

Global PSP Review: South Africa as a Case Study

Record of Meeting, 10th March 2005

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAFF) hosted a meeting on 10th March 2005 to determine whether or not there was support from a broad range of stakeholders for South Africa to be considered as a national case study within the global multi-stakeholder review of private sector participation in water and sanitation (Global Review of PSP). Demand for the Global Review of PSP was identified through an extensive Scoping process which culminated in a Stakeholder Workshop in Berlin, June 2004. The proposed methodology is to identify a number of national processes that would feed into an international review process.

The South African meeting was attended by representatives from government, the private sector, civil society and labour (participants list attached) who discussed:

- a) how the Global PSP Review would be useful in South Africa (including a discussion of risks)
- b) if the group supported South Africa as a case study, and
- c) if so, how we get it off the ground

Conclusion

There was broad in-principle agreement from the group that the Review would be useful in South Africa, provided it was aligned with national reform and policy processes. Benefits would be derived from an inclusive process where stakeholders sat round the table and came up with a common framework and some kind of guidelines, although there might not be total consensus on all issues. The group felt that the national process should be broader than identified in Berlin and focus on both *public and private* sector delivery, with the emphasis on how to improve public sector delivery, particularly in small municipalities.

Way forward

A small group was mandated to develop a draft framework for a South African process, based on the Global Water Scoping Process reframing questions and the questions arising from the Regulation Conference held from 21st – 23rd Feb 2005. The draft framework will be circulated to the bigger group for comment. Once agreement is reached on an appropriate process for South Africa, discussions will be held with the international Working Group on its “fit” within the Global Review process. Letters of endorsement will be written by key South African stakeholders to facilitate fund-raising and commencement of the Review.

Participants

Anti-Privatisation Forum - Bricks Mokolo

City of Johannesburg - Laila Smith

Dept. of Water Affairs and Forestry - Barbara Schreiner, Helgard Muller, Fred van Zyl, Iris Lebepe, Marie Brisley, Sugandree Muruvan

Environmental Monitoring Group / International Working Group - Jessica Wilson

Johannesburg Water Management - Jean-Pierre Mas

Mvula Trust - Martin Rall

SA Water Caucus - Hameda Deedat

SA Municipal Workers Union - Jeff Rudin

WSSA - Tony Sanders

Resource person - Penny Urquhart