# FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (13/19)

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*Justin Chadwick 29 March 2019*

***"Perhaps in time the so-called Dark Ages will be thought of as including our own" Georg Christoph Lichtenberg***

**HANNES DE WAAL JOINS CGA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

After four years on the Executive Committee of the CGA, Fanie Meyer has stepped down. The CGA Board, management and growers thank Fanie for his sage, sometimes left field guidance and advice. A citrus man from a young age, Fanie proved that you cannot buy experience.

At the CGA Board meeting of 27 March 2019, Hannes de Waal was elected to replace Fanie. George Hall was re-elected, while Ben Vorster (Chairman), Cornel van der Merwe (Vice Chairman) and Pieter Nortje (Vice Chairman) begin the second year of their two-year term.

In another change to CGA representation, Mark Fry has resigned as Trustee of the Citrus Industry Trust after serving as the CGA representative. Mark has assisted in guiding the CIT and keeping it focussed on delivery on its mandate – many thanks Mark. Phillip Dempsey (CGA Director and Chairman of the Citrus Academy) has been elected to replace Mark.

Peter Nicholson has been a presence at Citrus Marketing Forum (CMF) since its inception, lately attending as a representative of CGA. He has stepped down and Jan Louis Pretorius has been appointed as his replacement. Peter has driven many initiatives at the CMF – many thanks.

The Board also approved the CGA budget for 2019/20. Fifty-three percent of the budget is transferred to the Citrus Research Trust for expenditure on research and development, with a further 10% budgeted for market access activities. Transformation (activities of Grower Development Chamber, CGA Grower Development Company and Citrus Academy) accounts for a further 20%. Allocations are also made to Logistics and infrastructure, Information, Representation and Communication. Administration is less than the NAMC prescribed 10%.

**EXPORTS FROM MAPUTO PORT ON TRACK FOR 2019 (Mitchell Brooke)**

On Wednesday a delegation of citrus producers, exporters and logistics agents visited the port of Maputo as part of an arranged tour by CGA. In summary there has been extensive infrastructure development on the corridor which paves the way for greater efficiency through the port. DP World has made extensive upgrades to the container terminal as part of a phased-in approach to expansion. One of the most evident features of the corridor is the upgraded rail network between Komatipoort and DP World with the terminal expanding the rail sidings to receive two train sets at once. It seemed that all concurred that the best option would be to rail containers between DP World and an inland hub rather than trucking containers by road. CMA CGM yesterday announced that the Noura East Africa service will be calling Maputo as a last port of call with a direct call to Jebel Ali at 17 days transit. Other ports in the Gulf, Asia and Far East can be accessed with a transhipment from Jebel Ali. This is a major game changer for exports into the Middle East from Maputo and would be a massive benefit if as many containers as possible could be shipped from Maputo to alleviate challenges in the Durban port. Going forward it is abundantly clear that a cold treatment facility and container depot built alongside a rail siding on the corridor would further enable exports to the Far East (Japan and China) from Maputo.

**CGA CITRUS SUMMIT FEEDBACK**

Almost 50% of delegates attending the CGA Citrus Summit completed the feedback form. We will share some of the feedback once analysed. Thank you to those who completed the form – it assists CGA in continuously improving on the event. For those who did not get a chance to complete the form please use this link https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/lnBUPA