

SA FRUIT & VEGETABLE CANNERS' ASSOCIATION

SAFVCA Newsletter: January 2007 (Issue 1 of 2007)

DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE DTI/INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP GROUP

After a rather slow start to get a date for the Leadership Group Meeting, the last meeting took place on Monday, 29 January 2007 in Montague. The main purpose of the meeting was to finalise the Business Plan and review the Memorandum of Understanding, which would govern the relationship between Government and SAFVCA.

In principle, all stakeholders agreed to the contents of the Business Plan and undertook to revert to their constituencies in order to provide feedback, get their support and obtain commitment in respect of funding, where applicable.

The highlight of the meeting was the visit of Deputy Minister Rob Davies, who took the time out to share a few minutes with the team. He commended the team on the good progress made to date but stressed that now is the time for action and urged the group to focus on implementation. It is imperative for the team to show progress as this will allow for continued support.

The next Leadership Group meeting has been scheduled for 19 February 2007 when all stakeholders will provide the feedback from their constituencies. In this respect, SAFVCA will shortly arrange meetings with our stakeholders in order to obtain the commitment in respect of the Business Plan and funding contributions.

Events/Meetings attended during JAN 2007

- ❖ **17/01**: Meeting with DTI/DoA re Illegal EU Subsidies
- ❖ **17/01**: Meeting with DTI re Status of SSAS Projects
- ❖ **17/01**: Meeting with DTI National Treasury & Legal Services re SWEEP Funding i.r.o. Business Plan & Memorandum of Understanding
- ❖ **18/01**: Meeting with Floor Inc/Tralac re Trade Law developments
- ❖ **24/01**: Meeting with CFPA/Nampak re DTI Business Plan
- ❖ **24/01**: Meeting with Nampak re Preparations for meeting with Mittal Steel
- ❖ **25/01**: Meeting with Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) re Developments within Japan market
- ❖ **25/01**: Meeting at DoA re Agricultural Trade Forum (ATF)
- ❖ **29/01**: DTI Leadership Group Meeting re Review of Business Plan and Memorandum of Understanding and Visit from Deputy Minister Rob Davies

Mittal Steel: Next Meeting

As noted previously, the next tripartite meeting between Mittal Steel, Industry and Can-makers is scheduled to take place in February 2007 (either 21/02 or 23/02 – date to be confirmed shortly).

SASA: Next Meeting

SAFVCA plans to arrange a meeting with SASA during February/March 2007. Over and above the discussions in respect of areas of cooperation and the rebate system, SAFVCA will pursue the request to SASA for the reinstatement of the Local Market Transport Rebate System.

EFTA: Implementation

Regrettably the implementation date in respect of EFTA did not take place on 01 January 2007 as planned. It is understood that the delay has arisen as a result of the ratification process not being finalised within some of the BNLS countries. At this stage, no official date for implementation has been gazetted.

In the News ...

“Greek tomato paste exports increase over third quarter”

Foodnews 05 January 2007

“Chile will sell out of peach puree early despite high opening offers”

Foodnews 12 January 2007

“Noticeable increases in new season canned peach prices”

Food news 12 January 2007

“Peru’s crop will not alleviate general asparagus shortage”

Foodnews 12 January 2007

“Thai canned pineapple shortfall cannot be filled by other sources”

Foodnews 19 January 2007

“South Africa to seize chance offered by poor Chilean crop”

Foodnews 19 January 2007

“Chinese share of Germany’s canned fruit sales weakens”

Foodnews 19 January 2007

Kindly contact SAFVCA’s office on 021 871 1308 or email info@safvca.co.za for any further information.