SAMESG Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting	25 May 2023	**Time**	11:30
Chaired by:	Teresa Steele-Schober Chair	**Location**	Zoom
Minutes prepared by:	Camielah Jardine		

Present:

Teresa Steele-Schober (Chair)
Maria Antoniades
Kevin Davies
Carla Hudson
Siobhan Joubert
Marvin Lobeko
Ashleigh Maritz
Tania Marshall
Naledi Moeketsi
Tim Rowland
Steven Rupprecht
Seef Vermaak

SAIMM Secretariat:

Camielah Jardine

Apologies:
Richard Horn
Vassie Maharaj
Andy McDonald

Topic	**Discussion**
1. Welcome	Teresa Steele-Schober welcomed all to the meeting and apologies were noted.
2. Acceptance of previous minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2023 were accepted as being a true reflection of proceedings, subject to the following amendments: Page 1, Item 1: Teresa Steele-Schober's name had been incorrectly spelt in the second sentence.
3. Introduction of New Members	In terms of new members, Teresa advised that she and Charlene Wrigley had been having conversations with a range of people with the objective of broadening the organisations and skillsets represented on the Committee; and that it should reflect people who were active in the ESG reporting space.

	Subsequent to these conversations , Teresa welcomed the following people to the Committee: Carla Hudson (ERM) Siobhan Joubert & Naledi Moeketsi (EY) Marvin Lobeko (MSA) Ashleigh Maritz (Ivanhoe) Vassie Maharaj (replacing James Lake) Confirmation was still pending for a representative from Implats. Each new member introduced themselves and offered some background. Teresa welcomed everyone to the Committee.
4. Matters Arising	It was confirmed that the table of e-mail addresses had been sent out by Ms Jardine, who advised that this now needed to be updated. Regarding the calendar invitations for future meetings, these had been sent out. The two remaining meetings for 2023 were scheduled for August and November. The outcomes of the Menti survey would be discussed during the meeting. Richard's details had been sent to Andy McDonald in terms of the App.
5. Focus for 2023	Teresa provided some background on introspection that had been done on how to ensure that SAMESG was being impactful; who should be represented on the Committee, etc. Coming out of this, the priorities for the Committee to remain current for the next 18 months had been distilled as follows: - To ensure that the Committee stayed current and abreast of international developments - To respect confidentiality amongst 'competitors' - Important to have a core of active members - To be a centre of excellence for ESG integration into mineral reporting - Collaboration and adaptability - Clear terms of reference and mandate - Ongoing communication, awareness, and training - Representative of relevant stakeholders Regarding where the committee should go to from here, the following focus for 2023/24 was identified as follows: - SAMESG Update - Awareness and training - Communications - Peer group liaison - Terms of reference review

	The SAMESG update would be an important workstream, as the documents (updated SAMESG Guideline and amendments to SAMREC, including Table 1, and SAMVAL) will be sent to the standing committees to go through a review processes. Regarding awareness and training, this relates to general awareness of the SAMESG guideline and SAMCODES requirements as they are developed and materialised; involvement in training programmes, etc. There was also an important workstream called 'Peer group liaison'. There needs to be collaboration between the various ESG groups within SAIMM, the GSSA and potentially other organisations. The committees needs to co-operate successfully and to be aware of what is happening on each committee. It is also important to ensure that the Terms of Reference remain up-to-date and applicable. Bearing in mind that the serving Chair of the Committee has a time frame, she advised that it would be appropriate for Charlene Wrigley to attend the specific review of the Terms of Reference in anticipation of Charlene potentially becoming Chair when Teresa's term ends. As the Vice-Chair, she would need to sign these off in any event, so it was a good opportunity for a set of fresh eyes to look at the Terms of Reference. Charlene had agreed to take that on. The Committee was also looking for people to volunteer to get involved with the various work streams. Conversations would be held with volunteers offline. Kevin Davies volunteered to get involved in 'Awareness and Training'. The communications aspect would include things like helping with the roll-out of the amendments, once the SAMESG Guideline and SAMREC/SAMVAL amendments had been finalised. Then SAMESG, as the custodian of the SAMESG Guidelines, would be expected to facilitate communication as part of the roll-out. That linked in to 'Awareness and Training' because that workstream would also have to be active in developing and arranging training programmes to help people understand what was contained in the documents. The two portfolios would overlap, but clarity would be established over time. Charlene stated her support for targeted direction and portfolios, where certain agendas would be driven at a certain speed, or a cadence where that may be required. The only thing that she wanted to add was that this would evolve over time. There was an opportunity for evolution as well as a response to needs. The workstreams did not need to be cast in stone and she advised that an 18-month trajectory could be considered. Teresa agreed and, for now, these were the main priorities, and this was fairly flexible.

	Tim thanked Teresa and Charlene for setting up the landscape. He noted that one of the areas he was particularly sensitive to were the potential barriers to this piece of work being successful. He suspected that awareness, training and communication could be dealt with head on. He believed that the SAMESG working groups and committee were very much on the right road to draft the necessary product; but if it was not going to be fully endorsed and embraced by the JSE, there would be a problem with it following right through to the Section 12 listing requirements. He asked whether there was awareness and communication around the effects that particular issue would have. Teresa responded that there was a logical fit there; however, the one caveat she would make was that the liaison with the JSE was really the role of the SAMCodes Standards Committee. SAMESG, as a committee, could support and provide subject matter expertise to the SSC, but the SSC was effectively constituted by and included the JSEas part of its mandate and terms of reference. In terms of advocacy and those conversations, the SSC had a primary role in that, with support from SAMESG as the subject matter experts. The peer group liaison body had a role to play there in terms of those conversations. It was her understanding that the primary role of the SSC would be to initiate those conversations, with support from the other committees. Tania confirmed that anybody could get involved, but it should preferably flow through the SAMESG Committee up to the SSC and then directly to the JSE. Kevin noted that the ISSB Sustainability 1 and 2 standards had been issued. The JSE had advised that they would be voluntary in South Africa, not mandatory; so the ISSB standards would be voluntary unless the JSE made them mandatory in the listing rules. The JSE had already indicated that the ISSB standards would remain voluntary. It was a matter of how to slowly try and merge some of those standards into the ESG rules/guidelines, in the hope that at least the JSE might permit them to be included within resource and reserve reporting even though they may not necessarily appear in the integrated reports unless the company voluntarily decided to include this. Teresa did not believe South Africa or the JSE were alone in this and noted that she was aware that many of the other jurisdictions were also having these conversations. The reason why PERC was able to get their standards amended so easily was because they did not have a Stock Exchange relationship in the same way as other reporting codes did. They had been able to make their changes based on subject matter experts, but they did not have that tie with Stock Exchanges. Charlene advised that Tim's comment was not only applicable to the SAMESG Guideline update, but she believed that when some of the other portfolios delivered their mandates, they would also have barriers to implementation because their vision was that it would not only be the SAMESG update that

	those portfolios would be driving – they would be driving the wholeness and the health of the SAMESG Steering Committee. It could be contributing to GSSA activities, SAIMM activities or other industry practice examples, challenges, etc. She felt that the barriers to the implementation of all these portfolios were a common thread that needed to be looked at in order to see what the opportunities and constraints were and what the best way forward was. She saw it as an important consideration not just for the SAMESG update, but in other areas too. Tim noted that recent EU documentation specifically reporting on ESG procedure in the EU would need to be in compliance with UNFC Standards, so that added an extra layer of complexity. Teresa had been invited to talk to the EU regulators in Brussels in response to that, because it was related to the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA) that the EU had prepared there and was currently out for comment. Industry was working hard to engage with the EU on the UNFC requirements. There was still going to be a lot of conversation in that space. She noted that the CRMA is reliant on strategic partnerships with African countries in terms of critical minerals. One of the EU requirements for countries to qualify as a strategic partner supplying critical minerals would be that the project would have to adhere to ESG requirements. That was another grey area. Bruce congratulated Teresa on getting some of the larger mining companies involved. The strategic partnership in terms of securing metal supply going forward and why this was urgent for South Africa is an imperative that the JSE is aware of. He also noted that care had to be taken not to lose listings from the stock exchange.
6. Feedback on SAMCODES ESG Integration and SAMESG update	Maria provided feedback on progress made to date. The group was trying to establish what was important to be reported; how it should be reported; and the value of that. The working group had evolved around this. The group was making good progress with updating the ESG Guideline, incorporating the ESG parameters into SAMREC, adding modifications to SAMREC Table 1 and SAMVAL. The approach was to encourage some integrated thinking rather than having 'tick boxes'. Overall, they had been monitoring what other Codes were doing and trying to understand how they were approaching integration into the Codes and keeping an eye on what JORC were doing. That was being used as a benchmark. There was lots of technical debate happening and it was aimed to distribute their thoughts to all the different workshops throughout the SAMCodes Committees for their input in order to have integrated feedback and input into the final documents.

7. Feedback from CRIRSCO ESG Sub-committee	Teresa reported that the CRIRSCO ESG Sub-committee had been discussing definitions for some time. Earlier this year, a small working group was constituted to be the 'engine room' driving action within that space. That working group came up with what was a final draft set of definitions and these were currently being circulated to the various NROs. There had been conversations at different levels within CRIRSCO around particularly the Governance space, i.e. the definition of Governance in the context of mineral reporting. The view of the steering committee and working group was that they would complete the workshop and then take the information back for further comment from the NROs, so that some of the potential fears that this working group was going to mandate heaps of Governance reporting could be assuaged by showing the whole picture. The work plan was being developed in terms of what the next steps would look like. There was an initial ambition to have that tied up by the CRIRSCO AGM in October this year, however realistically that that was unlikely.
8. Feedback from the GSSA ESG Division	Tania advised that a conversation had been held previously around a GSSA ESG webinar scheduled for July to update stakeholders on the SAMCodes ESG Working Group. This would be a half-day webinar and the agenda would be circulated. She noted that the details should be available during the next week. **Action**: Tania Marshall
9. Feedback from the SAIMM ESGS Committee	Teresa advised that currently there was no formal communication with the SAIMM ESGS Committee, other than the fact that the SAIMM Secretariat was trying to keep the groups together. She believed it would be beneficial for the mining industry for everyone to co-operate more closely. She asked the committee whether liaison should be formalised between the SAIMM ESGS and this group. Her idea was that there should be a standing agenda item that would provide the mechanism for feedback from both committees and to give the opportunity to discuss things and find areas of collaboration. Prof Solomon could be approached in this regard or, alternatively, it might be more useful to have one of the SAMESG representatives provide that liaison role both within SAIMM and the other committees; and then the agenda point would be the opportunity for that person to give feedback. Kelly asked what the context was; as, in her experience, these groups had not been functional. Teresa was not sure about the extent to which the groups were functional, but she did know that there had been a co-ordination discussion between the GSSA, SAIMM and SAMCodes around potentially

	collaborating on conversations around ESG reporting, which led to the draft agenda that would now be a webinar for the GSSA day in July. There had also been invitations circulated to all three entities to join a webinar, to have a conversation around professional representation of ESG practitioners and there was another similar ESG meeting on Friday. There were some things happening, but she was not sure how effective or active this group would be. Each committee had its own specific mandate and she believed that the different organisations should be aware of what the others were doing. She believed that many environmental practitioners would be registered under SACNASP anyway. Teresa responded that the problem was that there was no professional registration for social people. Kelly was wary of duplications. Steve advised that ESGS was going strong and he agreed that there should be some interaction. SAIMM was looking at getting ESG people to register with them and by being involved with the SAIMM ESGS Committee, those gaps could be closed. In the short-term, it was not going away and there were various senior people involved and it was a very active committee within SAIMM. Maria believed it would be good to have the interaction, but that it would be better to have an SAIMM person step into this platform and be the conduit. There was support for that. Steve advised that he was on the ESGS Committee and was happy to fulfil that when he could attend meetings. Teresa believed it was important for Prof Solomon to be aware of this expectation and a call would be arranged. **Action**: Teresa Steele-Schober
10. General	Teresa again asked whether there was an appetite for in-person meetings. Tania suggested that Teresa should co-ordinate that all committees have an in-person meeting on the same day. Camielah responded that SAIMM had tried to host all three meetings as a hybrid set-up in May; and only one person attended each of the meetings. SAIMM was leaving it up to the committees to decide, as a collective, how to move forward. It was agreed to leave this virtual for the time being. One item that had come from the SAMREC meeting held earlier was that there was a SAMCodes App which the SAMREC Committee had been running with for some time. SAMESG also had a duty to contribute to that and Charlene asked everybody to think about how to interact and get more visibility. Richard Horn was the representative on the App working group. Tim mentioned that as a member of the different industry forma, he had co-authored a paper on ESG integration into mineral reporting. It was presented by one of the co-authors at the Minerals Estimation Conference in Perth, which had nearly 600 delegates present. It went down very well and it

	went some way to putting a spotlight on ESG matters and to get traction in the industry. As soon as he had AusIMM permission to circulate it, he would be more than happy for that to go through the committee. Teresa advised the meeting to note that she had a new e-mail address.
11. Closing	Teresa thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting and for the work done behind the scenes.
12. Next meeting	The next meeting was scheduled to take place on 31 August 2023.

Matters arising/Action Items

Meeting Date	Action	Responsible	Due	Status	Comments
25/05/23	Draw up new table with members' e-mail addresses and circulate	Gugu Charlie & Camielah Jardine	August 2023		
25/05/23	Send details of GSSA ESG webinar	Tania Marshall	01 June 2023		
25/05/23	Discuss with Prof Solomon having an SAIMM on ESGS Committee to act as conduit re information sharing	Teresa Steele-Schober	August 2023		