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India National Platform on Private Sustainability Standards

Hosted by the **Quality Council of India**

Launched by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Supported by the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards

13 December 2016

Dear Madam/Sir,

Invitation to the First Meeting of the Multi-Stakeholder Committee of the India National PSS Platform

As you may be aware, the India National Platform for Private Sustainability Standards, which is supported by the United Nations Forum on Sustainable Standards (UNFSS), was formally launched on 18 March 2016, by Commerce Secretary Ms. Rita Teaotia, in presence of high-level representatives from UN organs, consulates, government, statutory bodies, industry associations, global retailers, private standard bodies, and donor agencies.

The objective of the Indian PSS Platform is to facilitate dialogue between public and private stakeholders on how to maximize the sustainable development benefits and market access opportunities of PSS, whilst addressing potential challenges and cost of PSS implementation, in particular for small-scale producers.

As the first step to institutionalize the demand-driven PSS Platform, we plan to follow the international best practices by convening a **Multi-Stakeholder Committee** (MSC). It is our pleasure to further inform you that Dr. Harsha Vardhana Singh, Former Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization, has kindly consented to Chair the MSC.

In order to have a balanced stakeholder composition to drive the process, we are happy to invite you for the **First Meeting of the MSC** which will be hosted by QCI on **16 December 2016** from **09:30 to 13:30 Hours** at **The Royal Plaza, 19, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 01**. Please find enclosed the Agenda Note [QCI/MSC/INPPSS/2016/2 (Rev.)] and the Provisional Agenda [QCI/MSC/INPPSS/2016/3] for this meeting for your kind perusal.

Kindly write back to us at kamla@qcin.org for confirming your nomination and for participation in the MSC.

Looking forward to a favourable reply.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Manish Pande

Joint Director & Head PADD

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