Draft minutes of the 15th Biotrade Stakeholders Forum meeting held virtually on 15th February 2022

1. **Virtual Arrival**

2. **Welcome and Purpose of meeting**

The Chairperson welcomed the participants. The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) agreed to present their National Strategy for indigenous food crops and engagement with academic on food and crop research to the Forum. The department has embarked on the review of the strategy to assess if the objectives and intended programmes are still relevant for the development of the indigenous food crops sector. Thus, the participants of the meeting were invited to provide input, add challenges, possible interventions, identify their potential roles and even identify where potential collaboration with DALRRD could be considered.

The draft agenda was adopted with no changes. A list of attendees and apologies received is given in Appendix 1.

3. **Minutes of the 14th meeting held on 17 August 2021**

The minutes of the 14th Biotrade Stakeholder Forum Meeting were approved. Proposer – Anna Reyneke (SIPPO)

4. **Matters Arising**

None.

5. **Presentations by DALRRD**

Moloko Mojapelo, Scientist Production, Directorate Plant Production at the DALRRD presented the national strategy for indigenous food crops review. The following is a summary of the points of the presentation.

- A general introduction to the indigenous food crops in South Africa.
- An overview of the National Strategy for indigenous food crops: the purpose, objectives of the strategy, challenges identified in the sector and proposed intervention measures.
- The progress projects that were implemented as part of the strategy which included: i) production guidelines (developed material) available on the DALRRD www.dalrrd.gov.za>Resource Centre>Brochures; ii) Awareness campaign on the value of indigenous food crops (food, nutrition, and climate change; iii) Research projects commissioned by DALRRD.
- The challenges that faced in the implementation of the strategy and lesson learned.

- An overview of projects that were implemented as part of the strategy.

6. Questions, Comments and Recommendations

- It was suggested/recommended that a list of species of the known indigenous food crops should be included in the strategy and the scientific names be checked and updated. It was indicated that the list of indigenous food crops is available on the website. (see Appendix 2)
- CSIR is working on indigenous leafy vegetables and legumes (cow pea and Bambara nuts) and would like to collaborate on the strategy especially on developing products from these indigenous food crops.
- A question was asked on the process of checking and verifying genetic material from other countries to the national GenBank. If other countries have access to the material in the South African GenBank and the terms to access the material. The following contact details were provided for information: Legal process for importing genetic material: ChristinaMa@Dalrrd.gov.za /012 319 6102. Accessing genetic material from National GenBank: A standard germplasm acquisition agreement to be signed: Contact MpolokengM@Dalrrd.gov.za/ 012 808 5387/9.

- The Agricultural Research Council indicated that materials that comes from other countries there are Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs) that are signed.
- SEDA indicated that they offer support in branding and commercialising products into small retail.
- It was suggested that the strategy include a map of the geographic distribution of indigenous food crops in South Africa, but it was indicated that the geographic information is available (see Appendix 2).
- The quality requirements and the importance of the requirements for market access should be included in the strategy as a standalone paragraph.
- The review process of the strategy should include consultation with the private sector.
- It was suggested that the appendix of the strategy includes case studies of the process followed to get the indigenous food crops commercialised.
- The Central University of Technology indicated that they have been working on preservation of indigenous vegetables and product development, they are interested in a collaboration.
- The Ecosystem Development for Small Enterprise Programme (EDSE) offers capacity building on compliance to food safety and quality standards in which the programme upskills SMMEs as well as preparing them for certification of their agroprocessing facilitation. (see Appendix 4)

7. Dates of forum 2022

15th forum (ABioSA)	15 Feb'22	Review of the National strategy for indigenous food crops (DALRRD)
16th forum (UNIDO)	10 May'22	
17th forum (ABioSA & DFFE)	16 Aug'22	Women's day celebration (physical or on-line)?
18th forum (UNIDO)	15 Nov'22	

The Biotrade Stakeholder members indicated that they are open with the idea of having a physical meeting and a suggestion was made that hybrid meetings be considered as of Q3 2022.

8. Closure

The active participation of the members of the members during the meeting was appreciated. Stakeholders were encouraged to submit topics for discussion or offer to present on their programmes to the 2 co-ordinating projects (ABioSA and GQSP-SA).

9. Supporting documents

Appendix 1 DALRRD presentation.
Appendix 2 List of Indigenous and Alternative Crops
Appendix 3 INDIGENOUS CROPS PRODUCTION AREAS
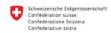Appendix 4 EDSE PROGRAMME FACT SHEET

environment, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE ABS CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

L'INITIATIVE DE RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITES POUR L'APA

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

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and Development

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OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation
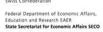
Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

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für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Appendix 4 List of attendance and apologies

	First & Surname	Organisation	E-mail	Signature
1.	Adrie El Mohamadi	ABioSA/BIA: GIZ	adrie.elmohamadi@giz.de	Apology
2.	Serole Sehona	ABioSA: GIZ	serole.sehona@giz.de	Attended
3.	Cyril Lombard	GIZ/ABS Project Advisor	newbotanical@hotmail.com	Attended
4.	Ingeborg Adelfang-Hodgson	ABioSA/BIA: GIZ	ingeborg.adelfang-hodgson@giz.de	Attended
5.	Motlatjo Maputla	BIA: GIZ	motlatjo.maputla@giz.de	Attended
6.	Makhosazana Mayekiso	the dtic	MMayekiso@thedtic.gov.za	Attended
7.	Karen Swanepoel	SAEOPA	saeopa@gmail.com	Attended
8.	Oladapo Aremu	North-West University	30532213@groupwise.puk.ac.za	Attended
9.	Elsie Meintjies	UNIDO: GQSP-SA	E.MEINTJIES@unido.org	Attended
10.	Viwe Mqulo	DFFE	vmqulo@dffe.gov.za	Attended
11.	Neil Crouch	SANBI	N.Crouch@sanbi.org.za	Attended

12.	Idah Manduna	CUT	imanduna@cut.ac.za	Attended
13.	Matsidiso Hashatse	SEFA	MatsidisoH@sefa.org.za	Attended
14.	Anna Reyneke	SIPPO	anna.reyneke@sippo.co.za	Attended
15.	Carmel le Roux	UNIDO: GQPS	C.LEROUX@unido.org	Attended
16.	Suzanne Herbst	KSA	suzanne@skaa.co.za	Attended
17.	Marthane Swart	KSA	Marthane@skaa.co.za	Attended
18.	Moloko Mojapelo	DALRRD	MolokoMo@daff.gov.za	Attended
19.	Carina Dewar	CTFA	carina@ctfa.co.za	Attended
20.	Adelia Pimentel	CTFA	adelia@ctffa.co.za	Attended
21.	Nomusa Dlamini	CSIR	NRDlamini@csir.co.za	Attended
22.	Natalie Feltman	DFFE	Nfeltman@environment.gov.za	Attended
23.	Meshack Mofokeng			Attended
24.	Nonhlanhla Gwamanda	NAMC	NGwamanda@namc.co.za	Attended
25.	Ronell Staphorst	SEDA	RStaphorst@seda.org.za	Attended
26.	Sinah Mosehla	the dtic	SMosehla@thedtic.gov.za	Attended
27.	Portia Kekana	DSBD	PKekana@dsbd.gov.za	Attended

28.	Obakeng Maema	TIA	Obakeng.Maema@tia.org.za	Attended
29.	Veronica Rakoena			Attended
30.	Francina Rakgahla			Attended
31.	Stephen Amoo			Attended
32.	Patricia.Masanganise		Patricia.Masanganise@thepalladiumgroup.com	Attended
33.	Hlupheka Chabalala	DSI	Hlupheka.Chabalala@dst.gov.za	Apology