



RECONFIGURATION OF THE WSLG

*Key issues for noting and
implications for the MCC*

**Presented to MCC
13 February 2009**



INTRODUCTION

- The WSLG has been restructuring itself to be the highest strategic collaborative body for the water sector
- In July 2008, the WSLG considered new water sector challenges and how the WSLG can be effectively used to facilitate sector cooperation. The review had to consider
 - Revision of ToR (membership, delegation etc)
 - Establishment of strategic task teams
 - Establishment of an EXCO to provide technical support
- In November 2008, the review was expanded to include alignment of existing structures such as the MCC and NSTT into the reconfigured arrangement



KEY PROPOSALS (1)

- WSLG organisational representation has been reviewed to include key sector partners and organisations from link-sectors such as mining, energy, agriculture, etc in addition to private and civil sectors.
- The WSLG will be composed of senior level representatives
- Strategic task teams for priority and strategic issues will be established – currently nine task teams are proposed – WfGD, Skills, Sanitation (existing NSTT), finance, NWRS, WCDM, Institutional reform, IAM and Regulation.



KEY PROPOSALS (2)

- The MCC to report to the WSLG but not as a strategic task team and to play a more programme/sector coordination role with regions and key water sector partners
- Reporting links to be strengthened to ensure mutual flow of information/reports/decisions between the MCC and the WSLG



**Role of MCC –
its purpose, agenda, membership and
annual schedule of meetings.**



CONTEXT

- In a dynamic environment on-going review of collaborative processes and structures is necessary to ensure continued relevance
- Adapt or die!
- Any change must be seen in the context of other collaborative structures Hence review as initiated by WSLG EXCO
- MCC has gone thru metamorphosis - even changing name ... W(S)SCC
- BUT its purpose has remained constant



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WS SECTOR LEADERSHIP GROUP

To guide the WS Sector to achieve its vision and contribute to the development goals and economic growth of the country.

MCC/WSSCC

National coordination & reporting of sector

Sector to report qualitatively at a strategic level on progress against sector goals and targets with the aim of:-

1. Assessing performance, addressing constraints & advising on budget allocation
2. Coordinating implementation and support for improved delivery
3. Ensuring an informed sector working collaboratively in common direction

PROVINCIAL WATER (SERVICES) SECTOR FORUMS
Collaborative development & implementation of strategies & plans



OBJECTIVES OF MCC

- To enable sector to monitor its progress & ability to meet objectives & targets
- To raise critical issues that can be taken up at a national level with relevant parties
- To address critical issues in a timely manner
- To facilitate coordination of programmes, initiatives and activities
- To inform the strategy & policy making processes of national



OBJECTIVES (cont)

- To assist in better planning for succeeding years
- To share and exchange information and viewpoints across provinces and with national sector players
- To ensure Masibambane and other donor support is targeted and effective in order to meet sector needs and ensure sustainable delivery of water services
- To give special attention to cross cutting issues for sustainability (such as gender equity, environmental management, appropriate technology and involvement of civil society, especially NGOs and CBOs.)



So what is new?

□ 3 factors impacting on role of MCC, compelling us to re-think:-

- W4GD
 - ✓ much wider ambit – inter-sectoral, multi-disciplinary
- Representation of the water sector as a whole
 - ✓ Not WS with WR as an add-on
- WSLG clarified & redefined. Now *top level leadership* removing duplication with MCC



So what does it mean? ... building on what is working

□ MCC remains valid national platform :-

- ✓ for *all* sector partners (not a DWAF structure, not a Govt only structure)
- ✓ to debate, assess and analyse state of sector & its progress
- ✓ to ensure at strategic level effective *implementation* by sharing experiences and lessons, keeping informed and collectively taking responsibility



So what does it mean? looking at opportunities

□ MCC is poised to be the place ‘*where it happens*’:-

- ✓ bringing together the drivers and doers across the sector spectrum
- ✓ exciting opportunity to provide the means of coordinating and monitoring sector contribution to W4GD based on the provincial ‘Water for Growth & Development’ plans and priority national programmes/functions



So what does it mean? . looking at what needs to change

- ❑ In order to work better and play a coordinating & monitoring role for W4GD need to look at:-
 - ✓ Positioning MCC so it feeds into and is informed by decision making bodies
 - ✓ Structuring representation (not free for all but mandated reps)
 - ✓ Clarifying lines of communication and accountability
 - ✓ Re-designing the agenda



Positioning MCC

- Understand what coordination mechanisms already exist (esp WR) & link in with and build on those
- Determine where best and how to bring together (WS & WR) so that you do not 'drown' all into one basket but allow justice to be done within each
- Understand in which fora, water sector should engage for informed decision making on issues that are relevant to water (eg. IGR structures)
- Link in with decision making of the sector (eg budget)
- Within water sector look at which structures sector (MCC) reps could participate (eg WSLG Strategic Task Teams, WISA task teams)



Structuring representation

- Ensure all sector forums/bodies are represented (in fact provincial fora should be the backbone)
- Everyone should know why they are at MCC and to whom they are responsible
- MCC delegates should be:
 - ✓ mandated by the fora / organisation / programme / they are representing
 - ✓ responsible for feeding back to their constituency
 - ✓ consistent in their attendance but allowed one 'alternate'



Suggested participants

❑ 5 categories:-

- ❑ **Sector structures/fora** (eg Provincial sector fora, CMAs, DWSMF, Cities Network, WSMF, WIN-SA, FETWater, etc)
- ❑ **Water institutions/professional bodies** - WISA, SAAWU, WRC, SAICE etc
- ❑ **Programmes / functions** – champions/drivers of key programmes or functional areas (this will determine DWAF representation)
- ❑ **Other sectors – water partners** – SALGA, donors, dplg – MIT3 & Basic Services, Eskom, DBSA, relevant departments (though their representation might be better incorporated through other means)
- ❑ **Civil Society / NGOs**



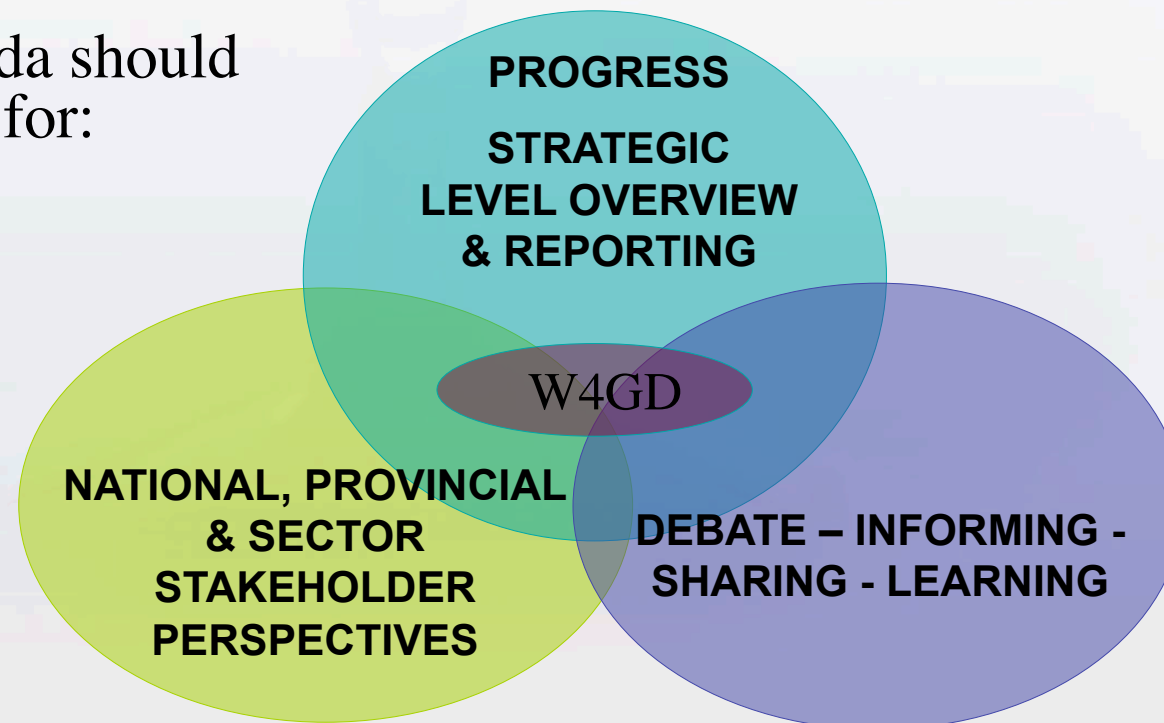
Lines of communication & accountability

- MCC should not exist in isolation
- Define the lines of accountability – eg between WSLG, Provincial Sector Fora
- Determine how to feed into and get feedback from other key structures
- If MCC is a national platform for raising issues – need clear lines of communication for them to be taken up
- If continuing to monitor progress and expenditure and advise on budget reallocation, then important to establish legitimacy of this role and lines of reporting.



Re-designing the Agenda

- Historically tried all different ways!
- The big issue is too much to do in too little time – never allowing time for discussion. Every one wants their say!
- Agenda should cater for:





Agenda Proposals

Need more time!

Agenda format:

- ✓ Day 1 am: Sector progress overview & financials (M&E report) with rotating respondents from provinces, programmes and sector partners.
- ✓ Day 1 pm: Sector partner reports but focused on key topics &/or critical issues &/or matters of relevance for information
- ✓ Day 2 am: Topical issues – input & debate
- ✓ Day 2 am: Hot news – any lessons to share & events to be informed about



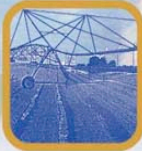
NB

- Schedule remains on quarterly basis in sync with govt planning timetable (Feb, May, August, Nov)
- Decisions on how to roll out & implement W4GD and through which structures will directly impact on the final role and modus operandi of the MCC
- The review of collaborative structures being undertaken by WSLG will determine final arrangements but MCC sector members should make input



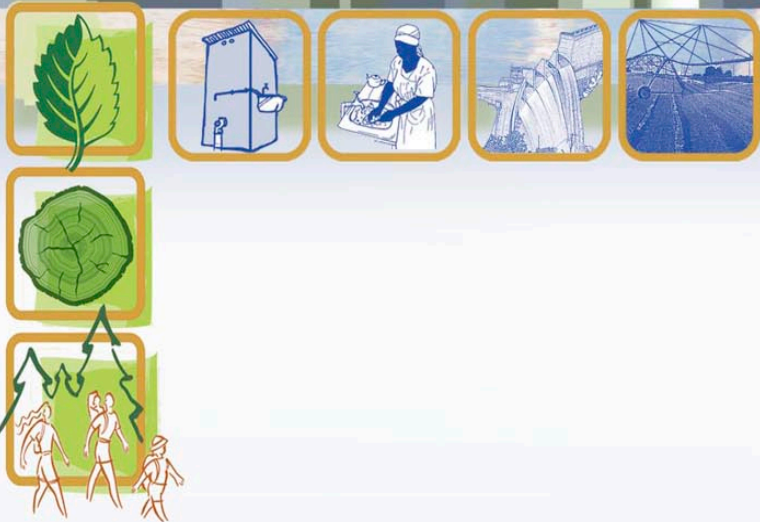
What's in a name??

- ❑ If MCC is too Water Services, personality, donor, or programme linked Why not change it to better reflect its role?
 - ✓ National Water Forum?
 - ✓ Water for Growth & Development Forum (move from Masibambane as the sector slogan to W4GD!)
 - ✓ Any good ideas??



????

- Do you agree with:-
 - ✓ The focus on W4GD – as the framework around which we meet and report?
 - ✓ Meeting quarterly for day and half?
 - ✓ Way of structuring participation, MCC composition and responsibilities of delegates?
 - ✓ Agenda proposals?
 - ✓ Need for name change?
- Do you have ideas on role of MCC and for its improvement?
- Would you like to make input into the sector collaborative review? Inform ??? Make written submission to: duman@dwaf.gov.za



Thank You!