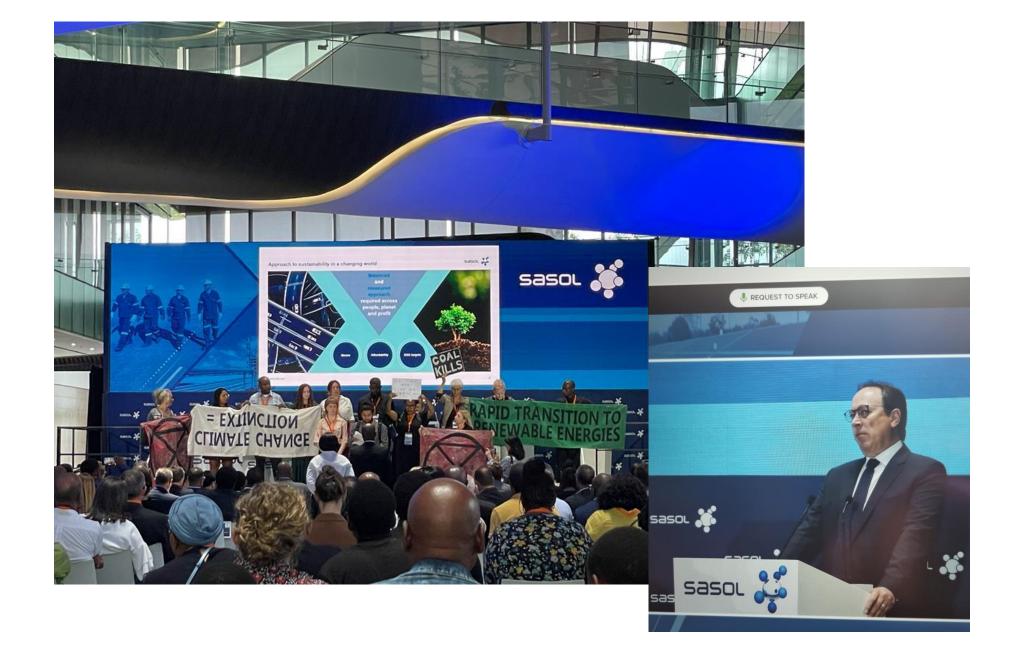


Navigating AGM Activism





Part B Purpose and application

7. Purposes of Act.—The purposes of this Act are to—

- (a) promote compliance with the Bill of Rights as provided for in the Constitution, in the application of company law;
- (b) promote the development of the South African economy by—
 - (i) encouraging entrepreneurship and enterprise efficiency;
 - (ii) creating flexibility and simplicity in the formation and maintenance of companies; and
 - encouraging transparency and high standards of corporate governance as appropriate, given the significant role of enterprises within the social and economic life of the nation;
- (c) promote innovation and investment in the South African markets;
- (d) reaffirm the concept of the company as a means of achieving economic and social benefits;
- (e) continue to provide for the creation and use of companies, in a manner that enhances the economic welfare of South Africa as a partner within the global economy;
- promote the development of companies within all sectors of the economy, and encourage active participation in economic organisation, management and productivity;
- (g) create optimum conditions for the aggregation of capital for productive purposes, and for the investment of that capital in enterprises and the spreading of economic risk;
- (h) provide for the formation, operation and accountability of non-profit companies in a manner designed to promote, support and enhance the capacity of such companies to perform their functions;
- balance the rights and obligations of shareholders and directors within companies;

Section 61(8) of the Companies Act

- (8) A meeting convened in terms of subsection (7) must, at a minimum, provide for the following business to be transacted—
 - (a) presentation of—
 - (i) the directors' report;
 - (ii) audited financial statements for the immediately preceding financial year; and
 - (iii) an audit committee report;
 - (b) election of directors, to the extent required by this Act or the company's MOI;
 - (c) appointment of—
 - (i) an auditor for the ensuing financial year; and
 - (ii) an audit committee; and
 - (d) any matters raised by shareholders, with or without advance notice to the

company.



Principle 16, King IV

- ➤ The board should oversee that the company encourages proactive engagement with shareholders, including engagement at the annual general meeting (AGM) of the company.
- ➤ All directors should be available at the AGM to respond to shareholders' queries on how the board executed its governance duties.
- > The board should ensure that the designated partner of the external audit firm attends the AGM.
- > The board should ensure that shareholders are equitably treated, and that the interests of minority shareholders are adequately protected.
- > The minutes of the AGMs of listed companies should be made publicly available.





The Board of Directors



Gareth Penny

Chair of Nominations and Directors' Affairs Committee



Kim McFarland



Colin Keogh



Khumo Shuenyane



Amina Rasool



Hendrik du Toit



Busisiwe Mabuza

Member of Human Capital and Remoneration Committee



Idoya Basterrechea



Victoria Cochrane



Section 63(2) of the Companies Act

Online AGMs are permitted provided that:

"the electronic communication employed ordinarily enables all persons participating in that meeting to **communicate concurrently with each other without an intermediary**, and to participate reasonably effectively in the meeting."



