

# ICCO INTERNATIONAL COCOA ORGANIZATION

In Partnership with: Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) and Ghana Cocoa Board



## REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF COCOA PESTS AND PATHOGENS IN AFRICA: CONTROLLING INDIGENOUS PESTS AND DISEASES AND PREVENTING THE INTRODUCTION OF EXOGENOUS ONES

*Exploring opportunities for expanding scientific, technological and socio-economic frontiers for cocoa production and productivity in Africa*

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**15 - 18 April 2013, Oak Plaza Hotel, Accra, Ghana**

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#### **Introduction**

Up to 40% of global annual cocoa production is lost to insect pests and diseases. Currently, cocoa pests and diseases follow a regional pattern of distribution and are indigenous to specific geographic areas. However, there is an increasing threat of global spread of cocoa pests and diseases outside their current geographic distribution.

Mirids, the aggressive Black Pod (*Phytophthora megakarya*) and Cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus (CSSVD) are the main indigenous pests and diseases affecting cocoa production in Africa. The main cocoa diseases affecting production in Latin America are Witches' Broom disease (*Moniliophthora (Crinipellis) perniciosa*) and Frosty Pod (*Monoliophthora roreri*). Meanwhile, Cocoa Pod Borer (CPB) has caused significant losses to cocoa industry in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

In the current global market, with speedy communication and travel, trade links and the movement of humans and commodities all over the world, there is a more and more serious risk of introducing exogenous cocoa pests and diseases to new regions or continents. The threat posed by the introduction of exogenous pests and diseases to African cocoa production is evident, while the consequences of an outbreak would be devastating. Currently, sanitary and phytosanitary authorities in major cocoa producing countries in this region are battling to manage and contain the spread of indigenous pests and diseases. Should an aggressive outbreak of an exogenous pests and disease be recorded in this region, authorities would find it extremely difficult to quickly and efficiently react and the future of millions of smallholding cocoa farmers in Africa would be in jeopardy.

This project will therefore encourage the use of efficient Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and the application of “best known practices” for the control of weeds, pests and diseases of cocoa. Farmers and other stakeholders will be trained on best known practices that meet international standards, thereby improving their export potential to consumer markets.

## Objectives of workshop

The objectives of this project inception workshop are:

1. To raise awareness on the incidence, severity and damage caused by indigenous cocoa pests and diseases and the threat of the introduction of exogenous pests and pathogens from other cocoa producing continent into Africa
2. To officially launch project implementation in the five participating countries and to agree on implementation procedures and protocols for assessing cocoa production losses due to pests and diseases
3. To share experiences with experts from Brazil, Malaysia and Ecuador on exogenous pests and pathogens and measures needed to prevent their spread to Africa

## Programme

### Monday 15 April 2013

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> Welcome Address by <b>Mr Tony Fofie, Chief Executive, Ghana Cocoa Board</b> Opening Remarks by <b>Dr Jean-Marc Anga, Executive Director, ICCO</b> Keynote Address and Official Opening: <b>Board Chairman, Ghana Cocoa Board.</b>
<b>10:00</b>	The role of donors and International Commodity Boards (ICBs) in promoting global cocoa production in the context of “The pests and pathogens project” -- <b>Mr Francesco Gibbi, Project Manager, CFC</b>
<b>10:15</b>	Pests and diseases: Impact on the sustainability of the cocoa market -- <b>Mr Laurent Pipitone, Director of Economics, ICCO</b>
<b>10:30</b>	The threat of the introduction of exogenous pests and pathogens into Africa -- Speaker to be announced
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Cocoa / Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:30</b>	Official launch of the project by <b>Board Chairman, Ghana Cocoa Board</b>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Lunch and Departure of invited dignitaries</b>
<b>14:00</b>	Overview of the pests and pathogens project – <b>Dr Tony Cudjoe, Regional Co-ordinator</b>
<b>14:30</b>	Presentation on major pests situation and damage assessment protocols in Cameroon -- <b>Dr Luc Dibog, IRAD, National Co-ordinator for Cameroon</b>
<b>15:00</b>	Presentation on major pests situations and damage assessment protocols in Côte d’Ivoire -- <b>Dr Francois Nguessan, CNRA, National Co-ordinator for Côte d’Ivoire</b>
<b>15:30</b>	<b>Cocoa / Coffee Break</b>
<b>16:00</b>	Presentation on major pests situations and damage assessment protocols in Ghana -- <b>Dr Henry Dzahini-Obiatey, CRIG, National Co-ordinator for Ghana</b>
<b>16:30</b>	Presentation on major pests situations and damage assessment protocols in Nigeria – <b>Dr (Mrs) Lelia Dongo, CRIN, National Co-ordinator for Nigeria</b>
<b>17:00</b>	Presentation on major pests situations and yield loss assessment protocols in Togo -- <b>Dr Pascal Komlan Wegbe, ITRA, National Co-ordinator for Togo</b>
<b>17:30</b>	Questions and Answers

## Tuesday 16 April 2013

- 08:00** Field trip from Accra to **Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (GRIG)**, New Tafo-Akim, to visit research facilities
- 15:00** Technical project review meeting of donors with project implementation agencies. This meeting is restricted and will only involve the CFC, ICCO, co-financiers, the Regional Co-ordinator and the five National Co-ordinators

## Wednesday 17 April 2013

- 08:30** Presentation and discussion on pests risk analysis (PRA) procedures and the modalities for effective quarantine measures – Speaker to be announced
- 09:00** Presentation on existing national regulatory and legal provisions, plans and measures for the management of pests and pathogens -- **Quarantine services representatives from Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire and Togo**
- 09:30** Introduction to the use of the “**CocoaLink**” platform to enhance feedback from farmers in research, development and extension of farmer-centred technologies -- **Dr Francis Baah**
- 10:00** Questions and Answers
- 10:30** Review of the regional dynamics and basic information on pests and diseases situations in the participating countries, with special reference to Cocoa Swollen Shoot Virus Disease (CSSVD) and black pod (*Phytophthora megakarya*) -- **Dr George Ameyaw, CRIG Virologist**
- 11:30** Managing cocoa pests and diseases within the Vision for Change project – Representative of **Mars Incorporated**
- 12:00** Presentation by the Representative of **Mondelez International**
- 12:30** Presentation by the Representative of **European Cocoa Association (ECA)**
- 13:00** Questions and Answers
- 13:30** **Lunch break**
- 14:30** Presentation on Witches' Broom disease – **Expert from Brazil**
- 15:00** Presentation on Frosty pod disease – **Expert from Ecuador**
- 15:30** **Cocoa / Coffee break**
- 15:30** Presentation on Cocoa Pod Borer – **Expert from Malaysia**
- 16:00** Questions and Answers
- 17:00** Presentation on existing national regulatory and legal provisions, plans and measures for the management of pests and pathogens -- **Quarantine Services representatives from Ghana and Nigeria**
- 19:00** **Workshop Dinner**

## Thursday 18 April 2013

- 09:00** Harmonising existing national regulatory and legal provisions, plans and measures based on best practices (IPPO and WTO-SPS) for the management of cocoa pests and pathogens -- **Facilitated by Representative of Plant Quarantine Division of Plant Protection & Regulatory Services Directorate, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana**
- 10:00** Questions and Answers
- 10:30** Presentation of draft recommendations of the workshop -- **National Project Co-ordinators**
- 11:00** **Closing ceremony** with closing remarks by  
**Mr Francesco Gibbi, Project Manager, CFC**  
**Dr Jean-Marc Anga, Executive Director, ICCO**  
**Deputy Chief Executive (A&QC), Ghana Cocoa Board**