



Téléfax : (+ 41 22) 917 05 04
Téléphone : (+ 41 22) 917 51 76
E-mail : guillermo.valles@unctad.org

Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Genève 10

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**UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS
PROPOSAL TO THE QUALITY COUNCIL OF INDIA**

Dear Dr. Singh,

On behalf of the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards Steering Committee, we thankfully acknowledge the letter dated 8th December 2015, from the Quality Council of India and are very pleased to provide the required support in setting up the India National Platform on Private Sustainability Standards (PSS).

As the nodal agency on PSS, appointed by the Government of India, we believe that QCI is the most suitable agency to coordinate and house the Indian National Platform on PSS. In this letter we would like to reiterate that the National Platform would be created and owned by national stakeholders and demand-driven.

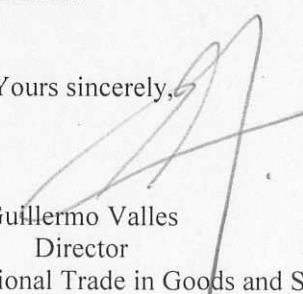
Through this letter, UNCTAD on behalf of UNFSS would like to confirm the following:

- It will assist in organizing the launching event for the India National PSS Platform.
- It will participate in appropriate briefing sessions for stakeholders including targeted media engagement.
- It will provide analytical and organizational support to the PSS Platform.
- It will prepare in close consultation with all concerned public and private stakeholders a study on the priority product groups exposed to PSS and review best practice cases of PSS-application in India, reflecting the related recommendations made at the platform-launching event.
- The activities of this joint initiative are further deliberated in the appended Statement of Work, jointly prepared by UNFSS and QCI, subject to funds availability.

To assist QCI and coordinate with UNFSS Geneva in the above-mentioned activities, Mr. Ralf Peters, Officer-in-Charge, Trade Analysis Branch, Mr. Santiago Fernandez de Cordoba, Economist, and Mr. Arpit Bhutani will assist in the above-mentioned activities.

UNFSS with its five UN agencies (FAO, ITC, UNCTAD, UNEP and UNIDO) looks forward to a fruitful collaboration with QCI in making this platform a success.

Yours sincerely,


Guillermo Valles
Director

Division on International Trade in Goods and Services,
and Commodities

Dr. R.P Singh
Secretary General
Quality Council of India
New Dehi
India