



IGTC Newsletter 14 December 2018

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Events

December 11-16: Intra-African Trade Fair 2018, Cairo, Egypt

Gerald Masila, IGTC Treasurer and Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) Executive Director, will participate in a number of panels on the harmonization of standards to facilitate trade, and monitoring of informal cross-border trade. The programme is [here](#).

December 19: IGTC Policy Team call on the Cartagena Biosafety Protocol

Policy Team Lead Ricardo Calderon (APPAMEX) will guide discussions and seek input on the outcomes of the November 2018 COP14 meetings.

January 30: ePhyto Industry Advisory Group

IGTC delegation: Plant breeding event in Beijing, China

On December 13th and 14th, the International Seed Federation (ISF), the China National Seed Association (CNSA) and the China National Seed Trade Association (CNSTA) held an event entitled "Plant Breeding Innovation: Meeting on Gene Editing" in Beijing, China. Our partners in the seed sector invited IGTC to attend and we thank the following grain trade representatives for their valuable participation:



- Ren Zhi, Vice President, China National Association of Grain Sector (CNAGS)
- Krista Thomas, Canada Grains Council (CGC)
- Frank Zhang, Deputy Secretary General of CNAGS
- Yue Ma, Deputy Chief of CNAGS International Department/China Resources Ng Fung Limited
- Henry Yang, CNAGS

Krista Thomas, member of the IGTC's Plant Breeding Innovation Policy Team, led the grain trade presentation at the meeting, addressing "Trade Impacts of Policy Decisions". In her presentation, Krista highlighted the importance of regulatory alignment, as well as international trade considerations for regulators who are clarifying requirements and policies for gene edited crops.

The IGTC Policy Team will be debriefed on outcomes during its next call in January 2019 (date TBC).

Photo: Krista Thomas (CGC)

IGTC signs MoU with the International Grains Council (IGC)

(IAG), Geneva, Switzerland

Alejandra Danielson Castillo (US Grains Council) will chair this meeting on behalf of IGTC. Global representatives of trade flows such as seeds, cotton, wood products and flowers will participate. A select number of governments and international organisations leading the project will also be present.

February 12-13: First FAO/WHO/African Union International Food Safety Conference, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The opening ceremony will include the President of Ethiopia, President of African Union (AU), the DGs of FAO and WHO, and “other heads of state”. The draft programme is [here](#).

March 5-7: Canadian Crops Convention, Montreal, Canada

The event will include a gala dinner, a port tour, and presentations from international speakers. More information [here](#).

March 14: International Grains Council Market Conditions Committee, London, UK

53 member governments, observers and industry partners such as IGTC will join this information-sharing event.

IGTC President Gary C. Martin was in Paris last week for the 48th Session of the IGC. One of the key decision items put forward by the IGC and its 53 member governments was the signature of an MoU ([text here](#)) with IGTC to promote and facilitate the international trade of grains, oilseeds and other agri-bulks. The MoU was the first of its kind proposed by the IGC and is framed in the broader context of its work to foster international collaboration in trade.

IGTC provided a briefing note for IGC at the meeting, which can be read [here](#).



Photo: Arnaud Petit (IGC) and Gary C. Martin (IGTC President)

Evidence now being gathered from ePhyto case studies

Four industry case studies have now been conducted to test the effectiveness of the IPPC’s ePhyto system, with the opportunity for further studies to take place throughout 2019. IGTC national and regional focal points are working with grain trade Corporate Stakeholders to gather data about the studies, responding to questions such as: “was a letter of credit involved?” “was the data received sufficient for import process?” and “what are the estimated time/cost savings?”. We appeal once again to all Corporate Stakeholders to work with the IGTC national and regional focal points to share their experiences.

Country	NPPO	IGTC national/regional focal point
Argentina	SENASA	CIARA-CEC: Maria Marta Rebizo
Australia	DAWR	Grain Trade Australia (GTA): Rosemary Richards
Brazil	MAPA	Associação Nacional dos Exportadores de Cereais (ANEC) : Chantal Baeumle Garbado, Lucas Brito
Canada	CFIA	Canada Grains Council (CGC): Tyler Bjornson
China	AQSIQ	China National Association of Grain Sector (CNAGS): Huang Kang
EU (Netherlands)	NVPA, EPPO	COCERAL: Flora Dewar
Kenya	KEPHIS	Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC): Gerald Masila, Kimwaga Mhando
Mexico	SENASICA	APPAMEX: Ing. Ricardo Calderon Lopez
USA	APHIS	North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA): Gary C. Martin; US Grains Council: Alejandra Danielson Castillo

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April 23-24: International Forum on Food Safety and Trade, WTO, Geneva, Switzerland

This is a jointly-led conference by WHO/FAO/WTO on food safety. The event website is [here](#).

Links

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