

TO ALL MEMBERS

Zoetermeer, 6 May 2019

Dear Members,

We herewith inform you about the following:

AGM and Annual Dinner

We look back on a wonderful evening on the 18th of April!

Between the starter and the second course our newly elected President Mrs. Keemink welcomed all guests. She also welcomed special guests, the Mayor of Rotterdam, Mr. Ahmed Aboutaleb and the King's Commissioner in the Province of South Holland, Mr. Jaap Smit.

Mrs. Keemink, NOFOTA's first female president in its one-hundred-year existence, reflected in her opening speech on the rapidly changing market conditions and influences. She mentioned the ever-increasing demand from consumers for more sustainable products, the increase in extreme climatological changes, the significant growth in global population and increased political instability. During this storm of circumstances, NOFOTA aims, as in its first 100 years, to remain the 'eye of the storm'.

In his speech, Commissioner Jaap Smit referred to the fact that the hundred-year-old NOFOTA has actually not lost any of its rights to exist, because he said: 'Most of the objectives drawn up in 1918 are still valid in 2019. It is about uniting the people and the organisations in the industry, about the development of standard contracts for trade, and about dispute resolution through arbitration.'

The development of new markets was an important objective in 1918; that has now been more than achieved. Jaap Smit on this: 'Today, the sale and processing of vegetable and animal oils and fats are a worldwide concern. It is now no longer about searching for new geographic markets, but about encouraging innovation, which can of course also generate additional sales.'

The anniversary book published last summer had impressed him: 'It is the story of specialist companies, dedicated entrepreneurs and motivated traders, who saw and still see the importance of cooperation.'

According to the Commissioner, the centenary of NOFOTA is therefore just a preliminary milestone: 'A century of cooperation, establishing authority and thinking ahead is now behind us. To the next milestones, I would say.'

After the speech of Mr. Smit he handed over the certificate of the Royal designation to the President.

In his congratulatory speech, Mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb emphasised the pioneering mentality of the Association: 'The bond with Rotterdam is exceptionally strong. The efforts of the Rotterdam founders have enabled NOFOTA to grow to become an internationally respected contract body in the oils and fats chain. Our port plays a major role in the supply and processing of edible oils for the European food industry. The storage and transshipment facilities for vegetable and animal oils, fats and biofuels in the Port of Rotterdam are the largest in Europe.'

But an appeal was also heard in Mayor Aboutaleb's reflective and complimentary words. After all, during multiple international working visits to colleagues in densely populated urban areas, such as

in India, Mayor Aboutaleb has experienced first-hand the importance of assuring a structural, global food supply. 'You also bear a huge responsibility in this respect; it is a task for the future,' he confronted those present from all the affiliated member sectors.

The President, in her acceptance speech, emphasised that she was extremely grateful for the award of the Royal designation and sees this as an incentive to involve members to a greater extent in formulating a future-focused task and service package. Mrs. Keemink furthermore launched the new logo of NOFOTA and explained the lay-out of the crown.

Photos of the dinner can be downloaded via the website, under publications.

New website

Together with the Royal designation NOFOTA launched her new website. You cannot log in with the old codes, but you have to send a request for a new password via the link: <https://nofota.com/membership-login/password-reset/> A personal ID and password will be send to your e-mail address, if known and registered by NOFOTA. If you have any problems please contact the secretariat.

Golf tournament

The golf tournament will be held on Monday 3 June at 'De Hoge Kleij' in Leusden. Many members have already registered. You are still welcome to participate on this very special golf course in the centre of the Netherlands. The invitation and registration form is herewith attached.

Research and survey future NOFOTA

Last year NOFOTA celebrated her 100th anniversary. This was a remarkable moment and it is now a good time to think about the future. By that the council has decided to do a research project on the position of NOFOTA. The research concerns the future of NOFOTA in a fast changing world. This project is important for NOFOTA.

Mrs. Medina Sakić studies Marketing & Sales at the Hogeschool Rotterdam will do the research. She will contact our members via a survey and/or by phone. She will ask you about your thoughts and ideas about membership, the strengths and weaknesses of NOFOTA, but also the possible threats, opportunities and challenges.

Although we received in the meantime quite some response with very detailed and constructive feedback, we hope to receive more response. Due to the Easter holidays it might be forgotten. Therefore we kindly remind you to fill in the survey: <https://bit.ly/2IRwbQ7>

Your input is very important and appreciated for making this project a success and to be prepared for the future.

We thank you in advance!

FOSFA news

Advanced course information

FOSFA's Advanced Course is being held from 23-28 June 2019 at the Royal Holloway University of London, Egham, Surrey.

The Basic Introductory Course is being held at the same location from 8-13 September 2019. Information and registration forms can be downloaded via the FOSFA website or requested via the FOSFA secretariat.

Staff changes

Some changes have taken place at the FOSFA Offices on the staffing front.

Amy Feehan has left service and her arbitration desk and educational responsibilities have switched to Sophie Thomas.

Gemma Tang shortly goes on maternity leave and her membership responsibilities will switch to Shelby Taylor, who will also continue to fulfil the contact@fosfa.org functions.

Non-business days 2019

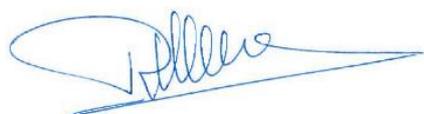
30 May	Ascension Day (Thursday)
10 June	Whit Monday
24 December	Christmas Eve (Tuesday)*
25 December	Christmas Day (Wednesday)
26 December	Boxing Day (Thursday)
31 December	New Year's Eve*

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

Diary and events 2019

3 June	NOFOTA Annual Golf Tournament and Clinic (De Hoge Kleij, Leusden)
12-15 June	EFPRA Annual Congress (La Baule-Escoublac, France)
13-14 June	FEDIOL General Assembly (Brussels)
23-28 June	FOSFA Advanced Course (London)
19 September	NOFOTA Council Meeting (Zoetermeer)
20 September	UCOGRAS Annual Dinner (Antwerp area)
23 October	FOSFA Annual Dinner (Amsterdam)
14 November	Royal Dutch Grain Trade Ass. Annual Dinner (Rotterdam)
28 November	GROFOR Annual Dinner (Hamburg)

Yours faithfully,



Ron van Noord
Secretary General



Annemarie Keemink
President