



05 March 2020

Every year, during the ISF World Seed Congress, we look forward to working together with the global seed community towards a common vision of a world where quality seed is accessible to all to support sustainable agriculture.

This ISF World Seed Congress is not only an important event for the seed sector of the host nation South Africa, but also of critical significance to the developing seed business throughout the African continent.

This year the world faces a serious health and sanitation situation: the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We think it is important to communicate openly and objectively with all registered members, delegates, partners, sponsors and other persons wanting to register and join us in South Africa.

To ensure the safety of the expected 1,200 participants to the ISF World Seed Congress 2020 in Cape Town traveling from around the globe to South Africa, it is our responsibility to maintain the highest standards of health and sanitation.

We are constantly monitoring the situation. Together with the National Organizing Committee (NOC), South African National Seed Organisation (SANSOR), and our Events Management Team, we are in regular contact with the relevant authorities in South Africa such as the [Western Cape Government](#), [Department of Home Affairs](#), the [National Institute for Communicable Diseases](#), and the [Cape Town Convention Bureau](#). At the moment, there are no travel advisories issued.

Extensive preparation and resources are in place in terms of control. Temperature checks have been a standard practice in South African airports for many years. In addition, we are currently seeking specialist advice and will have local resources for proper hygiene and health. ISF assures you that all appropriate measures will be in place for the ISF World Seed Congress on site.

We advise members, delegates, partners and sponsors to get in touch with their national authorities with regard to the latest travel advisories.

It is our wholehearted intention to continue with our ISF World Seed Congress, and ISF, the NOC and SANSOR remain committed to go ahead as planned. As of today, we are

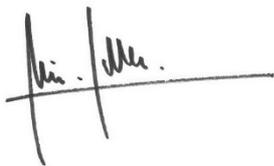
proceeding with the preparation of the ISF World Seed Congress 2020 in South Africa and, in line with our responsibility, are taking advice from the relevant authorities and scientists, and our partners for any further decision.

Bearing in mind the exceptional circumstances, we have decided to extend the cancellation date for the ISF World Seed Congress registration from March 11 to March 30, 2020, for the moment. We strongly recommend you to carefully check your hotel cancellation conditions.

In case that it becomes clear that the ISF World Seed Congress 2020 cannot take place, we will immediately inform you.

Do not hesitate to get in touch with the ISF secretariat, if you have any questions.

We will update you from now on a regular basis.



Michael Keller
Secretary General



David Malan
Chair of the National Organizing Committee