMREC and CRIRSCO, but it might be possible to have someone else cover that topic. Regarding the subject of a Competent Person's experience of applying the SAMESG Guidelines, Ms Steele-Schober had been trying to rope in a geologist who was a CP and she would reach out to her contact to talk on that topic. It would be useful to get that person's personal experience as well as any criticism which would be useful when doing the update to the Guideline.

The agenda would be sent out to the Committee members to share within their networks. The agenda did not have to end at lunchtime and the Chairman advised that should there be any other topics that could be covered, these should be put forward.

7. CRIRSCO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

By the time of the next meeting, Ms Steele-Schober would be able to give feedback on the CRIRSCO Annual General Meeting. PERC had asked that she be an independent peer reviewer of their update to their Standard. That would give her insight on how they were planning to integrate ESG into their Standard. CRIRSCO had taken the decision that they would be using the PERC update as a model for other Codes and Standards but were drawing on the experience of SAMESG.

8. GENERAL

Mr Lake asked about posting on the SAMCODES App and advised that he had not heard anything further. Dr Marshall responded that Ms Flitton was getting everything together and she would be in contact with people soonest.

Ms Steele-Schober advised that, through SAMREC, an App for SAMCODES had been developed and SAMESG would have a section on the App which would require a bit of attention from time to time and posting news, etc. Mr Lake had offered to be the champion for the SAMESG part of the App.

9. CLOSING

The Chairperson thanked all members for their participation and advised that the next meeting was scheduled for 26 November 2020. The meeting was closed.

KEY ACTION ITEMS	
1. TERESA STEELE-SCHOBER	Follow up with Ms Mudau regarding her involvement with the Development Account Project.
2. TERESA STEELE-SCHOBER	Prepare a write-up on SAMESG for publication in SAIMM and GSSA journals.
3. TERESA STEELE-SCHOBER, STEVEN RUPPRECHT, TANIA MARSHALL	Set up meeting to work out plan of action for the SAMESG update sub-committee.