



KEEPING IT FRESH **fpef** fresh produce EXPORTERS' FORUM SOUTH AFRICA

News from the FPEF – 26 January 2023

Dear FPEF Members,

The **new FPEF Board**, which was elected at our AGM in November last year, had its first meeting yesterday. The FPEF staff shared information on each of their respective portfolios for the board to be aware of how we operate, where everyone and each activity fits in and they responded to questions from Board members. The most important matters that came to the fore will be shared with you in due course, but I take this opportunity to also share again who in the FPEF team is responsible for what:

- **Werner van Rooyen – Chief Operations Officer.** His primary role is to look after all operational matters and to act as the CEO in my absence.
- **Antoinette van Heerden – Logistical Affairs Manager.** Currently, primarily responsible for engaging Transnet and other role players to try and improve the ports' efficiency.
- **Claudia Walklett – Professional Assistant.** Providing administrative support to me and Werner, managing membership matters, e-mail distributions lists, compile this newsletter based on the input of the other staff members, responsible to provide FPEF content for the FruitSA Journal, arranging Board meetings and the Annual General meeting,.....and a number of other administrative functions.
- **Marinda Roux - Financial Manager.** Managing all financial matters of the FPEF, the PHI programme, external funds administered on behalf of other entities, managing the FPEF's payroll.
- **Marletta Kellerman – Marketing Manager.** Compiles the annual Export Directory and Annual Report, manages the Fresh Produce Export Council (registered with the dtic), engaging the dtic on trade shows (e.g. Fruit Logistica's), and arranges these shows, manages international visitor programmes, responsible for the FPEF's Corporate Identity.
- **Johannes Brand – Transformation Manager.** Manages the FPEF's Graduate Placement (Internship) programme, emerging exporter support and Top of the Class export value chain training programme.
- **Junette Manager – Project Manager.** Her primary role is managing the Post-harvest Innovation programme (PHI)
- **Jerusha Pillay – Administrative Assistant.** She joined us at the beginning of the year and will be assisting Junette with the PHI programme as well as Marinda with finances.

You can thus be assured that although we are a small, dedicated team where everyone is very focussed, each one is committed to deliver a service to our members.



Market Access

Government Engagement

Export process assistance

Provide Information

Transformation

Research, Development and Innovation

MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS

Fruit Logistica Berlin 2023



Fruit Logistica takes place on **8 - 10 February 2023 at the Messe Berlin Exhibition Grounds**. South Africa will have a *dtic* funded National Pavilion in Hall 26, stand number D54.

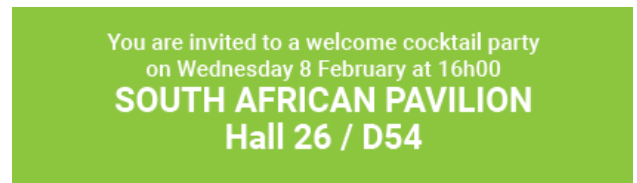
The 2023 Export Directory will be launched during this event.

Please note that there will be meeting space available that can be booked at the Reception Desk during the event. The available meeting space are four open booths and two private meeting rooms. There will also be tables available on a first come first-serve basis.

The dtic requests that all companies that make use of the South African pavilion for their business meetings, must provide an estimate Rand value of business done during the event. FPEF will be responsible to collect this information after the event. Please note that your information will be treated as highly confidential.

Fruit Logistica Berlin 2023 Cocktail party

You are invited to a cocktail party on **Wednesday 8 February at 16h00** at the **South African Pavilion Hall 26 / D54**.



We would like to thank the following sponsors for making this event possible:

- Contour Logistics
- GoGlobal Group
- LCL Logistics South Africa
- Morgan Cargo
- Paltrack
- PPECB
- SAFPRO
- Stems Fruit
- United Exports South Africa



Vessel from South Africa arrives in St Petersburg

On the 12th of January, a direct reefer vessel from Cape Town arrived in St Petersburg, delivering 2000 tons of stone fruit, grapes and avocado. This was the first time in history that a vessel carrying fruit from South Africa (Cape Town) arrived in Russia over their winter season. The voyage time was 22 weeks. Another vessel is being loaded in South Africa and more vessels will be made available by shipping agents should there be a need.



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REMINDER: FINANCIAL MATTERS - MEMBERSHIP FEES



A **BIG thank you** to all our members who have already paid their fees for 2023.

Herewith a **friendly reminder** to remaining members that all fees are due on or before **Tuesday, 31 January 2023.**

LOGISTICS

Based on the report by the World Bank, TNPA commissioned a benchmark study by PWC regarding terminal efficiency. Items reviewed will be infrastructure, resources, business processes, technology, and systems. Once concluded these will be compared against international ports with similar profiles and volumes. The survey will be conducted across all stakeholder groups and conclude with the port resulting in practical solutions and recommendations. The FPEF had the opportunity yesterday to partake in the study, our aim was to give a balanced overview so that the team can build on positive changes, understand challenges, and get insight into proposals industry has made. Some of the operational challenges that did not fit into last week's strategy discussion, could be shared in this forum but also meetings with the port manager.

AGBIZ/FRUITSA: Information on energy

Agbiz in collaboration with Fruit SA requested our members to complete an **Energy Information questionnaire**, which will assist greatly in identifying the energy challenges, assessing where we are and what we need to do going forward. **A very big thank you to those members who have already submitted their information!**

If you haven't submitted it yet, please complete the questionnaire and return to claudia@fpf.co.za by latest close of business today, **Thursday, 26 January.**

*For those of you travelling to **Berlin**, I wish you safe travels and a good, value-adding event.*

Kind regards
Anton Kruger

