

**SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL
SEED ORGANIZATION**

NPC Reg No 1989/003392/08

Grondvloer/Ground Floor
Gebou/Building 19A
WNNR/CSIR
Meiring Naudèweg/Road
Brummeria, Pretoria



**SUID-AFRIKAANSE NASIONALE
SAADORGANISASIE**

NPC Reg No 1989/003392/08

Posbus/P O Box 72981
Lynnwoodrif/Ridge 0040
PRETORIA

Suid-Afrika/South Africa
Tel +27 (0) 12 349 0060

Faks/Fax +27 (0) 12 349 1462

E-pos/E-mail: genman@sansor.co.za

Webblad/Website: www.sansor.org

**PRESS RELEASE ON THE 23rd ANNUAL CONGRESS OF SANSOR HELD FROM
8 – 10 MAY 2012 AT IRENE COUNTRY LODGE, PRETORIA, GAUTENG**

The [South African National Seed Organization \(SANSOR\)](http://www.sansor.org) is the leading authority for the provision of industry-related, strategic services to the South African Seed Industry. Its mission is to represent, protect and further the interests of the seed trade to the benefit of its members. The 23rd Annual Congress of SANSOR was recently held on 8 – 10 May 2012 at the [Irene Country Lodge](#), Pretoria, Gauteng. Highlights of the Congress included:

- ❖ An Outreach Programme at [Irene Homes](#) for the mentally disabled where staff and members of SANSOR painted window frames and planted trees.
- ❖ SANSOR's inaugural Golf Day was held at [Irene Country Club](#) with a small group of enthusiastic players enjoying a wonderful afternoon of competition, while also planting trees.
- ❖ The trees planted at [Irene Homes](#), [Irene Country Club](#) and [Irene Country Lodge](#) is part of SANSOR's ongoing effort to reduce our carbon footprint wherever we have our Annual Congresses

The theme for this year's Congress was Sustainable Trade - Opportunities and Responsibilities. The Keynote Address was by Dr Ferdi Meyer, Director: Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy covering challenges and opportunities in Agriculture in view of the National Development Plan's vision for 2030. In his presentation he shared views and challenges that face the seed industry.

Other guest speakers included:

- ❖ Mr Caiphus Ramoroka from *Technology Innovation Agency* covering technological innovation in the seed industry and how they can assist the seed trade in developing and access technology to the benefit of all South Africans.
- ❖ Mr Kevin Kabunda from *USAID Southern Africa Trade Hub* covering the SA seed industry's relationship with SADC and how they plan to work together with the SA seed industry in not just South Africa but throughout SADC.
- ❖ Mr Jerry Madiba from *AgriSETA* covering employment opportunities in the SA seed industry and how the SETA can assist the seed industry in learnerships and the funding of bursaries.

During the Congress the Annual General Meetings of the Agronomy, Horticulture and Forage Divisions were held, as well as a new Board elected from these divisions.

The new SANSOR Board of Directors (non-executive) for the 2012/13 financial year are:

- ❖ Brian Lever (Advance Seed) – Chairman
- ❖ Gert Heyns (Monsanto SA) – Vice-Chairman
- ❖ Susan Allen (Sakata SA) – Director
- ❖ Jan Coetzer (Pannar Seed) – Director
- ❖ David Durandt (Seedcor) – Director
- ❖ John Odendaal (Pannar Seed) – Director

DIREKTEURE / DIRECTORS

B Lever (Voorsitter/Chairman), SL Allen, JK Coetzer, D Durandt, GF Heyns, JJ Odendaal



Photo of new SANSOR Board of Directors for 2012/13 attached.

Bottom from left: Gert Heyns (Vice-chairman), Susan Allen, Gerrie Reitsma (General Manager)

Top from left: John Odendaal, David Durandt, Brian Lever (Chairman), Jan Coetzer

For distribution to Agricultural Press and other interested press organisations.