



GlobalHort Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 3

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Coming Events

12th to 16th Oct 2009

International Seminar on the "Role of the Media in Agricultural Development in ACP Countries", Brussels, Belgium
(annualseminar2009.cta.int)

14th Oct 2009

Partnerships to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, Des Moines, Iowa, USA (www.africanhunger.org)

2nd to 6th Nov 2009

VI International Symposium on Irrigation of Horticultural Crops, Vina del Mar, Chile
(www.irrigation2009.cl/)

8th to 12th Nov 2009

Asian Seed Congress, Bangkok, Thailand (www.apsaseed.org)

9th to 12th Nov 2009

International Conference on Horticulture: "Horticulture for Livelihood, Security and Economic Growth", Bangalore, India
(www.pnasf.org/ich2009.htm)

12th to 13th Nov 2009

6th GlobalHort Board of Directors Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand

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The GlobalHort Twin Summit African Challenge

GlobalHort has recently achieved some very important milestones in its second anniversary of being located in Arusha, Tanzania, Africa.

In this issue we are featuring GlobalHort's great success in its mounting of two successful summits in 2009: the **All Africa Horticulture Congress** and **Mt. Meru**.

It was a year ago that GlobalHort was registered as a not-for-profit international organization in Belgium and now it has become registered in Tanzania as well.

All Africa Horticulture Congress (AAHC)

The Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), in collaboration with GlobalHort and FPEAK (Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya), organized the All Africa Horticulture Congress on the basis of gathering participants from all parts of Africa from public and private



Remi Kahane addresses Congress

sectors. This first objective was successfully achieved with more than 330 registered participants from 42 differ-

ent countries amongst which 30 were African.

With the All Africa Horticulture Congress (AAHC) an old dream became true which was in the minds of African horticulturists gathered during the former IHC of ISHS, Toronto 2002 and Seoul 2006. The first meeting in Nairobi (Continued on page 2)

Mt. Meru, Tanzania: The Unofficial Summit

After a year of organizing and promoting the AAHC the GlobalHort team (Jerry Miner, Remi Kahane and Juergen Anthofer) celebrated by mounting a summit of its own. Mt. Meru is the second highest mountain in Tanzania after Mt. Kilimanjaro...but harder to climb!

(Continued on page 4)



All Africa Horticulture Congress...(continued from page 1)



(31 August-3 September 2009) was the signal of maturity for an African community driven by dynamic leaders from Kenya, South Africa, Nigeria and Ghana. It has been facilitated by GlobalHort and ISHS, both placing the event under a double challenge: (1) providing a platform of interaction between different stakeholders of the horticultural sector in Africa where the role of science can be discussed and a common strategy formulated, and (2) achieving the scientific quality of ISHS events.

The policy and decision makers addressing the Congress clearly and thoroughly enunciated the global challenges of horticulture in Africa. The Kenyan Minister of Agriculture, Hon. William A. Ruto, and NEPAD representative, Dr. Bibi Giyose, formulated the

NEPAD representative B. Giyose and Director of KARI, Dr. E. Mukisira, congratulated by ISHS Executive Director J. Van Assche at the gala dinner

major question for Africa's development: Where and how to invest public money so that it will benefit entrepreneurship of small and middle-scale stakeholders and the health of all African consumers on a long-term and sustainable basis? One answer was suggested by the representative of the Netherlands Embassy, D. Bruinsma, who described the Dutch horticulture

investments in East Africa. The representative of the Tanzanian Ministry of Agriculture, G. Kirenga, concluded that there was a need for events such as this Congress that allow thoughts, views, experience and information exchanges to reveal common constraints and expectations, and thus generate joint strategies and recommendations to be considered by decision makers and influence African governance.

This first AAHC was introduced as a first step toward a coordinated forum of horticulturists in Africa, to become more visible, more connected, and more productive. Several milestones for such a joint objective have been listed, briefly debated and established as resolutions of the Congress.

All Africa Horticulture Congress Resolutions



1. The way forward for the AAHC:

- 1.1. Agreement that such continental events would follow the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) standards, and that the next AAHC will be held in 2012 with future Congresses on a 4-year regional circulating basis
- 1.2. In between this 4-year interval, the AAHC African sessions could be convened during the International Horticultural Congresses (IHC) which would allow for the free accommodation of the event
- 1.3. Candidates for hosting AAHC would receive their mandates from participants, and their legitimacy from ISHS
- 1.4. The AAHC would continue to represent all stakeholders of horticulture: science, production, industry, policy and consumption
- 1.5. The candidature of The Republic of South Africa was unanimously agreed upon to organize the next AAHC in 2012 on behalf of the Southern African Region
- 1.6. The candidature of Nigeria for hosting the AAHC after 2012 was acknowledged

2. African Horticulture Journal:

- 2.1. AAHC unanimously agreed that there was a strong need for a better information flow on horticulture in Africa
- 2.2. It was agreed that the first step could be the consolidation of what already exists
- 2.3. To help facilitate such an initiative (2.1. and 2.2), GlobalHort agreed to bring together the African and associated editors. This would be implemented (but not limited to) meetings and workshops to produce an initial electronically formatted publication in English and French

3. African Horticulture Forum:

- 3.1. Some regional forums already exist, such as the Horticulture Council of Africa (HCA) which gathers 12 countries together, Cop Horti and RadHort
- 3.2. GlobalHort agreed to facilitate the networking of these forums and strengthen them
- 3.3. Invitation to join GlobalHort to formulate a proposal for a Co-ordinated Regional Innovation Platforms on Horticulture for Africa
- 3.4. The constituencies to be involved should cover the following (but not limited to) research and development, policy, private sector, education, civil society and consumer organizations
- 3.5. NEPAD agreed to give more legitimacy to a forum on horticulture, with regional entities

4. Sensitizing and Advising Policy Makers:

- 4.1. AAHC acknowledged the need to ensure that its deliberations and resolutions would provide a basis for guiding policy agenda for the development of the horticultural sector in Africa
- 4.2. AAHC agreed to ensure that AAHC deliberations and recommendations would be packaged and transmitted to policy makers at the continental, national and sub-national levels
- 4.3. AAHC, through its various institutions such as GlobalHort, should strive to work with national horticultural organizations to ensure increased visibility of horticultural issues in the formulation and operation of agricultural, health, trade, educational, and other developmental policies relevant to the horticultural sector in Africa

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GlobalHort Portal is a dynamic website that is constantly refreshed with the latest in horticultural information worldwide.

For current events, news and knowledge please come visit us often.

The Global Horticulture Initiative acts as a global facility for coordinated horticultural research that provides solutions towards increasing health, productivity and safety in sustainable environments, to uplift the quality of life of the poorest populations in the world.

It will contribute to improve interest, support and resources to the horticultural sector, public and private, from donors, research and development agencies, and decision makers.

Its four key activities are:

- *Promoting horticultural research for development*
- *A program of grants for horticultural research*
- *A knowledge hub for dispersed cooperating horticultural communities*
- *Facilitating horticultural training, education and capacity building*

The GlobalHort Newsletter's Editorial Board is made up of Dr. Norm Looney, President of ISHS and co-chair of The Board; Raul Montemayor, IFAP; and Jerry Miner, Communications Officer.

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Mt. Meru ...(continued from page 1)

Following the success of the AAHC, the GlobalHort team set out on Sept. 9th for an adventure of a lifetime.

Mt. Meru, across from the GlobalHort offices in Arusha, Tanzania, was a daily visual challenge and now the time had come to "take it on".

After three days of climbing the team, which included 6 porters, a guide and a cook, succeeded in reaching the top of this 4,562 m freestanding volcano.

The last leg of the climb began Sept. 12th at 2:00 am and the summit was reached at 7:15 am. It was a cold moonlit night. Seeing the sun come up over Kili was amazing!



GlobalHort Promotional Video "Spice of Life" now online

Remi Kahane, GlobalHort Secretary, in his address at the All Africa Horticulture Congress gave the first public showing of the 6-minute GlobalHort promotional video which is now available for viewing on the GlobalHort website www.globalhort.org