



International Seed Testing Association

Secretariat, Zürichstrasse 50, CH-8303 Bassersdorf, Switzerland

Phone: +41 44 838 60 00 Fax: +41 44 838 60 01

Email: ista.office@ista.ch - <http://www.seedtest.org>

Document OGM20-01

Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting 2019

This document contains the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting 2019, published on the ISTA web site within two months following the Ordinary General Meeting as defined in the ISTA Articles.

If there are no comments requiring amendment to the minutes within the subsequent two month period, the minutes will be considered approved. If there are comments and the comments are accepted by the Executive Committee, then the minutes including the comments will be considered approved and published on the ISTA web site.

Any comments about these minutes will be considered at the Ordinary General Meeting 2020.

Contents

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. President's Address**
- 3. Roll Call of Designated Members entitled to vote**
- 4. Reading and acceptance of the previous Ordinary Meeting Minutes**
- 5. Report of the Executive Committee**
- 6. Report of the Secretary General**
- 7. Articles change proposals by the ISTA Designated Voting Members**
- 8. Election of ISTA Vice-President and Members at Large of the Executive Committee for 2019-2022**
- 9. Fixation of the Annual Subscription Fees**
- 10. Consideration and adoption of the proposed Rules Changes 2019**
- 11. Consideration and adoption of the Reports of the Technical Committees**
- 12. Announcement of the place and date for the next Ordinary General Meetings**
- 13. Any other Business raised by a Member**
- 14. Any other Business raised by consent of the Executive Committee**
- 15. ISTA Strategy 2019-2022**
- 16. President's closing address**
- 17. Adjournment**

The Ordinary General Meeting of the Association

1. Call to Order

ISTA Secretary General, Dr. Andreas Wais, invited ISTA President, Craig McGill for the President's Address speech.

2. President's Address

The President of ISTA, Craig McGill welcomed all participants to the 2019 Ordinary General Meeting of ISTA.

"ISTA Honorary Life President Professor Atilio Lovato was unfortunately unable to join us here in Hyderabad, and extends his best wishes for a successful and productive meeting.

This has been the first ISTA Congress held in Asia. The Congress has been preceded by Workshop on Seed Production and Quality Control; 45 participants from 33 countries attended this Workshop. A second Workshop on Seed Morphology and Seed Identification for Purity and Other Seed Determination attended by 24 participants from 13 countries has also been held prior to the start of the Congress. Both Workshops have received very positive feedback from the participants. The Congress itself began with a Seed Symposium under the theme Seed Technology and Quality in a changing world; the Symposium brought together seed scientists and technologists from around the world, as well as from India, to present and discuss research on assuring seed quality in the future.

The order of business will appear on the screen as it appears in OGM19-01 "Agenda for the Ordinary General Meeting 2019".

Agenda point 3. Roll Call of Designated Members entitled to vote

Agenda point 7. Articles change proposals by the ISTA Designated Voting Members

Agenda point 8. Election of ISTA Vice-President and Members at Large of the Executive Committee for 2019-2022

Agenda point 13. No business had been raised by a Member under this Agenda point

Agenda point 15. ISTA Strategy 2019-2022 will be discussed and voted on by the ISTA Designated Voting Members

As required by the Articles of the Association, the relevant documents were posted in May 2019, at least two months prior to the ISTA Ordinary General Meeting, to the ISTA Designated Authorities, ISTA Members and other stakeholders.

I would like to remind you that the meeting today will be recorded. This is to give a record for the minutes.

I now ask the Secretary General to call the roll of designated members entitled to vote."

3. Roll Call of Designated Members entitled to vote

Argentina
Brazil
Canada
Denmark
Egypt
Finland
France
Germany
India
Iraq

Ignacio Aranciaga
Jose Mauricio Pereira
Steve Jones
Sigyn Valgrind
Magdy Abdalla Shehab
Leena Pietilä
Joël Léchappé
Andrea Jonitz
Keshavulu Kunusoth
Mohammed Z. A. Raouf

Ireland	Brian O'Connor
Italy	Rita Zecchinelli
Japan	Masatoshi Sato
Malawi	Grace Kaudzu
Netherlands	Erik van Egmond
New Zealand	Craig R. McGill
Nigeria	Phillip Ojo
Norway	Eivin Meen
Philippines	Ruel C. Gesmundo
Poland	Irena Gera
Republic of Korea	Seung In Yi
Russian Federation	Alexander M. Malko
S.C.T. of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu	Wen-Chuan Chung
Serbia	Zorica Nikolic
Slovak Republic	Monika Holubicova
Sweden	Pernilla Andersson
Thailand	Papassorn Wattanakulpakin
Turkey	Ali Erden
United Kingdom	Valerie Cockerell
United States of America	Ernest Allen
Zimbabwe	Claid Mujaju

4. Comments received on the Minutes of the previous Ordinary Meeting

No comments were received on the Minutes of the 2018 Ordinary General Meeting. As defined in the ISTA Articles the Minutes of the 2018 Ordinary General Meeting are approved.

5. Report of the Executive Committee

ISTA President, Craig Mc Gill (New Zealand):

"It is my pleasure to present on behalf of the Executive Committee the Activity Report of the Executive Committee for 2018.

The Executive Committee operates through essential Working Groups.

The Executive Committee elected for the 2016-2019 Triennium has members from Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America and Oceania.

The ISTA Strategy 2016-2019 was approved by the voting members at the 31st ISTA Congress held in Tallinn, Estonia, in June 2016; this sets the frameworks within which the ISTA Executive Committee operates.

In 2018 there were two locations in which ISTA Executive Committee had meetings, in Edinburgh - Scotland and in Sapporo - Japan.

Key activities achieved during these meetings were finalization of the membership fee, Science and Technology: a sub-working group within the Science and Technology was established to set priorities and look at an action plan for promoting the use of technology in seed sampling and testing; the Chair of this sub-working group is Leena Pietilä. Another important goal has been to better support the work of ISTA Technical Committees; as we have seen in the last two days, the work of the TCOM is the heart of the Association, and the ECOM has been aware of the need to try and find ways to better support that work, not only financial but in other aspects as well.

ISTA Executive Committee has come together for a meeting in February 2019, in Freising - Germany; a joint Working Group we have with the Seed Industry is the Vegetable Seed Industry Working Group.

Evaluation and Review of the Proficiency Test Programme within the Accreditation Working Group supported by the Secretariat, primary Florina Palada, will be reported later on today.

The Accreditation Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Rita Zecchinelli
- ❖ has a range of activities, including supporting and assisting the ISTA Accreditation and Technical Department
- ❖ Rita, as Chair of the Working Group, and Florina, as Head of Accreditation Technical Department work very closely and ensure that the Accreditation System operates efficiently and smoothly.
- ❖ Is revising the Quality Document for Secretariat certification based on ISO9001/2015
- ❖ One special project in which the group was involved in: interactive Orange Certificate

The Articles Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Steve Jones
- ❖ is responsible for the Article Change Proposals
- ❖ an important role of the group is also to keep an eye on any changes in ISTA and determine if it will impact the Article

The Designated Authorities Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Joël Léchappé
- ❖ was established in the previous triennium
- ❖ the broad aim of this group is to strengthen the relationships between the Association, the Designated Authorities and of course the Executive Committee, recognizing the importance of the DA within the Association in terms of the voting rights

The Events Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Berta Killermann
- ❖ this WG oversees the planning of Congresses and Annual Meetings
- ❖ this WG is working with the Secretary General

The International Relations Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Joël Léchappé
- ❖ key-areas of activities have been collaboration and exchange of information with OECD, UPOV, and others; ISTA is having a meeting with OECD once a year; collaboration with ISF

The Marketing Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Berta Killermann
- ❖ defines marketing policy for the Association
- ❖ marketing, communication and publications are becoming very important in today's world

The ECOM/TCOM Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Valerie Cockerell
- ❖ strong contribution from TCOM Manager Nadine Ettel and TCOM Administrator Andreea Militaru

- ❖ the broad aim of this group is to define Technical Committees policies, and to identify ways in which the Technical Committees can operate more effectively

The Science & Technology Working Group

- ❖ Chair: Leena Pietilä
- ❖ the aim is to strengthen science & technology within ISTA and to facilitate the implementation of new technologies for new tests

Report of the Science & Technology Working Group

Science & Technology Working Group Chair, Leena Pietilä (Finland):

“Good morning, everyone. I will shortly talk about Science & Technology Working Group and what we have been doing: this WG was established in 2017, with the aim to strengthen Science & Technology within ISTA and to facilitate the development and implementation of new tests that are based on technologies.

In 2018 was a motion made during the Annual Meeting, including three different points: to present a Rules Change Proposal for Image Analysis, to create an Action Plan for new technologies and that Advanced Technologies Technical Committee should be taken into the work.

We established a sub-group, in which are few members of the ECOM as well. The focus is on Rules Proposals, Accreditation Standard, and Validation Programme.”

In this WG we also went through Accreditation Standard together with ISTA Accreditation Department and ECOM Accreditation Working Group.

We need scientifically based tests to meet stakeholder’s needs, new technologies solutions to carry out the tests, which must be reliable and validated if needed.

As a summary, I would like to say that possibilities to develop new technologies need to be taken into account in everything ISTA is doing.

The role of the ECOM is to act as a facilitator, and the role of TCOMs is to identify possibilities and needs, and to carry out projects.

Thank you.”

Report of the Membership Working Group

Steve Jones (Canada):

“In the presentation I am going to cover the current Membership, the categories, the annual fees and give you some numbers, and will go through the survey for giving you the highlights.

A Designated Member is either a laboratory or a Personal Member designated by the designated authorities to vote on behalf of the country.

- ❖ Member Laboratory Annual Fee: 5214 CHF, and in addition if you are an Accredited Member is an extra fee of 1224 CHF

- ❖ Personal Member Annual Fee: 1049 CHF

- ❖ Associate Member Annual Fee: 214 CHF

Membership figures:

- ❖ Designated Authorities: 79

- ❖ Designated Voting Members: 60

- ❖ Member Laboratories: 92

- ❖ Accredited Member Laboratories: 138

- ❖ Personal Members: 42

- ❖ Associate Members: 71

Report of the ECOM/TCOM Working Group

ECOM/TCOM Working Group Chair, Valerie Cockerell (United Kingdom):

“Good morning everyone, I am pleased to give you the Report of the ECOM-TCOM Working Group; this WG was introduced to support TCOM developments.

The purpose and aim of the TCOM Working Group is to define the TCOM Policy and try to identify ways in which the Technical Committees can operate more effectively and identify the means needed to enable this.

In this Working Group we have 3 members from the ECOM: Craig, Leena and myself, and 3 members from the ISTA Secretariat: Andreas, Andreea and Nadine.

We are going to talk about the 100 000 CHF Special Project Fund; this will allow TCOM to access additional funds, to take forward projects that add value for ISTA and their stakeholders. There will be an open call for project proposals, and the expectation is that this money will be spread on more than one project.

This is not only a fund for research projects, it is for projects that add value to any of the work done within ISTA; could be related to training, not just research.

A brief reminder is that the proposals have to be aligned with the current ISTA Strategy; the project is limited to a maximum of 2 years, strongly encourages collaboration across multiple TCOMs, and cofounding with external organisations.

In 2019 for the first call of projects we received 4 applications, and 3 were approved by the ECOM; all 4 projects included external collaboration and funding, and were aligned with goals of ISTA Strategy 2016-2019.

The first project deals with the assessment of available technologies on image analysis on other seed determination, purity analysis and germination; are 3 TCOMs involved in this project.

The second project is specific about new technologies for other seed determination using multispectral imaging; ISTA Advanced Technologies Committee and ISTA Purity Committee are the two TCOM involved in this project.

The third project is about development of rapid tests for germination and vigour, and potential for optimization using image analysis; ISTA Germination Committee and ISTA Vigour Committee are the two TCOM involved in this project.

Thank you for your attention.”

6. Report of the Secretary General

ISTA Head of Accreditation & Technical Department, Florina Palada (Switzerland):

“Good morning, everyone. Today we will have an overview of 2018, and also our plan for 2019. From the beginning I would like to highlight the support I received from the Accreditation Working Group, and especially from the Chair of the Accreditation Working Group.

Accreditation Department is composed of me, Branka, Christine and Neelam; the selection for the new System Auditor is not yet finalized.

An overview of 2018:

- ❖ **138 Accredited Laboratories**
- ❖ **48 Audits**

ISTA Secretary General, Andreas Wais (Switzerland):

“We did Workshops on different topics in 2018 in India, Uruguay, Poland, Japan, Brazil; it is a good distribution between different location in Europe and around the world (India, South America).

We invite everyone interested in organizing Workshops to contact Secretariat.

Regarding the Publications, we are handing out ISTA Rules; since beginning of this year ISTA Rules are also in Spanish available. Special thanks go to Fabio Gorian, Rosa Pina, and Ignacio Aranciaga.

During the OECD Technical Group Meeting in beginning of the year I had the opportunity to hand out a copy of ISTA Rules in Spanish to the Minister of Agriculture in Argentina and thank them for the help.

Thank you very much, as it is very important for us to maintain something so important for our Association.

Seedling Evaluation Handbook is the first handbook in pdf format.

ISTA Rules sales last year were around same as in 2017.

We are growing as well on social platforms: LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube.

ISTA Secretariat and ECOM are working very close with each other.

Another achievement is the electronic Certificates; the feasibility studies are available, and we want to go more deeply in these feasibility studies.

See all of you in Verona at the Annual Meeting 2020.”

ISTA Secretary General, Dr. Andreas Wais invited the designated members to vote on the Report of the Secretary General.

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

ISTA Vice-President, Steve Jones (Canada) invited the designated members to vote on the following:

ISTA Financial Report Approval

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

ISTA Budget for 2019

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

BDO as ISTA External Financial Auditors for 2020

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

7. Articles change proposals by the ISTA Designated Voting Members

Removal of Industry Member

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

Deadline change for completion of Ordinary General Meeting Minutes

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

8. Election of ISTA Vice-President and Members at Large of the Executive Committee for 2019-2022

ISTA Secretary General, Dr. Andreas Wais invited Dr. Keshavulu Kunusoth, the candidate for ISTA Vice-President, and the candidates for Executive Committee Members at Large on the stage:

Keshavulu Kunusoth (India):

“Good afternoon, everyone. I am very glad to introduce myself; I am from India, and I wish to become ISTA Vice-President in the Executive Committee.

I completed Masters and PhD here in India, I have 24 years of experience in seed industry, making contribution to seed testing; I am teaching as well in the University of Agriculture in Hyderabad.

Currently I am leading the Telangana Seed Certification and Organic Seed Certification. I have been involved in ISTA since 2007 through my participation at Congresses, Annual Meetings, and participating and organizing as well Workshops.

Coming to the goals: I will focus on promoting uniformity in seed sampling, testing, and encourage use of ISTA Rules.

I will do my best to fulfil ISTA expectations and goals. I do not have any conflicts through my contribution at ISTA activities.

Thank you very much for the opportunity.”

Ignacio Aranciaga (Argentina):

“Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Ignacio, I am an Agricultural Engineer with Master in Seed Technology, and I represent Argentina in ISTA. Argentina is an ISTA Member since 1987 and its laboratory was accredited by ISTA in 1999. Since 21 years I am working for Seed National Institute; I started working as a seed sampler, seed analyst, and since 2009 I am the director of the Quality Department.

I am a member of ISTA Germination, Tetrazolium, Bulking and Sampling Technical Committees.”

Since 2016 I have the honor to be included in the ISTA Executive Committee.

In 2018 I took the responsibility for the translation of ISTA Rules in Spanish.

I am supported by the Argentinian authorities with this nomination.

Thank you very much.”

Leena Pietilä (Finland):

“My name is Leena Pietilä, I come from Finland.

I have been a member, Vice-Chair and chair of the Bulking and Sampling Committee in 2005. I appreciate very much what ISTA is doing, and I try to get involved people in ISTA.

Thank you very much.”

Sylvie Ducournau (France):

“Hello, everyone. I am Sylvie, I come from France and I am working for GEVES since 26 years, being in charge for the Germination laboratory.

I am also involved in the monitoring of the French Seed Laboratory, organizing training courses, workshops, comparative tests, harmonizing and developing methods. Soon after joining GEVES, it became obvious to me that I should become an ISTA Member, because of its international importance.

I am the Chair of ISTA Germination Committee since 9 years, and have been a member in different ISTA Technical Committees in past years.

I have GEVES support and I would be pleased to become an ISTA Executive Committee member.”

Andrea Jonitz, on behalf of Berta Killermann (Germany):

“Good morning. My name is Berta Killermann, from Germany. I have studied at the Technical University of Munich. I started working at the Bavarian Breeding Plant Association and then I changed at the Bavarian Research Center for Agriculture. Since 2000 I am the head of ISTA Seed Station in Bavaria; in 2004 I became a member of the Variety Committee, and in 2007 I became Chair of Variety Committee; since 2013 I am a member of the Executive Committee.

My visions and aims are to cooperate with ISTA affiliated organizations, to support a transparent communication, to increase training possibilities, and finally to promote ISTA all over the world. Thank you.”

Rita Zecchinelli (Italy):

“Good morning, dear colleagues. It's the 5th time I candidate for ISTA Executive Committee, and the reason is that I think I can continue to contribute with my experience to the ISTA community.

My name is Rita Zecchinelli and I come from Italian Governmental Laboratory; my laboratory is based in the north of Italy, not far from Milano. The Institute my laboratory belongs to is in charge of seed certification in my country; it's called CREA. My laboratory is a busy laboratory, with a large scope covering classical testing, varying testing, and is of course ISTA accredited.

From the beginning since I candidate for the first time for the ECOM, I thought that my primary role in ECOM is to represent as best as possible the ISTA Seed Testing laboratories. In past years I participated in different projects and activities started by the ECOM, and hopefully I contributed to reach progresses.

In last years I have been Chair of the ECOM Accreditation Working Group, cooperating with ISTA as an Auditor, as some of you already know; this means in last years I have been focusing on ISTA Accreditation work.

I am looking forward to continue next 3 years doing my best, contributing with my experience whenever, wherever is useful for our Association. Thank you.”

Ruel Gesmundo (Philippines):

“I am deeply honored to be nominated for the position of member at large in ISTA Executive Committee.

I studied Agriculture with major in crop production in Philippines and Israel, and my post diploma in seed pathology in Denmark. Being a personal member and head of an ISTA member laboratory in the Philippines, I witnessed how the ISTA members are working together, to ensure the vision of ISTA, for uniformity in seed quality evaluation worldwide.

As a member at large, I will do my best to engage more Asian countries to become member of ISTA. Above all, I will do my best to help ISTA maintain and sustain its goal. Thank you.”

Valerie Cockerell (United Kingdom):

“I am Valerie Cockerell, Designated Member for the UK, and head of the Official Seed Testing Station for Scotland; my organization SASA is a division of the Scottish Government. SASA fully supports my application as an ECOM member for 2019-2022. I am involved with ISTA since 2005, and my particular background is with Seed Health and Seed Health Committee.

For the last 3 years I have been an ECOM member, with focus on looking how to support TCOM to take forward their work programs. I want to continue this work within the ECOM.

Within the ECOM, I have been also a member of the Accreditation Working Group; I have over 20 years of experience as a Quality Manager, and since 2015 as an ISTA Auditor.

I would like to continue to contribute to this Working Group, in terms of the review of the procedures, and fees, on implementation and guidance.

I will support collaboration with other international organizations, as it is extremely important, since world of seeds and environment we work on is continuously changing. Thank you.”

Claid Mujaju (Zimbabwe):

“Good afternoon. I am from Zimbabwe, and I represent Zimbabwe Designated Member. Zimbabwe has been in contact with ISTA since 1957, and now I realized that is the right time to get in the ECOM.”

I believe there is still more room to encourage and promote ISTA in African countries; I also believe in effective communication, therefore I think my coming into the ECOM will help to coordinate African countries.

Thank you very much.”

ISTA Secretary General, Dr. Andreas Wais invited the designated members to vote on the election of the new ISTA Vice-President and Executive Committee Members at large.

29 Votes were casted, and all candidates reached more than 50% of the YES votes in secret voting. All candidates elected accepted their election. Steve Jones was elected in 2016 as Vice-President and therefore accepted to serve as President. Current President Craig McGill accepted to serve as Immediate Past-President.

ISTA Executive Committee 2019-2022 will therefore consists of the following members:

President	Steve Jones (Canada)
Vice-President	Keshavulu Kunusoth (India)
Immediate Past-President	Craig McGill (New Zealand)

Members at Large 2019-2022

Ignacio Aranciaga (Argentina)
Valerie Cockerell (United Kingdom)
Sylvie Ducournau (France)
Ruel Gesmundo (Philippines)
Berta Killermann (Germany)
Claid Mujaju (Zimbabwe)
Leena Pietilä (Finland)
Rita Zecchinelli (Italy)

After the voting was complete the Secretary General asked the Designated Members to vote on the following:

The Annual Meeting decided to register the International Seed Testing Association as an Association in the Commercial Register (Handelsregister) of the Canton Zürich. The President Steve Jones, the Vice-President Keshavulu Kunusoth and the Secretary General Andreas Wais will be listed requiring a single signature for approvals (Einzelunterschrift).

The Florina Palada, Head of the Accreditation and Technical Department, and Ronny Dossenbach, Financial Advisor (Buff Treuhand AG) will be listed as requiring both signatures for approval (Kollektivunterschrift zu Zweien). Further it is acknowledged that BDO AG will be listed as Revisionsstelle without any signing rights.

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

9. Fixation of the Annual Subscription Fees

The Executive Committee of ISTA is proposing that:

- Membership Fees remain unchanged; no increase is proposed

- if the membership fees are paid on or before 31 December 2019 a discount of 10%, rounded up to the nearest whole Swiss Franc amount, will be applied to the fees listed in the table below.

ISTA President, Steve Jones invited the designated members to vote on the Fixation of Annual Subscription Fees.

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

10. Consideration and adoption of the proposed Rules Changes 2019

Ernest Allen (USA) invited the designated members to vote on the proposed Rules Changes 2019.

PART A. INTRODUCTION OF EDITORIAL CHANGES

3.2.3 Editorial corrections

Voting Result: 30 YES votes

PART B. NEW SPECIES AND CHANGES TO SPECIES NAMES

B.1.1 Addition of *Salvia Hispanica*

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

B.1.2 Germination Methods for *Salvia Hispanica*

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

B.1.3 Changes to the ISTA Stabilized List

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

PART C. RULES CHANGES AND NEW METHODS REQUIRING A VOTE

Chapter 2: Sampling

C.2.1. Revision of 2.5.15 Obtaining the submitted sample

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

C.2.2. Revision of 2.5.16 Dispatch of submitted sample

Voting Result: 29 YES Votes 1 NO Vote

C.2.3. Revision of 2.5.2.2 Sample reduction methods

Voting Result: 29 YES Votes

C.2.4. Revision of 2.5.2.2 Sample reduction methods mixing before dividing

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

C.2.5. Revision of the ISTA Protocol for the approval of automatic samplers

Voting Result: Proposal has been withdraw

Chapter 5: The Germination Test

C.5.1.A Germination method for *Glycine max* using organic growing media

Voting Result: 29 YES Votes 1 NO Vote

C.5.1.B Germination method for *Phaseolus vulgaris* using organic growing media

Voting Result: 29 YES Votes 1 NO Vote

C.5.2. Germination methods for *Zea mays* using TP with CCP

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

C.5.3. Addition of GA3 for *Avena sativa* in Table 5A

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

C.5.4. Precision on light for the Germination test

Voting Result: Proposal has been withdraw

C.5.6. Modifying duration of the final count

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

Chapter 7: Seed Health Testing Methods

C.7.1. Detection of *Aphelenchoides besseyi* on *Oryza sativa* seed

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

Chapter 9: Determination of Moisture content

C.9.1. Changes to wording for requirements to the oven in determination of moisture content

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

C.9.2. Changes to time limits for drawing moisture working samples

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

C.9.3. Adding additional possibilities to the desiccator

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

C.9.4. Requirements for storage of moisture samples (using the moisture meter)

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

Chapter 15: Seed Vigour Testing

C.15.1. Removal of the requirement for a control seed lot for the radicle emergence (RE) test

Voting Result: 27 YES Votes 2 NO Votes

C.15.2. Addition of a species to the radicle emergence (RE) test

Voting Result: 28 YES Votes 2 NO Votes

C.15.3. Changes to the validation tests listed in 15.3 (as a consequence of the change in 15.2)

Voting Result: 27 YES Votes 1 NO Vote

Chapter 15: Seed Mixture Analysis

C.18.8.1 Purity and component analysis (reporting clarification for seed mixtures)

Voting Result: 29 YES Votes 1 NO Vote

Ernest Allen (USA)

This ends the Rules Proposals discussion for 2019. Thank you very much everyone!

11. Consideration and adoption of the Reports of the Technical Committees

ISTA Secretary General, Dr. Andreas Wais invited the designated members to vote on the Reports of the Technical Committees.

Voting Result: 30 YES Votes

12. Announcement of the place and date for the next Ordinary General Meetings

❖ ISTA Annual Meeting 2020

Rita Zecchinelli (Italy):

“Dear colleagues, it is an honor and pleasure for me that ISTA Annual Meeting 2020 will be organized in Verona, Italy. This will not be the first occasion for ISTA to visit our country; one of the first ISTA Meetings took place in Rome, in 1928 and in Bologna, in 2008. In Italy we have 7 laboratories participating in ISTA, and 5 of them are ISTA Accredited. This is because the seed sector is very important in our country and contributes to the agri-business with positive trends.

Italy is a seed-producing country, and an important country for seed import and export.

The invitation comes from my institute – CREA, with the support of Italian Ministry of Agriculture; I hope to meet all of you there. Thank you.”

❖ ISTA Annual Meeting 2021

Amged Ahmed Rehan (Egypt):

“Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to welcome all of you in Egypt, for the ISTA Annual Meeting 2021.

Egypt is the land of civilization, ancient history and peace. The ancient Egyptians cared about agriculture, and they invented various agriculture operations.

More information about ISTA Annual Meeting 2021 will be provided during Annual Meeting 2020 in Verona.

I am looking forward to meet all of you in Egypt.”

13. Any other Business raised by a Member

No business had been raised by a Member under this Agenda point

14. Any other Business raised by consent of the Executive Committee

Shri C. Partha Sarathi (India):

“Dear Past-President, President, members at large, delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I am very glad to be here.

Telangana Government is very grateful to ISTA for giving the opportunity for hosting this Congress; it was a wonderful and fruitful experience. In addition to Seed Symposium we had several events, two pre-congress workshops, and one post congress workshop; the workshops are going to be a major milestone in increasing knowledge in seed industry.

In the exhibition which was organized, there were more than 70 countries participating; were also good interactive session between ISTA and seed industry,

I would like to thank to the staff of ISTA, to Government of India and my own Government for their support, which I appreciate. Thank you.”

15. ISTA Strategy 2019 – 2022

ISTA Secretary General, Dr. Andreas Wais invited the designated members to vote on the ISTA Strategy 2019-2022.

Voting Result: 29 YES Votes

16. President’s closing address

ISTA President, Steve Jones (Canada):

“Thank you very much for the warm welcome, it is very much appreciated. As incoming President, I think most of you already know me; in the UK I was Chief Officer at the Official Seed Testing Station, and currently I am Head of the Seed Certification Unit in the Seed Science and Technology section, in Canada.

So many thanks to our colleagues back home, so we can actually come to these meetings, and to the Designated Authorities; is very much appreciated by our organization.

As your new President, I am looking forward to working with you, and I need you to guide us in our decision making process. I would also like to engage with all the stakeholders groups, universities, and non-governmental laboratories. I want to explore how we can do that, with the new ECOM.

Before I close, I want to add my thanks to the local organizers; I think they have done an excellent job right here, especially the staff from Telangana State. I would like to thank also ISTA Secretariat, for helping and working in the background and making things run according to plan. I also want to thank Craig, who will be continuing along with ISTA as the next Immediate Past-President. Thank you Craig, for leading the ECOM over the last 3 years, much appreciated.

We also have to say goodbye to few good colleagues from the ECOM, some of which couldn't be here; Mable, from Zambia, couldn't be here today, but she has been very active in the ECOM, representing Africa. Masatoshi, thank you very much for all your help, and even if you are not anymore part of the ECOM, you are part of the big ISTA family. Joel, as ISTA Honorary Life Member, we will have him on the hook for a bit longer.

I would like to keep the message simple and straight forward: progress in ISTA, ensure your members are fully involved in your association. Hopefully I will see you all in Verona next year.”

17. Adjournment

ISTA Past President, Craig Mc Gill (New Zealand):

“Thank you, Steve. We are now coming to the end of the 32nd ISTA Congress in Hyderabad, the first ISTA Congress held in Asia.

This Congress has been a success, as well as the Workshops, which enabled participants from Africa and South East Asia to attend them.

On behalf of the Association, I thank the Government of Telangana for undertaking this initiative. This meeting enabled the seed growers to learn about ISTA and also to attend the Seed Exhibition, organized in conjunction with the Congress. During the Congress, ISTA Executive Committee met representatives from the seed industry; these were very productive meetings, which not only provided opportunities for Indian seed industry to ask questions to the Executive Committee, but also provided opportunity to the Executive Committee to inform industry representatives on the activities of ISTA. This can only serve to strengthen the collaboration between India and ISTA.

We should also acknowledge the new ISTA Vice President, Keshavulu Kunusoth, for his involvement at the Congress; thank you, Keshavulu.

On behalf of the Association, I would like to extend ISTA great appreciation for his Excellency taking time from his busy schedule to come here and address participants.

I thank Andreas and all the staff of the Secretariat, you are a fantastic group, I enjoyed working with you all. Huge thanks go to the 2016-2019 Executive Committee; as President, I count myself very fortunate to have had you as a group of people to work with; your commitment with ISTA has enabled us, as an Executive Committee to achieve much for the Association.

The adjournment of this Congress marks the end of my term as your President. Was an honor and privilege to serve you as President.

In the closing I would like to thank my family, my colleagues, New Zealand Seed Industry, including New Zealand ISTA Laboratories and Members, New Zealand ISTA Designated Authorities, and in particular to Mr. P. Johnson for all the support.

Before I officially adjourn the meeting, I would like to invite Shri C. Partha Sarathi to say a few words.”

Shri C. Partha Sarathi (India):

“I would like to express my deep sincere gratitude to all ECOM Members, to incoming President, to Past President, and to all the delegates.

It was an excellent opportunity for Indian Seed Industry in general, and for Telangana Seed Industry in particular.

Representing Telangana Government, I am really grateful to all of you. I welcome all new Executive Committee Members and new President and Vice-President.

My best wishes to Craig Mc Gill, who is so humble, so polite and so affectionate with all Telangana team; we respect you, Craig Mc Gill.”

Congratulations to Keshavulu, who made us very proud; it is a great honor for us that Keshavulu is the new ISTA Vice President.”

ISTA Past President, Craig Mc Gill officially adjourned the meeting.