



***Inter-Chamber Conference – 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Vote of Thanks by the  
merSETA Corporate Services Executive Rajesh Jock***

On behalf of the merSETA, I thank all chamber committee members for attending the annual two-day conference.

World market demands, the COVID-19 pandemic and the threat of new variants, the uncertainty of international economies and rising unemployment through the world has solidified the need for focused research and implementation of recommendations.

We are in uncertain times where no compact prediction can cover the gamut of all uncertainty.

What is certain is the accelerated need within South Africa of advanced technologies and business models that will allow our sector to thrive.

The world is gearing up for fully-digital economies. This Inter-Chamber conference shows that we must study world trends that impact our society.

But we can't be one-dimensional.

This conference shows that, outside of core manufacturing and engineering, there are socio-economic issues such as gender-based violence.

Your research on this issue is most timely and fits hand-in-glove with government's priorities around this area.

We trust that you will come back to us on the recommendations and the status of the pilot projects arising out of this conference.

I thank you.