



Conveners Remarks – CLF 6th March 2012

Dear Colleagues,

A very big thank you to all those who participated at the July CLF in Durban, the theme: Enabling Sustainable Citrus Transportation and Handling in the Durban Port. There was a very good turnout from important sectors representing the supply chain – especially from Transnet. A special thanks to the VIP attendees for their valuable input and direction on the key matters. There were very good presentations made by various speakers who were very willing to participate, these can be viewed on the CGA website. Thanks to the key sponsor Cordstrap and to TNPA for hosting a small group of us at the rugby box at Kingspark Stadium to watch the Sharks obliterate the Bulls 32 – 10 (what a treat), also to TNPA for the gifts given out during the CLF.

It is very evident that a successful CLF can only be accomplished if an invitation is extended to key speakers, participation from industry bodies and associations who have the knowledge on the issues at hand is also most critical. Comments and feedback post the CLF were good but lean towards how these issues are going to be dealt with to avoid letting the CLF be another watch and talk shop. For the remainder of the year the main points will be focused on quite aggressively. It does seem essential to call on representatives within the industry to form working groups tasked to resolve these specific points. Hopefully by the next annual CLF in Stellenbosch there can be some positive feedback.

I'll begin to consult with key role players and start the process of engagement on the issues at hand. Most imperative is a willingness to support this process from role players within the citrus industry, service providers and lobbying bodies.

Best Wishes