

TO ALL MEMBERS

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Zoetermeer, 7 January 2020

Dear Members,

First of all, we wish you a happy and healthy new year and a successful trading year 2020!

Thursday 9 January we will raise a glass to the new year at our joint New Year's reception together with members of the Royal Dutch Grain and Feed Trade Association at 'THOMS Stadsbrouwerij, Halvemaanpassage 1 in Rotterdam' (at the back of The City Hall).

2019 has been a remarkable year for the association with the Royal designation handed over by the Mayor of Rotterdam, Mr. Ahmed Aboutaleb and the King's Commissioner in the Province of South Holland, Mr. Jaap Smit.

Both gentlemen expressed their appreciations during their speeches. These appreciations were again showed yesterday during the traditional new years party at the Rotterdam City Hall where our President Mrs. Keemink was invited together with other Royal organisations and several special merit volunteers.



Looking forward to 2020 we might think that we will run into a normal year for the association, however several challenges are ahead of us. Brexit is approaching and will be effective on 31 January.

Actions from the "Future NOFOTA" report are being worked on by a special committee and actions from the Blockchain seminar held on 22 November will be further looked at.

A seminar on NOFOTA Trading Rules will be organized after the summer holidays and our traditional trade dinner, together with the AGM will be held on 23 April in the Hulstkamp Building in Rotterdam.

We are looking forward to work on all these challenges!

Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Dinner

The AGM and Dinner will be held in the Hulstkamp Building in Rotterdam on

**Thursday 23 April 2020.**

The Annual General Meeting is planned to start at 17.00 hours. Members are invited to attend this meeting. The agenda will be circulated amongst all members about one week prior to the meeting.

The dinner starts at around 19.00 hours. Doors will be open as from 18.00 hours and drinks and bites will be served. After-dinner drinks will be served until midnight and are included in the ticket price of € 175,00 (incl. VAT).

Members will receive the invitation via our mailing system, containing an online registration. This will be circulated around 15 January. There will be no tables/tickets reserved beforehand!

The number of seats in the Hulstkamp Building is limited. In order to give all members equal rights to book tickets/tables, we kindly ask you to pay attention to the following registration guidelines:

- Per NOFOTA company member you can order a maximum of 10 single tickets or 1 table (of each 10 chairs).
- The invoice for these tickets will be sent immediately after they have been ordered.
- If you would like to order more tickets or tables, you can make a reservation for a maximum of another 10 tickets or another table.
- Registration closes on 28 January 2020 or if the maximum number of tickets are ordered.
- The reserved extra tickets/tables will be allocated to the members, basis first comes first serves. You will be informed about that as soon as possible.
- The login code will be distributed only after payment is received.
- With this login code members are able to add and change the names of their guests to the list and the e-ticket(s) can be downloaded.
- Please note that NOFOTA will not cancel tickets after they have been ordered.
- Companies with a very strict IT security can order their tickets via their telephone, without a WIFI connection (with 3G or 4G).

We will do our utmost to fulfil all requirements, but we cannot guarantee. NOFOTA reserve the right to deviate from the above guidelines if necessary.

### Brexit

The Withdrawal Agreement Bill is back in the UK House of Commons and MPs are already gearing up to tweak the legislation. The DUP, Alliance and SDLP — all of the Northern Irish parties that take seats in the Commons — have joined forces, backed by Northern Ireland's business groups, to attempt to enshrine into law a guarantee that Northern Ireland businesses will have “unfettered access” to the rest of the UK.

Legislative path: The bill's time in the Commons is due to conclude with a report stage and third reading on Thursday, before it makes its way to the House of Lords, where peers will likely start debating the legislation on Monday. Even if MPs get through the legislation in double-quick time, the UK won't leave early. “It is agreed that it is 11 p.m. on January 31 UK time when we will be leaving the EU. Not before then,” the UK prime minister's spokesman told reporters.

Meanwhile, on the EU side: EU countries will hold their first meeting on the preparations for the draft mandate for negotiations with the UK on their future relations tomorrow. The European Parliament plans to hold a vote on the Brexit Withdrawal Agreement on January 29, according to a Parliament agenda document seen by POLITICO's Maïa de La Baume.

So, not all formal procedures have been passed yet, but it seems to be very unlikely that Brexit will be on a different date than 31 January.

In that case NOFOTA will change their clauses nos. 110 and 111. This means that for a period of 6 months from the Brexit date oil produced in the United Kingdom can be delivered besides EU produced oil, on basis extank Rotterdam or Amsterdam.

All members will be informed in more detail in the coming weeks by circular letter.

### Vacancies

There are vacancies in the Technical Committee. People with a technical background or view on the trade and production are welcome. For example, people working in the QA and/or QC area are of added value.

New arbitrators are also welcome. If you are active in the trade/industry and having several years' experience in a qualified position you can become an arbitrator. Interested? Please contact the NOFOTA secretariat.

### NOFOTA Non-business days in 2020

10 April	Good Friday
13 April	Eastern Monday
27 April	King's Day (Monday)
21 May	Ascension Day
1 June	Whit-Monday
24 December	Christmas Eve (Thursday)*
25 December	Christmas Day (Friday)
31 December	New Year's Eve* (Thursday)

(\* ) Half NOFOTA Non-business day as from 12.00 hours Dutch local time

### Diary and events in 2020

9 January	NOFOTA & Het Comité joint-New Year's Reception (Rotterdam)
19 March	MVO Annual Network Event (Spijkenisse)
26-27 March and 2-3 April	MVO Course on basics of oils & fats (Amsterdam and Rotterdam area)
23 April	NOFOTA AGM and Annual Dinner (Hulstkamp Building, Rotterdam)
3-6 June	EFRA Annual Congress (Villamoura, Portugal)
11-12 June	FEDIOL Annual General Assembly
5 November	FOSFA AGM and Annual Dinner (Battersea Parc, London)

Hope to have informed you sufficiently.

Best regards,



Ron van Noord  
Secretary General



Annemarie Keemink  
President