

## AFSTA CONGRESS 2022 PROGRAM

27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 TO 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2022 – DJERBA, TUNISIA

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022

#### GOLF TOURNAMENT – Sponsored by **FERTIPLUS FRANCE**

### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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

14:00 – 17:30 Trading rooms (El Meyda room and Bridges) and exhibition booths open

#### 08:30 – 12:30 THE FIRST AFSTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 18:00 SEED TREATMENT WORKSHOP – El Majlis Room

#### Soil and Root Health Management for Strong Crop Establishment and Productivity

1. Soil and Root Health in Cereals, Soy and Legumes
2. Plastic Recycling in the African Seed Industry
3. Question & Answer Session

19:00 – 22:00 RECEPTION COCKTAIL – Barbecue Area and sponsored by **SYNGENTA SEED CARE**

### Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

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

08:00 – 17:30 Trading rooms (El Meyda and Bridges) and Exhibition booths open

08:30 – 12:30 SEED ASSOCIATIONS' MEETING – El Majlis Room

*(Seed companies that are AFSTA members are also accepted)*

Coffee/Tea Break sponsored by **STUCOD**

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 18:00 MEETING OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS AND COMMITTEE REPORT – El Majlis Room

14:00 – 14:30 Regulatory approaches on Plant Breeding Innovation by Dr Leena Tripathi from International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) – Eastern Africa Hub in Tanzania

14:30 – 14:50 Challenges and opportunities for the use of e-Phyto in the seed trade in Africa by Mr Eric Quaye, Head of Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate (PPSRD) in Ghana

14:50 – 15:20 Development of rice seed systems in Africa by Dr. Ajay Panchbhai – International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

15:20 – 15:40 Statistics on the formal seed sector in Africa by The African Seed Access Index (TASAI)

15:40 – 16:00 Coffee/Tea breaks

16:00 – 16:30 Legume seed business viability in Africa – what are the opportunities for seed companies and what are missing links? by Mr. Jean Claude Rubyogo – Global Bean Program Leader of Alliance of Biodiversity International and CIAT & pan Africa Bean Research Alliance (PABRA) Director

16:30 – 17:00 Questions and answer session

17:00 – 18:00 Report of the AFSTA committees on their activities

### Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

08:00 – 11:30 Registration and information desk closed

08:00 – 11:30 Trading rooms (El Meyda and Bridges) and exhibition booths closed

11:30 – 17:30 Registration, information desk, trading rooms and exhibition booths open

### 09:00 – 11:30 OPENING CEREMONY

- Welcome Speech and Overview of the seed sector of Tunisia by Mr. Riadh Gabsi, Chairman of the Seed Trade Association of Tunisia (UTICA);
- Presentation of the activities of AFSTA for 2021, by Mr. Justin J. Rakotoarisaona, Secretary General of AFSTA;
- Speech by Mr. Azariah Soi, President of AFSTA;
- Opening speech by the Guest of honor from the Government of Tunisia;
- Invitation to the AFSTA congress 2023, Chairperson of the Seed Trade Association of Senegal (UNIS) followed by a projection of promotional video on the AFSTA congress 2023.

### 11:30 – 13:00 Booth viewing and coffee/tea/lunch/breaks Tea/Coffee Break sponsored by **COTUGRAIN**

### 13:00 – 17:30 PLENARY SESSIONS

#### Session 1:

- **Time:** 13:00 – 14:00
- **Topic:** Leveraging digital agriculture during the COVID-19 circumstances
- **Speaker:** Mr. Tarek El Azab, Commercial Business Leader, Middle East and North Africa – Corteva
- **Moderator:** Mr. Ahmed Ouayach, AFSTA Board member from Morocco

#### Session 3:

- **Time:** 14:00 – 15:00
- **Topic:** The African seed sector vis-à-vis the global seed trade – Latest developments
- **Speaker:** Mr. Michael Keller, Secretary General of the International Seed Federation
- **Moderator:** Mr. Clive Mugadza, AFSTA Board member from Tanzania

### 15:00 – 15:30 Coffee/Tea break

#### Session 4:

- **Time:** 15:30 – 17:30
- **Topic:** Realization of farmers' Rights in Africa under the framework of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)
- **Panelists:**
  - Mr. Kent Nnadozie, Secretary to International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), Italy;
  - Two government officials of African countries: Tunisia and Zambia;
  - Mrs. Szonja Csörgő, Director of Intellectual Property and Legal Affairs of Euroseeds. Belgium;
  - Two Representatives of private seed sector
- **Moderator:** Mr. François Burgaud, AFSTA Board members from France.

### Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

08:00 – 14:00 Registration and information desk open

08:00 – 14:00 Trading rooms (El Meyda and Bridges) and exhibition booths open

14:00 – 17:00 Trading rooms (El Meyda and Bridges) closed and exhibition booths dismantled

**09:00 – 16:30 PLENARY SESSIONS**

**Session 1:**

- **Time:** 09:00 – 10:30
- **Topic:** Progress on the implementation of the harmonized seed regulations at the Regional Economic Communities (EAC, ECOWAS, COMESA and SADC)
- **Speakers:** Representatives of the Regional Economic Communities (*10 min presentations each*) followed by Question & Answer session.
- **Moderator:** Mr. Amadou Sarr, AFSTA Board member from Senegal

**10:30 – 11:00 Coffee/Tea break sponsored by [AGRIPROTECT](#)**

**Session 2:**

- **Time:** 11:00 – 12:00
- **Topic:** Latest developments on various seed related regulatory frameworks at the African Union: continental guidelines and harmonization
- **Speaker:** Dr Simplicie Nouala Fonkou, Head of Division Agriculture and Food Security, African Union Commission
- **Moderator:** Mr. Nessimu Nyama, AFSTA Board member from Malawi

**12:00 – 14:00 Lunch break**

**14:00 – 16:30 AFSTA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**16:30 – 18:30 THE SECOND AFSTA BOARD MEETING**

**19:00 – 23:00 GALA DINNER**

**Dress code: Formal**

*In the event that speakers or services indicated on the program become unavailable, the Organizing Committee will make every effort to provide alternatives of equal standard and value, but cannot be held responsible for failure if such alternatives cannot be obtained.*