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| **IGTC Newsletter 3 October 2017** | |
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| **IGTC new address**: From 1, October 2017, all IGTC correspondence should be addressed to: International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC), Rue de Lausanne 37, CH–1201 Geneva.  **Events**  **October 1-4: Third Global Minor Use Summit (GMUS-3) – Montreal, Canada**  Participants from over 60 countries are expected to attend the third edition of this event. More information about the 2007 and 2012 Summits can be read [here](http://www.gmup.org/).  **October 5-7: 7th African Grain Trade Summit (AGTS)- Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  The AGTS is a biennial high-level, internationally-recognized grain industry conference that brings together state and non-state grain sector stakeholders from across the African continent and beyond. There will be a focus on the harmonization of science-based SPS measures as a key element of trade facilitation. More information [here](http://graintradesummit.com/).  **October 9: IGTC LLP Policy Team call**  Team Lead Tyler Bjornson (CGC) will guide discussions. To join the Policy Team, contact the [Secretariat](mailto:secretariat@igtcglobal.org)  **October 24: IGTC MRL Policy Team call**  Team Lead June Arnold (Gafta) will guide discussions. To join the Policy Team, contact the [Secretariat](mailto:secretariat@igtcglobal.org)  **November 15-16: 2017 Ordinary Meeting of the IGTC General Assembly of Members and associated activities - Washington DC and Arlington, USA**  For more information and registration [click here](http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eeecyhdz257ed7ff&llr=uikvxteab).  **Links**  [IGTC Website](http://www.igtcglobal.org/)  [IGTC list of members](http://igtcglobal.org/index.php?id=41)  [http://igtcglobal.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Twitter_button_For_Newsletter.jpg](https://twitter.com/IGTCglobal)   |  | | --- | |  | | **IGTC in Action**   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **EU Commission High-Level conference on modern biotechnologies**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://igtcglobal.org/typo3temp/_processed_/csm_Teresa_Babuscio_da0deef36f.jpg |  | |  |  |   Dr. Teresa Babuscio, IGTC Vice President and Secretary General of COCERAL, spoke on the panel alongside MEPs, EU Commission officials, NGOs and other industry representatives at the day-long event on Thursday, September 28. The meeting was organised by the EU Commission following the publication of an explanatory note on “New techniques in Agricultural Biotechnology” by its Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM) in February 2017 ([here](https://ec.europa.eu/research/sam/pdf/topics/explanatory_note_new_techniques_agricultural_biotechnology.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none)).  In her speech, Dr. Babuscio outlined the important role of the international trade in providing knowledge and expertise to support sound, science-based decision making. Importantly, Dr. Babuscio also reminded the audience that the EU is operating in a global market and that policies are needed to avoid trade disruptions as traders work to efficiently move product to where it needs to be, in accordance with consumer demands. The full COCERAL statement can be read [here](http://www.coceral.com/data/150652217717COMM19%20-%20Statement%20on%20Plant%20Breeding%20Innovation%20-%20The%20trade%20perspectives.pdf). More about the conference [here](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/events/20170928_modern_biotech.htm) | | **Global Low-Level Presence Initiative (GLI) moving forward**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | http://igtcglobal.org/typo3temp/_processed_/csm_EuroSilo_013_06_158f4c880a.jpg | |  |  |   The 15 government members of the GLI have endorsed a statement on “practical approaches” to LLP in the supply chain, following the acceptance “ad-ref” of the statement at the June 2017 GLI meeting in Rome. The title of the statement is “Principles, Criteria and Practical Approaches for Addressing Low Level Presence in Food and Feed Trade of Plant Material” and contains possible approaches by governments and industry as practical means to address LLP occurrences before they occur. A renewed work plan is now being agreed among GLI member governments, with a focus on communication, risk assessments, compliance measures as well as a review of legislative and regulatory frameworks to assess compatibility with the measures suggested in the statement on practical approaches. The next GLI meeting is tentatively scheduled for Q2, 2018, with Colombia indicating an interest to host. | | **Last chance to respond! IPPC questionnaire on global ePhyto solution**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | http://igtcglobal.org/typo3temp/_processed_/csm_ippc_logo_01_0bc492718c.jpg | |  |  |   IGTC participants from around the world have already provided responses to the IPPC’s questionnaire on ePhytos and there is still time for others to do so! All responses to the questionnaire will be treated confidentially. If you wish to take part please contact the IGTC Secretariat: [secretriat@igtcglobal.org](mailto:secretriat@igtcglobal.org). Submissions must be received in the next few days.  Regarding the timeline of the project, last week the IGTC received news from the IPPC that 9 countries will be ready to test the ePhyto Hub this Friday, October 6th. For full details about the Hub visit the website [here](https://www.ippc.int/en/ephyto/). | | *The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted in this communication is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. This newsletter and referenced links are for the use of IGTC Members and Stakeholders only and should otherwise be treated as confidential.* | |
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