

17 September 2013

CONFIDENTIAL

PER E-MAIL

Dear NGO Friends

CBSS POLICY ON ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES RELATING TO WATER GOVERNANCE MATTERS

As most of you are aware, CBSS was established in 2008 as an independent advisory service to assist both the public and private sector in finding sustainable environmental and knowledge management solutions for practical environmental governance, policy, procedure and authorisation difficulties, as well as for potential problems that could lead to environmental damage or pollution, with associated negative consequences.

We regard it as part of our corporate social responsibility to assist communities whose water supply and livelihoods are under threat as a result of neighbouring activities that (could potentially) cause water loss or water pollution, and have assisted a number of such communities at a reduced cost, or even on a pro bono basis. We will continue to provide this service, and you are welcome to contact us to discuss the basis on which we assist any such community that you may represent.

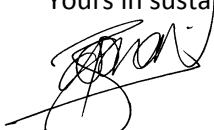
Recently, however, it has occurred that this service has been offered to (mostly affluent) stakeholders who are concerned about a water governance issue, but whose livelihood is not under threat as a result of a neighbouring activity. Unfortunately, providing assistance to such stakeholders has the effect that valuable resources are taken away from those communities who are in real need of our expertise, and who have an imminent threat towards their health, well-being or food security as a result of impacts on their water resources.

As we do not want to curtail our services to NGOs, we have decided that our services will no longer be provided at a reduced cost to stakeholders who are concerned about a water governance issue, but whose livelihood is not under threat. Should such stakeholders approach your organisation, and you wish to refer them to CBSS for assistance, kindly note that they will only be assisted if they are prepared to carry the full cost of our involvement.

We trust that you will understand our position in this regard, and we look forward to continue working with you in assisting communities who lacks the expertise, and who have an imminent threat towards their health, well-being or food security as a result of impacts on their water resources. We will continue to provide this service at reduced cost, or on a pro-bono basis, depending on the circumstances.

As each case has to be judged on its merit, please do not hesitate to contact us should there be any aspect that you wish to discuss in this respect.

Yours in sustainability



Carin Bosman
Director: CBSS

