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**All correspondence should be addressed to the Executive Director**

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30<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Esteemed Stakeholder,

**RE: INVITATION OF SUBMISSIONS FOR THE DEVELOPEMNT OF A NATIONAL HANDCRAFT SECTOR POLICY**

The Ministry of Commerce Industry and Trade (MoCIT) through the Handicraft Department is responsible for the development of micro small and medium enterprises in the handicraft sector. The department is tasked with the responsibility to drive social and economic development through the growth, vibrancy and competitiveness of the handicraft sector.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 the MoCIT hosted physical stakeholder engagements to solicit the contribution and input of stakeholders on the development of the National Handicraft Sector Policy. During these physical engagements, stakeholders raised their opinions on how to best develop the handicraft sector in Eswatini, the interventions and policy areas that need to be addressed and targeted. The engagements corroborated stakeholder views collected through the national survey, interviews and written submissions.

Following the contributions made by stakeholders in various fora we are pleased to inform you that the MoCIT under the handicraft department and facilitated by Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC) has completed the development of a Draft National Handicraft Sector Policy. Therefore, you are cordially invited to the validation of the Draft policy on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022, to assess the document, make further contributions, alterations and suggestions to improve the policy and ensure that it will lead to the development of a competitive handicraft sector in Eswatini.

Attached to this invitation letter are the following documents:

- The Draft National Handicraft Sector Policy
- A summary of stakeholder contributions
- An invitation card to the Breakfast Meeting

As an invaluable stakeholder of the MoCIT and ESEPARC, we humbly request that you grace us with your presence once again to ensure the quality of the National Handicraft Sector Policy. The following are the details of the validation meeting.

**Event:** Discussions and validation of the Draft National Handicraft Sector Policy

**Venue:** Sibane Sami Hotel

**Date:** Thursday, 8th December 2022

**Time:** 07:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Please RSVP through [knowledge@separc.co.sz](mailto:knowledge@separc.co.sz) to confirm the number of representatives you will be sending to the meeting

Thanking you in advance for your participation, and we look forward to your contributions.

Yours Sincerely,



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**Thabo Sacolo (Dr)**  
**Executive Director**

