



**FRUIT INDUSTRY VALUE CHAIN ROUND TABLE  
RECORDS OF DECISIONS  
Bulletin No. 1 of 2014  
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**BACKGROUND OF THE FRUIT INDUSTRY VALUE CHAIN ROUND TABLE**

Following the fruit industry's request for the establishment of a value chain round table within the fruit sector, the inaugural sitting of the Fruit Industry Value Chain Round Table (FIVCRT) took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2014 at the City Lodge, OR Tambo International Airport. The FIVCRT is a partnership between government, the fruit industry as well as labour and its aim is to foster collaborative industry-government actions that help to secure an enduring competitive advantage of the fruit sector. The FIVCRT is envisaged to involve all critical role players within the entire fruit value chain.

The FIVCRT will, amongst others, influence policy and strategy development, contribute to the development of joint solutions to respond to industry crisis, provide a platform to jointly address food safety, employment and labour issues, jointly advocate for market access and improved trade conditions, guide and direct scientific research, etc. Records of critical decisions taken at every VCRT meeting will be communicated to the entire fruit industry in the form of bulletins and other forms of relevant communication methods. This bulletin marks the first form of communication of decisions of the FIVCRT and the fruit industry must look forward to other bulletins after every sitting of the FIVCRT.

**RECORD OF DECISIONS**

Following a decision to adopt the Fruit Industry Social Compact (FISC) as a point of departure for the work of the FIVCRT, the inaugural meeting decided on the formation of the following working groups:

- Employment and worker welfare (Leader: Mr. N. Pieterse);
- Trade (Leader: Mr. J. Chadwick);
- Transformation (Leader: Mr. A. Rabe);
- Resources (Leader: Mr. A. Kruger); and
- Research and development (Mr. W. Bestbier).

The working groups are based on the six work streams identified in the FISC. Between the inaugural meeting and the next meeting of the FIVCRT, the five working groups are expected to do the following:

- Working group leaders will identify five priority areas for their respective groups and also identify relevant stakeholders to participate in the working groups;
- Working groups will develop terms of reference (ToRs) and action plans;
- The ToRs and action plans for other established VCRTs will be circulated to FIVCRT stakeholders as a form of reference;
- The ToRs and action plans for all working groups will be presented at the next FIVCRT meeting for further inputs and adoption; and
- All leaders of the working groups were urged to contact the secretariat should there be a need for assistance.

It was announced that Mrs. Alexander was serving her last day as a co-chairperson representing the fruit industry and that Mr. Derek Donkin will be the new co-chairperson of the FIVCRT.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is 27 May 2014.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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