

**FRUIT INDUSTRY VALUE CHAIN ROUND TABLE (FIVCRT)
RECORDS OF DECISIONS (6th SESSION)
Bulletin No. 2 of 2015**

Second sitting of the FIVCRT in 2015

The second sitting (6th session) of the Fruit Industry Value Chain Round Table (FIVCRT) in 2015 was held at Sefala Building, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) offices, Pretoria, on the 5th of June 2015. During the meeting, the FIVCRT welcomed the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) representative, Dr. Mohammed Jeenah. This bulletin outlines the work undertaken by the Working Groups ahead of the June 2015 sitting and also reflects the progress made on the resolutions taken during previous meetings.

Workplace Mediation Service project given green light by the FIVCRT

During the 5th session of the FIVCRT, the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) was tasked to develop a costed project plan for the Workplace Mediation programme. The mediation service will constitute a dispute resolution mechanism involving a neutral third party bringing two sides together with the aim of reaching a mutual agreement. The service will be provided in terms of the CCMA's statutory discretionary function in terms of section 115 of the Labour Relations Act. The project is envisaged to be piloted in the Western Cape province before it is implemented in the rest of the country following an evaluation of the pilot project. The project will commence on the 15th of July 2015 until 7th of December 2015. The project plan was tabled by the CCMA and was welcomed and approved by the FIVCRT for implementation.

CCMA to lead the fruit industry Social Accord consultation process

The FIVCRT resolved to appoint the CCMA to lead and facilitate the consultation processes of the fruit industry Social Accord. FSA will nominate its representative to work with the CCMA in the facilitation of the Accord. The Accord, which is a commitment by all stakeholders in the industry, will have to be agreed to by all its signatories including government, labour and the industry.

Reports by Working Groups

The Transformation Working Group organised a transformation workshop during the month of May 2015. The purpose of the workshop was to share milestones reached on transformation in the sector and agree on a common transformation plan in the fruit industry. The Research and Development Working Group presented the False Codling Moth (FCM) action plan as an illustration to reflect the costs associated with managing a phytosanitary pest. The Working Group envisages that financial support from government and industry associations will be required to manage the phytosanitary pests. The Trade Working Group, amongst others, will commission a study on the impact of tariffs, subsidies and non-tariff measures on South African trade. The Resource Working Group expanded its Terms of References (TORs) upon expansion of its membership and incorporation of the climate change enabler into its scope of operation.

Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 28th of August 2015 in Pretoria.

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