



**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

02 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 Teatota, 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, Janpath Lane, Connaught Place, New Delhi – 01**. Please find enclosed the Agenda Note (QCI/MSC/INPPSS/2016/2) for this meeting.

The provisional agenda for this meeting is under composition, and we would urge you to share the two important concerns/ questions / issues / areas where you would want the platform to focus and intervene. Please send this to us by 17:00 Hrs. 8 December 2016. Once the inputs are received by us, we shall consider its inclusion as part of the provisional agenda of the meeting – which we will send across by 12 December 2016.

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

Looking forward for a favourable early reply.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Manish Pande
Joint Director, Quality Council of India