



Report on the 18th (Virtual) National Mango Roundtable

Thursday 26th November, 2020

ZOOM Meeting hosted at GIZ MOAP Conference Room – Accra

1.0 Introduction and conference framework

The 18th National Roundtable, like the 17th, was held virtually via Zoom Conferencing as a result of the COVID 19 Pandemic. The final mango roundtable for 2020 was held in the GIZ Conference room. There was an open discussion on matters arising from the previous edition held in September - particularly updates on business interactions of participants with their staff, customers as well as service providers. Presentation topics included: Introduction to the Tree Crop Authority; Control of BBS; PGS Organic Certification; and the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

Among the participants were - Dangme West Mango Farmers' Association (DAMFA), Manya Krobo Mango Farmers' Association (MKMFA), Wenchi & Kintampo Mango Farmers Association, Sunyani Greenfields Association, Yilo Krobo Mango Farmers' Association (YKMFA), VVCCU, and PAMPEAG. Government representatives from Ministry of Trade and Industry (MOTI), MOFA, input dealers, exporters, academia (UG), BNARI and processors (HPW) among others. GIZ-MOAP was also represented.

2.0 Opening Remarks

Madam Marjorie Quist Abdin, the 1st Vice President of FAGE, welcomed participants to the final mango roundtable for 2020. She further commended them (members) for building on their active participation in the previous roundtable even though it was the first time it had gone virtual.

3.0 Presentations

3.1 Introduction to the Tree Crop Development Authority - Presentation by Jerry Jacob Anim (MOFA DCS)

Key Highlights

3.1.1 The Tree Crop Policy of 2012 recommended the establishment of a Tree Crop Authority to oversee issues of that sub-sector. The policy focused on 11 crops. The Policy identified challenges and proposed a framework to resolve the challenges through an implementation manual.



3.1.2 Six (6) out of 11 crops have been selected. They include: cashew, coconut, mango, oil palm, rubber and shea nut.

3.1.3 Processes (starting in 2017) carried out before the establishment of the Tree Crop Authority included:

- stakeholder consultations to seek views of value chain actors within the chosen commodities
- Preparation of a bill (draft) which passed through the Attorney General, Cabinet, Parliament
- Parliamentary select committee deliberations and approval (November 2019)
- Presidential assent
- Act was established
- Launch of the TCDA

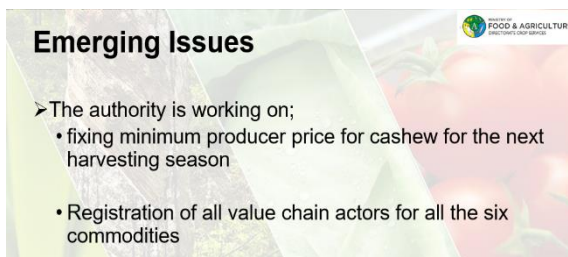
3.1.4 The TCDA ACT 2019 (Act 1010) has four (4) main sections:

- The establishment of the Authority (its objectives, functions, governing body, tenure of office, committees etc.)
- The administrative provisions (CEO and staff)
- Financial provisions (the Tree Crops Fund, its objective and sources of money, disbursement, accounts, audit etc.)
- Miscellaneous provisions (collaborations, offences, regulations etc.)

3.1.5 The objective of the TCDA is to regulate and manage the production, processing and trading of the commodities under it.

3.1.6 Functions of the TCDA

- Undertake, assist and encourage scientific, technological and economic research
- Train farmers on improved methods of cultivation, manuring pest and disease management as well as harvesting.
- Train processors and marketers of tree crops and provide technical advice to the tree crops value chain.
- Improve on the trading of tree crops
- Deal with ancillary matters such as the standards for quality, marking, labeling, packaging and the import and export of tree crops.
- Collect statistics from the tree crops value chain



Emerging Issues

➤ The authority is working on;

- fixing minimum producer price for cashew for the next harvesting season
- Registration of all value chain actors for all the six commodities

MINISTRY OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE
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3.1.7 The Governing Body has 24 private sector and 3 government representatives from MOFA, MoTI and MoFEP.

Fig 1. emerging issues from the TCDA





3.1.8 Comments

3.1.8.1 At the moment only the CEO, CFO and COO are the officers recruited to begin with the structure. They are: Hon. William Quaitoo (CEO); Foster Boateng (COO); Yaw Oteng (CFO) from (Standard Chartered)

3.1.8.2 There must be more private sector people recruited to propel the agenda of the Authority

3.1.9 The TCDA Board and What It is doing - by Davies Korboe (a board member)

3.1.9.1 The authority is private sector driven (24 private sector : 3 public sector).

3.1.9.2 There are 6 main committees:

- Logistics and Input Supply
- Commodity Pricing and Licensing
- Land Acquisition
- Procurement
- Standard and Certification
- Research and Development

3.1.9.3 According to the Act, any company/value chain actor not registered under the various FBOs and with the Authority will not be able to trade. This will enable monitoring.

3.1.9.4 All commodities will have a unique minimum price - including mangoes.

3.1.9.5 Final organogram will be established after the December board meeting

3.1.9.6 The office is now being set up. Until that is done, registration cannot begin

3.1.9.7 The Fund: 5 million dollars available to start with. The Act makes room for levies, borrowing and other streams

3.1.9.8 Mango has been identified as the initial focus commodity

3.1.9.9 A change of government would only affect changes to their four (4) representatives (MOFA, MOTI, MoFEP and the CEO) but not the value chain actors.

3.2 Control of BBS Disease in Ghana: Current Options & Future Prospects - Presentation by Dr. Joseph Honger

Key Highlights

3.2.1 Mango (*Mangifera indica*) production in Ghana is currently under threat by the bacterial black spot disease.

3.2.2 The disease caused by a bacterium, *Xanthomonas citri* pv *mangiferaeindicae*, causes premature fruit drop and blemishes on mature fruits. In highly infested fields, 80% of the mature fruits could be lost.

3.2.3 The disease has been reported in all the major mango growing areas of the country. Since 2011, farmers have tried a wide range of chemicals - from copper based to organic reagents against the disease, with no success



- ▶ Since 2019, MOAP has sponsored several trials to evaluate some selected copper based fungicides for their ability to control the disease
- ▶ Another biological stimulant, Bion (acibenzolar-S-methyl) was also combined with some of the fungicides to determine its effect.
- ▶ The trials were carried out in the Manya Krobo area, Wa and Sawla.
- ▶ Selected copper based fungicides were applied at 2 weeks intervals beginning at fruit set and ending at maturity. Keitt was the predominant variety used in the trial.

Product	Active ingredient	Tl
Curenox	500 g/kg Copper oxychloride	1.25 g
Coprous super	850 g/kg Copper oxychloride	2.5 g
Cuprofix disperse	120 g/kg Copper+300 g/kg Mancozeb	6.0 g
Yellow gold	Bamboo distillate	15 ml
Funguran	Copper hydroxide	2.5 g
Nordox	750 g/kg Cuprous oxide	1.25 g

Treatments	Rate of application
Curenox only	30 g/15 l
Coprous super only	45 g/15 l
Cuprofix disperse	45 g/15 l
Curenox+Bion	30 g+2.5 g/15 l
Coprous super+Bion	45+2.5 g/15 l
Cuprofix disperse+Bion	45 g+2.5 g/15 l
Nordox (reference)	30 g/15 l
Non-treatment control	-

Results from these field trials serve the basis for the current recommendations for the control of the disease

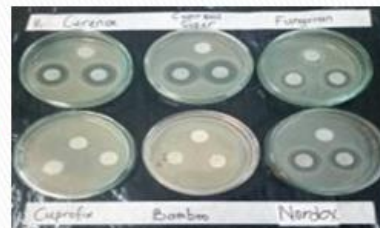


Fig. 2 trials with selected copper based fungicides and Bion

3.2.4 After several trials, the 3 copper based fungicides identified to produce good results against BBS are: Curenox, Coprous super and Cuprofix disperse. Nordox was found to be effective but it is currently registered for cocoa but not mango

3.2.5 Any previous experience of the disease on your farm requires one to establish control measures every season. A tree that was not infested in the previous season is still susceptible in the upcoming season.

3.2.6 The results showed that Curenox+Bion, Curenox only and Nordox only gave better results in all the three farms used for the trial. This corroborates the findings in the Lower Manya Krobo district both in the minor season of 2019 and the major season of 2020.

3.2.7 Current options for BBS control include:

- Proper pruning of mango trees and removal of pruned materials
- Bi-weekly application of either Curenox or Nordox only or in combination with Bion.
- Prompt harvesting of fruits not more than 2 weeks after last application of copper based fungicide.

3.2.8 Early maturing varieties such as Haden, Kent and Tommy Atkins fruits are least destroyed, when fruits survive abscission at the early stage, compared to Keitt.



3.2.9 Comments

- 3.2.9.1 Develop adequate spraying protocols based on research findings to give producers a clear idea on the cost of an annual effective spraying.
- 3.2.9.2 Area-wide application of chemicals to tackle BBS is a major plan for the TCDA in order to achieve results in the mango industry
- 3.2.9.3 FAGE has prepared a policy paper on a holistic approach for BBS management which will be channelled through the TCDA
- 3.2.9.4 Fruitflies take advantage of the soft spots left by BBS to destroy fruits. Hence concentrating efforts is a good approach.

3.3 PGS Organic Certification - Presentation by Olawumi Benedict

Key Highlights

3.3.1 Organic Agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects.

3.3.2 Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) are locally focused quality assurance systems. They certify producers based on active participation of stakeholders and are built on a foundation of trust, social networks and knowledge exchange.

3.3.3 PGS:

- Match production and demand of organic products and develop the local organic market
- Provide a credible guarantee for organic products to local consumers
- Respond to a need for ethics by involving stakeholders in the organic certification system
- Reduce the cost of certification for organic production

Third party certification	PGS
Professional	Voluntary to professional
Independent from stakeholders	Participatory (stakeholder involvement)
In accordance with international norms	Following general PGS international principles but locally adapted
Gives access to international markets (with right channels)	Access mostly to local, regional or unregulated markets
Most common guarantee system in government organic regulations	Not recognized in many government organic regulations
Deals only with certification	Combines with other functions, e.g. capacity building, marketing, etc.

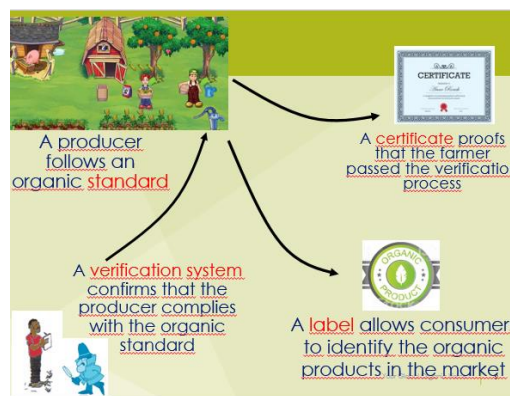


Fig. 3 PGS certification Vs 3rd Party certification

Fig. 4 The PGS certification process



3.3.4 Organic Farming Aid by HJA Africa

- 3.3.4.1 It is a biochar distillate that is useful as a fungicide, repellent, and improves yield. It is on the MOFA recommended list as an organic input for combating fall army worm infestation.
- 3.3.4.2 A confirmatory trial of the product is set to be carried out on Mr. Davies Korboe's farm to check: fungal treatment, yield improvement, insect/pest management, and BBS management.
- 3.3.4.3 For mango farmers, OFA hopes to enhance profitability; reduce chemical load on produce by harvest; and provide safe ecology on the farm.



Fig. 5 OFA

3.4 The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) - Presentation by Evans Mensah Freeman

Key Highlights

3.4.1 The **AfCFTA** is a Duty-free, Quota-free Single Market covering the entire African Continent - made up of 55 countries, with a total population of 1.2 billion and a combined GDP of USD 2.5 trillion.

3.4.2 The objectives of AfCFTA include:

- 3.4.2.1 To expand intra-African trade through better harmonisation and coordination of trade within the continent
- 3.4.2.2 To develop **regional value chains** to support industrialisation
- 3.4.2.3 To **enhance the competitiveness of the private sector** in Africa to support economic transformation and job creation
- 3.4.2.4 To **attract investment** into Africa with strong regional and local content

3.4.3 The AfCFTA legally came into force on 30th May, 2019 (30 days) after 22 Members States have ratified the AfCFTA and deposited their instrument of ratifications with the AU Commission

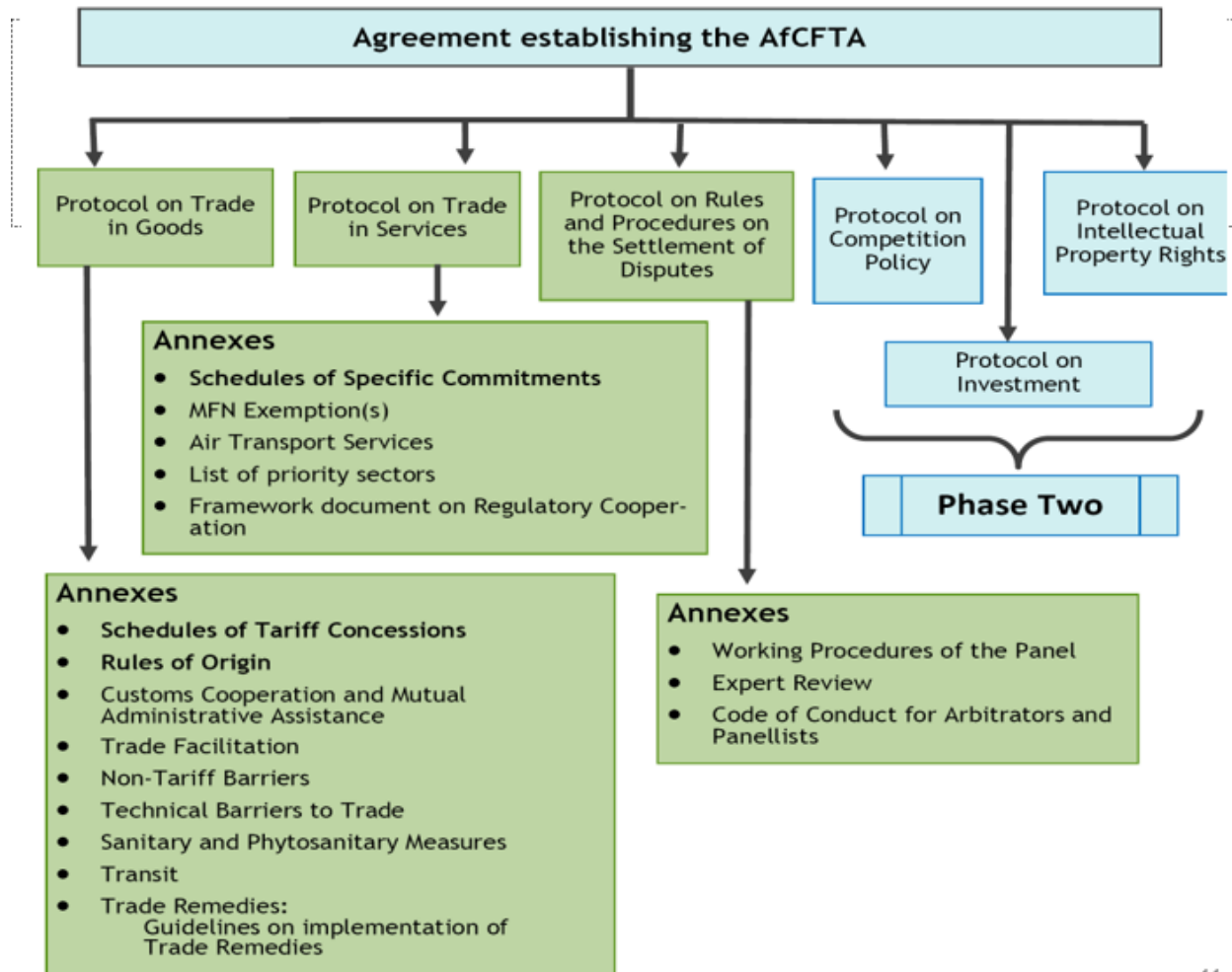
3.4.4 54 out of 55 Member States of the AU have signed the AfCFTA. 30 of these Member States have ratified and deposited their Instruments of Ratification with the AU Commission.

3.4.5 Ghana currently hosts the AfCFTA Secretariat at the Export Trade House. Trading is scheduled to commence by 1st January, 2021.

3.4.6 The African Export Import Bank (Afreximbank) will provide three (3) Regional Financial Instruments to support AfCFTA namely: **AfCFTA Adjustment Facility**; **The Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS)**; **The Africa Customer Due Diligence (MANSA) Repository Platform**.



Fig. 6



3.4.7 The AfCFTA is expected to increase intra-African Trade by as much as \$35 billion per year, or 52% above the baseline by 2022. Imports from outside the Continent could decrease by \$10 billion per year, whereas Agricultural and Industrial exports would increase by \$ 4 billion (7%) and \$ 21 billion (5%) above the baseline respectively.

3.4.8 The AfCFTA is expected to transform the manufacturing and agricultural sectors in order to accelerate inclusive economic growth and job creation, whilst fostering competitiveness across Africa.

3.4.9 Comments

3.4.9.1 The Ministry of Trade should this time target specific sectors as pilot, to see how the private sector can take advantage of the opportunities presented by AfCFTA. The ideal market for the mango sector could be South Africa because the enjoy winter at the opposite side of Europe hence their processors can import mangoes from Ghana to process for the EU market. MoTI could contribute their resources to build this link between Ghana and South Africa under the AfCFTA - Marjorie Abdin





3.4.9.2 Government should be up and doing to support the private sector take advantage of this initiative to penetrate the other markets before they start coming into Ghana because of the local mentality that home-made products are 'inferior' to imports. What are we doing as a country to build capacity to produce under quality standards?

3.4.9.3 Ghana should increase her processing capacity as well eg. via 1D1F rather than leaving it only to the few processors.

4.0 Closing Remarks

To close the meeting, the Convener thanked members for their active participation and encouraged them to send their suggestions of consultants for the mango industry for FAGE to establish a platform of consultants to benefit members. She announced that there was going to be an in-depth AfCFTA workshop for further discussions in January.

