



ISTA

Ordinary

Meeting

2006



RICH, SWITZERLAND
26 - 29 JUNE 2006

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS



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Positive Developments in ISTA

- ISTA's position internationally
- currently 76 member countries, 175 member laboratories
- increasing interests in the ISTA Rules, Meetings, Symposia, Workshops and publications
- Annual Meetings are a success



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Positive Developments in ISTA

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FAO adds to ISTA's recognition

Thanks to
Louise Fresco
Arthuro Martinez
Michael Larinde



ISTA Executive Committee (ECOM)

2004-2007

- Pieter Oosterveld (NL) President
- Attilio Lovato Honorary President
- Katalin Ertsey (HU) 1st Vice President
- Silmar Peske (BR) 2nd Vice President
- Joseph Ahenda (KE) Member-at-large
- J. M. Chavez Bravo (MX) Member-at-large
- John Hampton (NZ) Member-at-large
- Steve Jones (GB) Member-at-large
- Joel Lechappe (FR) Member-at-large
- Susan Maxon (US) Member-at-large
- Grethe Tarp (DK) Member-at-large
- Rita Zecchinelli (IT) Member-at-large

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26 - 29 JUNE 2006

ECOM Working Groups

- Accreditation
- Validation
- Monitoring
- Tropical Seeds
- Fund raising
- Seed Analyst Training
- Constitution
- ISTA Annual Meetings and Congresses
- Certificates
- Use of ISTA Logo on Seed Bags



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ECOM Working Groups

- **Accreditation**
 - ISTA accredited laboratories show a higher performance level
 - Major decisions in 2005 with regards to testing of specified traits
 - ECOM continues to enhance the ISTA Accreditation Standard
- **Validation**
 - Presentation to OM in Zurich, June 2006
 - Decision by ECOM, November 2006
- **Monitoring**
 - ECOM decided to stop this activity



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ECOM Working Groups

- **Tropical Seeds**
 - Report will be presented by the chair of the Working Group
- **Fund raising**
 - So far focussed on a training programme for Africa in collaboration with FAO
- **Seed Analyst Training**
 - ECOM decision to install the training programme
 - coming into force on January 1st, 2007



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ECOM Working Groups

- **Constitution**
 - Proposal for decision at OM 2006 in Zurich
- **ISTA Annual Meetings and Congresses**
 - New structure starting after the 2007 Congress
 - Symposium, Technical Committees, Ordinary Meeting
 - One overall fee and one fee for the Symposium only
 - At the Annual Meetings, ISTA will start to have one full day for specific topics (e.g. scientific seed symposia)
- **Certificates**
 - Languages on Certificates
 - Position of the Green Certificates is subject for discussion and voting
- **Use of ISTA Logo on seed bags**
 - Under discussion of ECOM



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ISTA Technical Committees (TCOMs)

- **Presentation of the work**
 - Work of TCOMs is the backbone of ISTA
 - Thanks to the TCOMs and the GMO Task Force for their excellent work and the progress achieved
 - Thanks to the universities, institutes and seed companies
- **Amalgamation of the ISTA Rules**
 - Ongoing process
 - completed amalgamated version will come into force on January 1st 2009
- **Workshops**
 - An overview will be presented later
 - Thanks to FAO and APSA for their cooperation



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International Cooperation

- Meetings with international and regional governmental organisations e.g. OECD, FAO, IPPC, WTO, AOSA
- Meetings with international and regional trade associations
- Meetings with scientific/technical non-governmental organisations e.g. ISSS, SCST, ILAC



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Installation of a Committee on Advanced Technologies

- **To perform the signalling and evaluation of emerging technologies**
- **To pass on valuable technologies as acknowledged by the committee to the relevant TCOM**



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ISTA Strategy

- **2005: Announcement of the draft discussion paper**
- **2006: Position Paper available for discussion**
- **2007: Final discussion and decision**



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ISTA's Finances

- **Report of the Secretary General**
- **More funds are always welcome**
- **Nevertheless: financial situation is O.K.**



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ISTA Staff

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Martina Roesch

Gerhard Schuon

Ana Maria Vazquez

Secretary General

Senior Executive

Membership & Workshops

Marketing & Events

Technical Committees

Publication Sales

Head of Accreditation

System Auditor

Accreditation Admin.



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Conclusions

- Happy with MoU with FAO
- Increasing interest in ISTA work
- Good relations within the international network
- Sound financial situation
- ECOM: good team
- TCOM: good progress
- Thanks to the professional staff
- Thanks to all for your support



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**Wishing you all
fruitful discussions
&
a successful meeting**

Thank you for your attention



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