



FRUIT INDUSTRY VALUE CHAIN ROUND TABLE (FIVCRT) RECORD OF DECISIONS (13th SESSION) Bulletin No. 1 of 2017

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The 1st FIVCRT review session

The 13th session of the FIVCRT, held on the 30th of May 2017 in Pretoria, was earmarked and dedicated to review the work of the FIVCRT. The main purpose of the review session was to determine whether the round table is on track to achieve its goals or not. All working groups with exception of Research and Technical Working Group made presentations that highlighted achievements, challenges and further necessary steps set to achieve their objectives as outlined in their Terms of References (ToRs).

Review session of the FIVCRT performance and its working groups

Generally, the FIVCRT had fair successes in the various work streams, but equally challenges still lies ahead. The Trade Working Group, mandated to give substance to the Fruit Industry Social Compact (FISC) on matters related to trade, progressed fairly well over the past 3 years. The FIVCRT made progress to retain, expand and attract prioritised markets globally. The main obstacles in some of the markets are tariffs, CBS, FCM, political instability and labeling but are receiving attention of the authorities within the FIVCRT.

On labour matters, The Employment and Worker Welfare Working Group (EWWWG) together with CCMA delivered the pilot individual Workplace Mediation Service. The main challenge for the pilot projects was on the low uptake by workers. The working group (WG) will soon engage CCMA to roll the service across the country. The WG also completed Farm Worker Wellness Programme which waits funding for implementation. The WG is also making progress to resolve most of the issues raised in the 21 worker proposed made in 2012. Together with wine industry, the WG will host a strategic session in June 2017 to pave ways to resolve challenges blocking attainment of issues in the 21 worker proposal documents.

The Transformation Working Group has a facilitated strategic session, attended by a wide range of stakeholders. The Workshops has led to revising ToR focusing on enterprise development. The WG is currently developing standardise a reporting template that will enable stakeholders to easily update and record progress on all dimensions of transformation. This will include profiling ownership, plantings, funding, technical and extension support, mentorship, training and trade/market access requirements of emerging black fruit growers.

On the Local Markets Working Group, the Convenor and the team with support of chairpersons will undertake research to establish the scope of Working Groups.

Way Forward

Convenors will align ToRs of WGs with the contents and substance of the Operation Phakisa report. On cost associated with FIVCRT, The FruitSA will during the next meeting report on how together with government, could cover operational cost of the FIVCRT.

Date of the next meeting

The next FIVCRT meeting will be held on the 31 August 2017.

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