



South African National Commission for UNESCO



26 June 2007

To whom it may concern

Cc Dr. N. Mbananga

Re: Endorsement of SANKIMKE by South African National Commission for UNESCO

South African National Commission for UNESCO (NATCOM) is pleased with the establishment of SANKIMKE (South African National Centre for Informatics, Knowledge Management and Knowledge Economy).

The main aim of the centre is to coordinate information and knowledge at a national level with the view of creating knowledge societies leading to knowledge economies. The goals and objectives of the centre are outlined below:

Goals

The goals of the centre are listed below

- Bridge silos in the creation of information and knowledge nationally
- Coordinate and manage information and knowledge of the country in a virtual environment leading to economic growth and development
- Create National Knowledge assets
- Improve evidence based decision for policy- makers
- Grow Knowledge Transfer Partnerships
- Encourage knowledge and information based innovation
- Contribute to Knowledge for all by 2015

Objectives

- Index locally developed information and knowledge
- Develop a virtual access gateway to country resources
- Coordinate, collate, analyse, synthesize and crystallize information and knowledge
- Conduct Information and knowledge Reviews
- Develop knowledge transfer partnerships
- Develop feedback loop for decision making

- Establish Communities of Practice and Interest
- Support knowledge management efforts in the country
- Facilitate KM standards and benchmarks
- Conduct IKME Research, monitoring and evaluation
- Establish IKM Professional Bodies (Council and Associations)

The Centre will use the ICTs in disseminating information and knowledge to communities and society of South Africa and beyond over time. We believe that the centre is critically positioned in carrying UNESCO'S Mission forward particularly the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The centre is a public organization (Section 21 Company) whose aim and purpose is to uplift every community in South Africa particularly in creating knowledge partnerships between Academia, Communities and Industry. In this way the centre will facilitate development of rural communities by linking them with the main streams of knowledge and industry. In this way targeting both digital and socio-economic divide.

It is in this view that the South African National Commission for UNESCO is endorsing this centre. We request that your company/ organisation support this Centre in everyway it can. This support will enable the Centre to achieve its goals and objectives, thus contributing to the attainment of UNESCO goals in South Africa, Africa and internationally.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chairperson
Communication & Information Sector