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## Global FM – Sustainable Facilities Management Position Statement

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### Description:

This document defines the Global FM position statement on sustainable facilities management aimed at ensuring sustainability principles are embedded within facilities management practice and process.

### Purpose:

The fundamental purpose of any organization is to promote and generate sustained superior performance for the benefit of its shareholders/stakeholders/consumers.

In recent times, it has become imperative that this focus on improving organizational performance does not seriously impact the environment within which the organization operates as well as the wider community. Organizations must operate with a focus on global sustainability.

### Impact on Organizational Strategy:

To achieve corporate goals, organizations must consume resources and discharge production waste - be that solid or air-borne/atmospheric discharge. This production process, whether for the goods or services, must consider any impacts on sustainability of the biosphere.

### Content

Global FM considers sustainability in facilities management to be a key element of the business management framework. It is incumbent on facilities management practitioners that they rate sustainability as a necessary and universal management function and in so doing assist in ensuring that positive outcomes accrue for shareholders, stakeholders and consumers alike.

Actions taken today will have consequences for, amongst other things:

- Pollution levels, including carbon emissions.
- The depletion of natural resources.
- Social well being.
- The impact on biodiversity.
- Water usage.
- Energy efficiency

Research has shown that there is a growing trend for companies to claim they have good sustainable practices but cannot demonstrate this as there is no standard reporting framework. Reasons for this trend include competition, risk management, innovation, emerging markets, and value of reputation and increasing incidence of mandatory reporting. However the lack of a globally understood definition for sustainable development limits the ability to measure impacts reliably and consistently for comparative purposes, particularly if impacts into the future or on future generations are to be considered. The range of incentives or penalties to support sustainability outcomes also need to be considered, which can include regulatory or financial elements.

Global FM views sustainability as an essential component of good facilities management and business practice.