

# Agri SA Conference

## Recommendations: Session 1

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- Most important – Jesaja 40
  - Knowing we live in an imperfect world
  - Farmers must hope, build and trust in the Lord
- Jaarlikse konferensies moet voortgesit word om standpunte op 'n nasionale en openbare forum soos hierdie te debatteer. Dit in eie reg is 'n volwaardige PPP.

- A clear and detailed analysis of the “unlevel playing field” has become a real priority. We need to sit down with all stakeholders to comprehensively assess what this entails and how it can be effectively countered

- The call on agriculture for employment creation should be evaluated within the context of all government policies. These policies should on an individual basis and as a package be subjected to a “SWOT” analysis

- The IGDP emphasizes issues of governance as an equally important pillar, equal to participation, profitability etc. The consultative process up to now left some room for improvement and we urge government to involve Agri SA in the structures which will deal with implementation planning and implementation as such.

- We must stop talking and start implementation. Without implementation the rural economy will not survive and government will not attain job creation and food security

- Agri SA most certainly wish to further participate fully in disaster management and in establishing a climate change strategy. This should be elevated to one of the priorities of the IGDP

- We will most certainly avail ourselves to provide inputs on what the portfolio committee wants to do in relation to the IGDP. We will provide input on the impact of other policies in the agricultural sector.

- Given different development plans, such as the IGDP, IPAP2, etc, we need closer collaboration between relevant government departments and Agri SA. We can no longer operate in silos.

- Private sector, including commodity organisations, is committed and will provide services capacity and support to all farmers in the interest of South Africa. The nature and extent of PPP's to take this matter requires scrutinisation

- Specifics in relation to tariff policy should surely involve the agricultural sector and the specific subsectors to a larger extent. Cognizance should be taken of the growing importance of SPS measures as trade barriers

- We need to get behind the reality that biofuels are not taking off. We need to revisit the biofuel strategy, the role it could play within a greener economy and with respect to the possibilities of biofuel in relation to the creation of decent jobs.

- Need to determine why we are not making the necessary contribution especially with respect to packaging and processing required by IPAP2.
- IPAP2.1 seems likely to involve the agriculture sector to a larger extent. Through NEDLAC and in own right we must become more involved also in relation to the energy markets.

- We must make more use of SPS, TBT's and NTB's to lock in the benefits of SA produced products, while locking out sub-standard competition to local products.

- IPAP2.1 and the New Growth Plan will place bigger demands on the agricultural sector and trade policy will have to take on a supportive role. We need to clearly define trade policy and also have to sit down with ITAC to deal with the, as Rian called it, the confusing state of affairs i.e. consistency.

- African farmers have the obligation to feed South Africa. The only thing that we as farmers require from government is to create an environment where we can produce at a profitable and sustainable way and in a safe and secure environment.

# Thank you

