

Approach to sustainability and governance of sustainability

Approach to sustainability

Omnia's approach towards its own sustainability and its contribution to a sustainable global economy is informed by international guidelines and best practices, the South African Companies Act, 2008, as amended, the King Code of Corporate Governance for South Africa of 2009 (King III), and the JSE's Social Responsibility Index (SRI).

The Group operates within a broad context of macro-economic realities and social, regulatory, community and environmental influences. All of these inform our commercial activities and the long-term sustainability of our business model.

The Group subscribes to the principles of openness, integrity and accountability and the concept of the triple bottom line. These embrace economic, social and environmental relationships through an integrated sustainability approach that encompasses all Group stakeholders – our shareholders, customers, employees, suppliers, Governments and the communities in which we operate. We continue integrating economic development, environmental quality and social equity into our business practices, to constantly improve Group performance in a sustainable manner.

Governance of sustainability

Omnia's Board is ultimately responsible for the key governance processes and sustainable growth, performance and affairs of the Group. The Board delegates to the social, ethics and risk committee its responsibility for monitoring and managing the Group's social and economic development, good corporate citizenship (including the promotion of equality and environmental, health and public safety), good labour conditions and good business ethics.

The social, ethics and risk committee constitutes a statutory committee in terms of the Companies Act and a committee of the Board in respect of the duties assigned to it by the Board. Further details of this committee's responsibilities appear in the corporate governance report on page 102.

Sustainability reporting

The Board accepts its duty to present a balanced and understandable assessment of the Group's position in reporting to stakeholders. Greater demand for transparency and accountability regarding non-financial matters is always taken into account. All stakeholders with a legitimate interest in the Group's affairs can obtain full, fair and frank accounts of our performance.

Omnia subscribes to the vision that disclosure on socio-economic and environmental performance is as relevant as financial reporting.

Omnia reported against the GRI 3.1 guidelines in the 2013 integrated annual report and will do so again this year.

We are aware of the release of the GRI's G4 standard and that these guidelines should be applied to reports published after 31 December 2015. Omnia intends to review its sustainability reporting processes during the coming financial year in anticipation of adopting the GRI G4 guidelines in next year's report.

We also consider the disclosure expectations of the JSE's SRI index when preparing our sustainability report.

The Group makes every effort to ensure that information is distributed via a broad range of communication channels and takes care that critical information reaches all stakeholders timeously.