



COOPERATION FOR FAIR TRADE IN AFRICA

www.cofta.org

On behalf of the Board and the Secretariat Office, we are pleased to announce and invite you to the COFTA Regional Conference 2010- that will be held from the **23rd – 28th May, 2010**, at the **Royal Swazi Convention Centre situated in Ezulwini, Manzini** The Valley of Heaven.

The conference and accommodation will take within the same venue; it is a safe and comfortable hotel. The Centre has good services, including a bank; internet wireless connections and local cellular provider will be on hand to assist.

The **Manzini 2010 Conference** is set to be an enriching and exciting event, which will involve in-depth presentations and discussions on issues affecting African producers. Our conference discussion topics will include plenary discussions and break away workshops.

- Arrival: Sunday 23rd May, 2010
- **Conference Day 1:** Monday 24th May, 2010 (Plenary & Workshops)
- **Conference Day 2:** Tuesday 25th May, 2010 (Plenary & Workshops)
- **Conference Day 3:** Wednesday 26th May, 2010 (Plenary & Workshops)
- **Conference Day 4:** Thursday 27th May, 2009 (AGM)
- **Conference Day 5:** Friday 28th May , 2009 (**producer & touristic visit for those interested**)

Departure thereafter on 29th

Each Conference Day will carry on as below:

9:00 – 11:00am Plenary
11:00 – 11:30am Tea Break
11:30pm – 12:00noon Plenary
12:00noon – 1:00pm Workshops Overview
1:00pm – 2:00pm Lunch Break
2:00pm – 3:30pm Workshops
Maximum of 3 different workshops per day
3:30pm – 4:00pm Plenary: Report on Workshops
4:00pm Tea Break
4:30pm – 7:00pm Market Place: Buyer Producer Meet & Greet/Matchmaking
7:00pm – 9:30pm Planned Dinners

The full conference program will be sent to all participants at the end of February 2010.

Special Activities

The Board is working on having a Market place for commercial buyers running from 4:30pm. This market place is open for all Fair Trade buyers and other buyers interested in meeting Fair Trade producers from across Africa.

This will be, a great opportunity for producers to showcase their latest product samples and for buyer to meet current trading partners as well as our new members.

Swift has organised to offer tours throughout the conference to Kruger National Park, the best beaches in the world Mozambique, local game parts and nature reserves. Anyone looking for more information on these tours can contact Roland on rols@alloutafrica.com.

They also have three producer visits lined up for those wanting to see more of the country and visit a rural homestead.

During the 2010 Regional Conference COFTA will also hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Board Elections. Information on interested candidates will be circulated to members. The AGM is open to COFTA members (full members have voting rights) and probationary members. Other interested participants can be allowed to sit in as observers however they will need to express this interest to the Secretariat or COFTA Board in advance

Conference Participation Fees...

The costs for participation including Meals:

	Amount USD	Amount Euro
Accommodation & Conference (23rd to 27th)		
Single room	685.00	465.00
Double room (Sharing)	500.00	340.00

	Amount USD	Amount Euro
Accommodation additional fee 28th		
Single room	120.00	85.00
Double room (Sharing)	85.00	60.00

	Amount USD	Amount Euro
Other Charges		
Compulsory Registration fee (for administration purpose)	15.00	10.00

COFTA is working to provide special scholarships for participation to COFTA members requiring the support. These are limited and will be based on merit and participation in previous COFTA activities. For more information, enquiries should be directed to info@cofta.org

Conference Registration...

The 2008 COFTA Regional Conference is open to all interested participants and we welcome our members, non-members, interested African organizations, and our partners and supporters from around the world. The 2010 conference will bring together not just the strength of our network --

our African members -- but Fair Trade Organizations and supporters from Asia, Latin America, Europe, North America, Australia and the Pacific Rim. We are honored to host this event, and we can promise you the very best of African fellowship and hospitality.

The registration form for this event is attached. Please fill it in and send to conference@cofta.org. You will then receive information and direction on payment.

Registration is open until the **10th of April, 2010.**

Register Now!!!!!!!!!!

We welcome you to Manzini. Thank you for your interest, we look forward to your participation and to hosting you in one of the most amazing cities in the world