



CICC E.NEWS

The CICC for more Cashew value-added in the associated countries !!

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FOREWORD

CICC E.News is a brief information sharing newsletter of CICC (www.ciccashew.org). It allows the target audience made up of public and private actors to be alerted about current topics in the sector, in order to form their opinions or to act. It is open to sharing cashew announcements and promotional information. Feel free to also contribute by sending your publication to email: secretariat@ciccashew.org.

NEWS FROM CICC

Preliminary meeting of experts for the fifth session of the CICC Minister's Council



On Wednesday, April 5, 2023, the meeting of Experts from CICC member countries took place at Ivotel in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, as a prelude to the fifth session of the institution's Council of Ministers. It was officially opened by Mr. Gabriel Mbairrobe, current President of the CICC and Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Cameroon. This official opening saw the effective presence, as shown in the photo, from left to right, of Mr. Ernest Mintah, Director General of ACA, Mr. Tola Faseru, President of ACA, Dr. Adama Coulibaly, Director General of the Cotton and Cashew Council, Mrs. Metou Brusil Miranda, Secretary General of the Ministry of Commerce of Cameroon, Mr. Abas Jalos, Minister of

Commerce of Guinea Bissau, Mr. Gabriel Mbairrobe, Mrs. Rita Weidinger, Project Director MOVE of the GIZ and Mr. André Tandjiékpon, Executive Secretary of the CICC.

The discussions of the Experts was chaired by Mr. Amos Bassia Bassia from Cameroon, assisted by Mr. Pierre Kla from Côte d'Ivoire as rapporteur and Mrs. Korotoum Koné-Cissé as Secretary of the meeting. In total, more than 80 participants from the public, private and Development Partners took part in this preparatory meeting of the Council which allowed to go through the prereading documentation submitted by the Executive Secretariat. This documentation mainly concerned a.) the update of country data as well as the expectations of the member countries vis-à-vis the CICC, b.) the activity report 2021-2022 and the execution of the resolutions formulated during the fourth session of the Council of Ministers which took place in Yaoundé in December 2021, c.) the institution's strategic and development plan for the period 2023-2027 and, d.) the annual work plan 2023 .

At the end of the meeting, the Experts made observations, comments and suggestions to be taken into account by the Executive Secretariat for each of the reports studied, before recommending them for adoption by the Council of Ministers, with proposals for Resolutions and Final Communiqué.

Fifth Session of the CICC Council of Ministers



The fifth Session of the Council of Ministers took place on April 06, 2023 at Noom Hotels in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The 11 member countries of the CICC, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo were present at through their ministers in charge of agriculture and trade. This fifth session was opened by Mr. Kobenan Kouassi Adjoumani, Minister of State, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Côte d'Ivoire, assisted by Dr Souleymane Diarrassouba Minister of Trade, Industry and promotion of SMEs in Côte d'Ivoire.

At the end of the council, the Experts' report, the 2021-2022 annual report, the 2023-2027

strategic plan and the 2023 work plan of the CICC were adopted by the Council of Ministers with recommendations formulated in eight (08) Resolutions to be implemented by the Executive Secretariat. The Final Communiqué resulting from this meeting notably congratulated the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for the perfect organization of this fifth session as well as all the Development Partners for their contributions to the promotion of the cashew sector in all member countries. According to the principle of rotation concerning the presidency of the Institution and the host country of the Council of Ministers, the Ministers noted that the sixth session of the Council will be held in Accra, Ghana, while the current Presidency is ensured by Côte d'Ivoire until the next organization of this session. Read: <https://ciccashew.org/index.php/conseil-des-ministres/session-5-cicc-dabidjan>

Meeting of the Development of the CICC

On the sidelines of the fifth ordinary session of the CICC Council of Ministers, its Development Partners (DP) met on Wednesday April 05, 2023 at the Ivotel hotel in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire to discuss their activities and the institution's support mechanism. This meeting, coordinated by MOVE/GIZ at the request of the CICC, saw the participation of around twenty institutions, projects or development programmes. The meeting was to achieve the discussions started by the said DPs during the fourth session in Yaoundé in December 2021 and consolidated during the 16th ACA Conference in Abuja in September 2022 and which relate to i.) the election of Spokesperson and Deputy Spokesperson to coordinate activities supporting the CICC, ii.) the constitution, if necessary, of sub-working groups aligned with the three technical commissions of the CICC, iii.) the organization of biannual meetings on the sidelines of CICC sessions or annual conferences of ACA and iv.) support for the establishment of a DP desk within the CICC.

At the end of the discussions, **Mrs. Rita Weidinger** Program Manager of the Project "Market-Driven Value Chains for Jobs and Growth in the ECOWAS Region (MOVE)" of the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (GIZ)** assumes the role of Spokesperson. **Mr. Olivier Edouard Kabre**, Program Director of USDA Africa ProCashew (ProCashew) of Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA) acts as Deputy Spokesperson.

The mission of the Spokesperson and his Deputy is to: a.) coordinate the support initiatives of DP in favor of the CICC and report to the Council of Ministers, b.) carry the voice of the institution and make its promotion with donors, c.) facilitate periodic exchange meetings on partners' activities and d.) consolidate support initiatives and then promote synergies of activities implemented by partners to avoid duplication of interventions along value chains, or over-concentration of effort on one aspect of said chains.

COTE D'IVOIRE

Organization of the 4th edition of the International Exhibition of Cashew Processing Equipment and Technologies (SIETTA-2023)



The Treichville Culture Palace in Abidjan has opened its doors for the return of the great cashew event that is the 4th edition of SIETTA. This event was held from April 6 to 8, 2023 under the central theme “*Contribution of the cashew industry to the resilience of African economies face to the global economic challenges*”. On Thursday April 6, 2023, on behalf of the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire, Head of Government, Mr. Patrick Achi, the opening of this edition was made by the Minister of State, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Côte d'Ivoire Mr. Kobenan Kouassi Adjoumani, in the presence of eminent personalities, actors in the cashew sector from all walks of life as well as all the members of the CICC Council of Min-

isters, headed by Mr. Gabriel Mbairrobe, current President of the Institution and Minister of Agriculture and Development Rural Cameroon. The participation statistics data presented by the Commissioner General of SIETTA, Dr. Adama Coulibaly, Director General of the Cotton and Cashew Council indicate that the Show recorded more than 13,000 participants (exhibitors and visitors) from 18 countries and all the continents. Similarly, 34 stands of product and service suppliers, 35 stands of cashew-derived products, 13 Institutional stands, and 22 equipment's manufacturers exhibited during this edition.

Closing the Fair on April 8, 2023, Dr Souleymane Diarrassouba, Minister of Commerce, Industry and SMEs of Côte d'Ivoire launched an urgent appeal to all national and international economic operators who still hesitate, to take the step towards cashew processing by reassuring them of the measures taken by the various States to offer better conditions for investment in local cashew processing on the continent.

Read:

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0ycS9n8K7mgYqm3E7beQ4LgL1K4PY2GVmK6GdmAb8UGaANqQKH5Fo2KR4RUAAqkFDl&id=100089038638860

Côte d'Ivoire wants to revolutionize the processing of cashew nuts with a complete chain of equipment made by the country

Côte d'Ivoire ambition to process 50% of its production by 2050 is taking shape with the creation of complete processing chains presented on April 7, 2023 by Mr. Karim Berthé, Director of Processing at the Cotton and Cashew Council, in addition, assistant coordinator of the Project of promotion of competitiveness of the chain. Read: <https://www.financialafrik.com/2023/04/10/la-cote-divoire-veut-revolutionner-la-transformation-de-noix-brute-de-cajou-avec-une-nouvelle-chaine-complexe/>

SENEGAL

The actors of the Kolda region want a valuation of the whole production chain

According to Boubacar Konta, the president of ICAS, the national cashew day brought together all the actors to update the situation of the cashew sector in Senegal and reflect on the valuation of cashew production in Casamance from where 90% are exported abroad. <https://www.sudquotidien.sn/anacarde-les-acteurs-de-kolda-veulent-une-valorisation-de-toute-la-chaine-de-production/>

NIGERIA

Nigeria launches organic certification of its cashew nuts



The Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC) has launched the Organic Cashew Certification Scheme for Export. On the occasion, NEPC Executive Secretary Ezra Yakusak said that Nigeria exported 315,677 tons of cashew nuts worth \$252 million in 2022, which represents 5.24% of the country's non-oil exports. For 2023, the country expects to generate up to \$500 million in cashew revenue. The organic certification program is implemented by NEPC with partners Pro-Cashew, the West Africa Cashew Project funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Nicert, the local partner Ecocert Group, and Singaporean commodity trading group, Value International.

Read : <https://www.commodafrica.com/17-04-2023-le-nigeria-lance-la-certification-biologique-de-sa-noix-de-cajou#:~:text=Le%20Conseil%20nig%C3%A9rien%20de%20promotion,cajou%20biologique%20pour%20l'exportation>

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

Launch of the first call for proposals for the GIZ-ComCashew Matching Fund Grants

The project “Business Support Facility for Resilient Agricultural Value Chains” is co-financed by the European Union (EU) under the post-Cotonou agreement with the Secretariat of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and by the Federal Ministry of Development and Economic Cooperation (BMZ) and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. It is a joint effort between Agri Business Facility (ABF) and MOVE based on longstanding working experience with the promotion of sustainable agribusiness and value chain (VC) development focusing on cashew, maize, livestock, and cocoa. Its focus is to contribute to economic and climate change resilience of selected VCs and food security, increased income, and employment in the 79 African countries, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries under the post-Cotonou agreement. The MGF is an initiative of the project implemented by MOVE-ComCashew and aims to support private sector cashew enterprises and farmer cooperatives/groups in Africa, in the Caribbean and Pacific (ACP), to mobilize resources, create ownership and build resilient agricultural value chains. This call was launched on June 12, 2023 and targets all cashew value chains. For more information on your eligibility and the funding mechanism, please follow this link: <https://ciccashew.org/index.php/component/content/article/move-comcashew-lancera-son-appel-de-notes-conceptuelles-pour-le-fonds-de-contrepartie-pour-le-cajou?catid=10&Itemid=101>

Second Regional Workshop on Policies and Regulations in West Africa

To help address sector policy challenges in the cashew sector in West Africa, USDA West Africa PRO-Cashew, in partnership with the Consultative International Cashew Council – CICC organized the second workshop on Policy and Regulations in the Cashew Sector in West Africa from May 17-19, 2023, in Lagos, Nigeria. This workshop, which follows the first one organized in January 2023 in Abidjan, allowed to present the results of the last two studies focussing on: a.) the construction on a solid basis of trust and commitment of the stakeholders, b.) the proposals policies, c.) to discuss recommendations in order to raise awareness on useful information, d.) to solicit feedback from participants in order to revise and produce a final draft for the validation of said studies and e) to raise awareness on approaches and regulatory instruments to make policies effective. The workshop also allowed to present the data collection and management platform called "Cashew-In" and then to discuss and validate the structure of the CICC-Cashew IN resource group. The next step of this activity will be the restitution of the results at country level.

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