First Announcement

Conference Theme: From Soil to Soul – Crop production for improved African livelihoods and a better environment for future generations

10 - 13 October 2011
Maputo, Mozambique
http://www.acss2011moz.uem.mz

The African Crop Science Society (ACSS), established in 1993 to encourage crop production and food security in the Africa continent, is a society for researchers, producers, business people and technicians around the world. The ACSS organizes one international conference in every odd year in one of the African countries. The overall goal of the conference is to promote the active exchange of crop sciences information, innovation, and new ideas. Usually, it is attended by experts and distinguished keynote speakers and eminent scientists from Africa and of the entire globe.

The General Assembly of the ACSS held in Cape Town, South Africa, on 2009, decided that the 10th conference will be held in Maputo, Mozambique, the first Portuguese speaking country to host an ACSS conference. Therefore, on behalf of the ACCS council, the Conference Organizing Committee is pleased to welcome you to join us in this unique scientific experience.

Date of the Conference
The conference opens on October 10th, 2011, and closes on October 13th, 2011.

Program Highlights
The conference will have a four-day program of events, which will include several scientific and technical sessions. Plenary sessions, with keynote speakers, three to four parallel sessions and poster sessions will be included. There will also be special sessions, which may include workshops, symposia, short courses, and round table discussions. Exhibitors will be accommodated and organized upon request.

The Conference will emphasize the role of research on providing for new and improved livelihood opportunities for farmers in Africa, which will impact on their income generation and food security. Thematic areas will include:

- Agronomy, crop physiology and cropping systems
- Horticulture
- Crop improvement and genetics
- Post harvest handling and food sciences
- Agricultural extension and education
- Agricultural economics
- Biotechnology
- Integrated crops and livestock systems
- Crop protection
- Soil and water management
- Environment, climate change in agriculture

The official language of the conference is English.

Conference Venue
The conference will take place at Joaquim Chissano International Conference Center located on the seashore of the city.
The city of Maputo
Maputo, the “pearl of the Indian Ocean”, is the capital and largest city of Mozambique. It is located in the south of the country and is inhabited by nearly one million people. Maputo features a warm and humid summer, with a rainy season lasting from November through March and a cooler and dry winter from June to August. It is a busy city, full of multicultural and entertaining life, sea side restaurants and hotels, offering international food and typical local dishes. The city is an easy and convenient place, with international daily flights to South Africa, and weekly flights to Angola, Tanzania and Kenya.

Excursions and Field Trips
There will be field trips to relevant crop production sites in the vicinity of Maputo city. Excursions and social programs to some touristic places like Inhaca Island, Catembe, and Maputo city will be available at an additional cost.

Transportation
The newly rehabilitated Maputo International Airport, for domestic and international flights, is located about 12 km from the city center and about 40 minutes (busiest hours) from the conference venue. A shuttle service will be operating between the airport and hotels, during the main arrival and departure dates. Taxi services are also available throughout the day at the airport and main hotels.

Accommodation
All delegates will be accommodated in high standard hotels, with easy distance and transport to the conference venue. A list of hotels and other accommodation is available and will be included in the second notice.

Registration
The registration fee is $250 (US) for early registration and $300 (US) for late registration. The fee for includes a conference bag, welcome function, lunches, teas, field trip, gala dinner and transport (from and to the airport).

Key Deadlines
- Abstract submission: 30th April 2011
- Special sessions submission: 31st March 2011
- Exhibitors registration: 31st May 2011
- Early registration: 31st August 2011
- Late registration: 1st September to 10th October 2011
- Full Papers submission: 10th October 2011

Additional Information
For more information on the program, registration, accommodation, social events, visa and health requirements, guidelines for abstracts, posters, full papers and special sessions, kindly visit the conference website at http://www.acss2011moz.uem.mz

We expect you to come and enjoy your attendance to the 10th ACSS Conference in Maputo

Luisa Santos, Vice-President ACSS Council, Chairman LOC Mozambique.