

## **DRAFT AFSTA CONGRESS 2018 PROGRAM**

26<sup>TH</sup> TO 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2018 – CAIRO EGYPT

### **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

**GOLF TOURNAMENT (Sponsored by Seed Co) AND PRE-CONGRESS TOURS (at a fee)**

**08:30 – 12:30 THE FIRST AFSTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING (Ra Room)**

**14:00 – 17:30 MEETING OF NATIONAL SEED TRADE ASSOCIATIONS (by invitation only – Ra room)**  
**Chairperson:** Justin Rakotoarisaona, Secretary General of AFSTA

**15:00 – 18:00 Registration and information desk open**

### **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

**08:00 – 17:30 Registration and information desk open**

**08:00 – 17:30 Trading rooms (Reserved: Isis and Nefertiti rooms and Unreserved: Aida and Cleopatra rooms) & Exhibition booths open**

**8:30 – 12:30 – SEED TREATMENT WORKSHOP (Ballroom)**

**14:00 – 18:00 MEETING OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (Ballroom)**

**19:00 hours: Reception Cocktail (Sponsored by Syngenta Seedcare)**

### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

**08:00 – 17:30 Registration and information desk open**

**08:00 – 17:30 Trading rooms (Reserved: Isis and Nefertiti rooms and Unreserved: Aida and Cleopatra rooms) & Exhibition booths open (Ballroom)**

**09:00 – 11:00 OPENING CEREMONY (Ballroom)**

- Welcome Speech and Overview of the seed sector of Egypt by the Chairman of the Seed Industry Association of Egypt (ESIA);
- Presentation of the activities of AFSTA for 2017 by Mr. Justin J. Rakotoarisaona, Secretary General of AFSTA;
- Speech by Mr. Denias Zaranyika, President of AFSTA;
- Keynote address by an invited guest speaker;
- Opening speech of the Guest of honor from the government of the Arab Republic of Egypt;
- Invitation to the AFSTA congress 2019, Chairman of the Seed Trade Association of Kenya (STAK);
- Projection of promotional video on the AFSTA congress 2019

**11:00 – 12:00 Booth viewing and coffee/tea/break**

## 11:30 – 17:30 PLENARY SESSIONS (Ballroom)

### Session 1:

- **Time:** 12:00 – 13:00
- **Topic:** Legislations and the future of the seed industry in Egypt
- **Speaker:** Dr. Adel Yaseen, AFSTA Board member and Managing Director of Fine Seeds Int., Egypt
- **Moderator:** Dr. Abdrabou Ismail, Chairman of Egyptian Seed Industry Association (ESIA), Egypt

### 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

### Session 2:

- **Time:** 14:00 – 15:00
- **Topic:** The African seed industry vis-à-vis the Plant breeding innovation
- **Speaker:** Mr. Lauren Good, Senior Program Officer of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, USA
- **Moderator:** Mohamed Saïdi, AFSTA Board member from Morocco

### Session 3:

- **Time:** 15:00- 16:00
- **Topic:** Impacts of the use of biotechnology (Transgenic, mutagenesis, CRISPR, etc.) in Africa for the last 20 years
- **Topic:** Guidelines to mitigate the risk of Adventitious Presence (AP) in vegetables
- **Speaker:** Mr. Szabolcs Ruthner, International Seed Federation, Switzerland
- **Moderator:** Mr. Soumeila Maiga, AFSTA Board member from Mali

### 16:00-16:30 Coffee/Tea Break

### Session 4:

- **Time:** 16:30 – 18:00
- **Topic:** Plant Breeders' Rights Versus Farmers' Rights in Africa: Challenges and Prospects
- **Speakers:** OAPI, ARIPO and UPOV
- **Moderator:** Mr. François Burgaud, AFSTA Board member from France

## 19:30 – 23:00 GALA DINNER

- **Dress code:** Formal or Traditional
- **Seating arrangement:** Free sitting
- **Handover of the AFSTA flag to the host of AFSTA congress 2019**

## **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

**08:30 – 17:30 Registration and information desk open**

**08:00 – 17:30 Trading rooms** (*Reserved: Isis and Nefertiti rooms and Unreserved: Aida and Cleopatra rooms*)  
& Exhibition booths open (*Ballroom*)

### **9:00 – 15:30 PLENARY SESSIONS** (*Ballroom*)

#### **Session 1:**

- **Time:** 09:00 – 10:00
- **Topic:** Highlights on the activities of the special interest groups (SIGs) on “Vegetables” and “Field crops”
- **Speaker:** Mr. Worede Woldemariam, Chairman of the SIG on “Field Crops” and Chairperson of the SIG on “Vegetable”
- **Moderator:** Mrs. Grace Gitu, AFSTA Technical Officer

**10:00 – 10:30 Coffee/Tea Break**

#### **Session 2:**

- **Time:** 10:30 – 12:30
- **Topic:** View and experiences of the private seed sector on the implementation of the harmonized seed regulations at the Regional Community level.
- **Speakers:** One seed company from each Regional Economic Communities (COMESA, SADC, ECOWAS, and EAC) – 15 min presentation for each representative of the Regional Economic Community i.e. 60 min of presentation followed by 60 min of question and answer session with the 4 speakers as panelists
- **Moderator:** Mr. Ben Zulu, AFSTA Board member from Zambia

**12:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break**

#### **Session 3:**

- **Time:** 14:00 – 15:00
- **Topic:** The African seed industry facing the challenges of the fall armyworms
- **Speaker:** Dr. Prasanna Maruthi Boddupalli from International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
- **Moderator:** Mrs. Isabelle Megbleto, AFSTA Board Member from Benin

**15:00 – 15:30 Coffee/Tea Break**

### **15:00 – 17:00 AFSTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2018** (*Ballroom*)

- **15:00 – 15:30** Registration to the General Assembly 2018 (AFSTA members only)
- **15:30 – 17:30** AFSTA General Assembly
- **Chairman:** Mr. Denias Zaranyika – President of the African Seed Trade Association

### **17:30 – 19:00 SECOND AFSTA BOARD MEETING** (*Ra Room*)