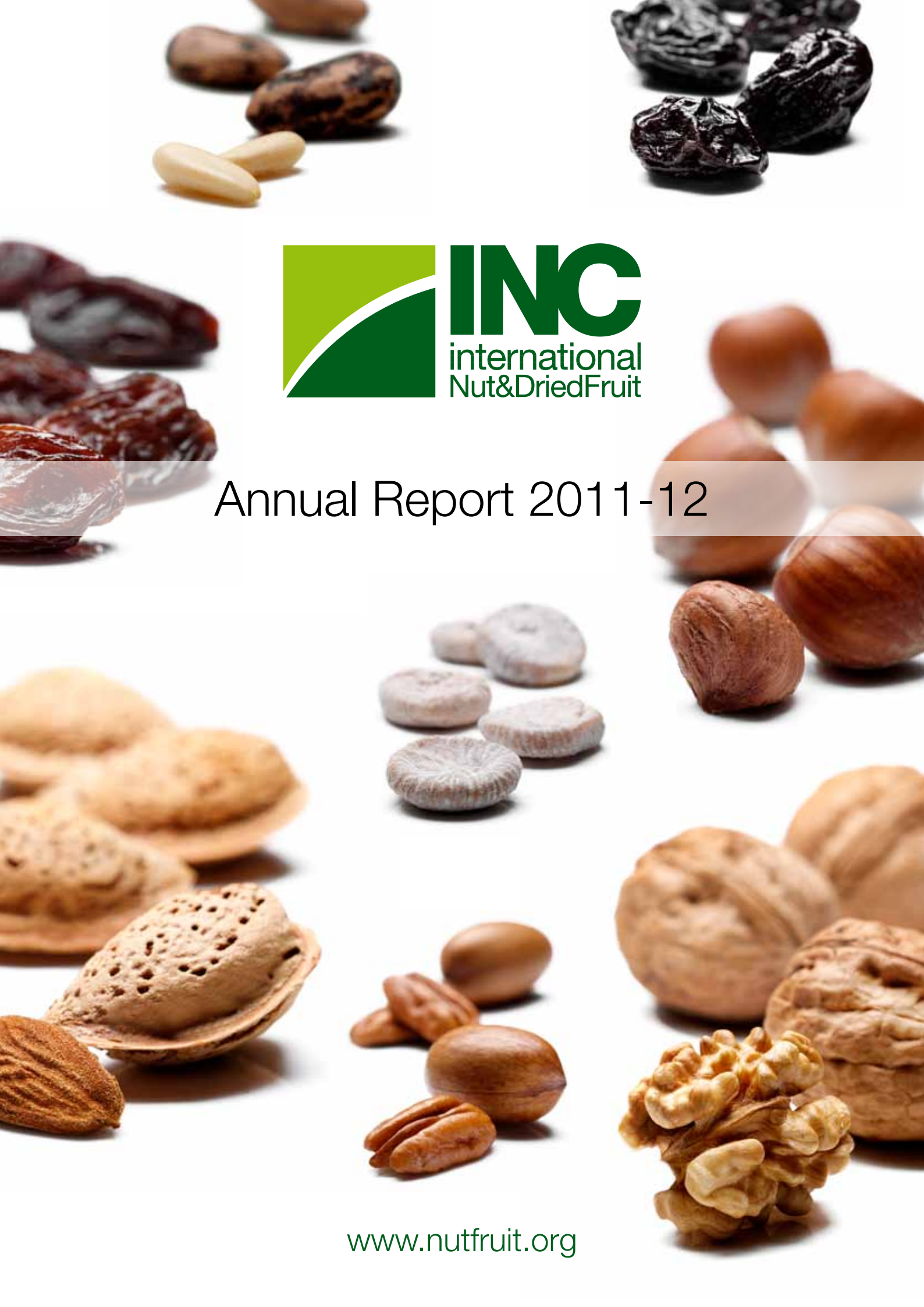

INC
international
Nut&DriedFruit

Annual Report 2011-12

www.nutfruit.org

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MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

The International Nut and Dried Fruit Council Foundation (INC) represents and endorses activities that provide its membership with new opportunities for increasing global consumption of almonds, Brazil nuts, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nuts, pistachios, walnuts, peanuts, dates, dried apricots, dried figs, prunes and raisins.

The INC's mission is to be the international source for information on nuts and dried fruits for:

- Health
- Nutrition
- Worldwide statistics on production, trade and consumption
- Food safety
- Government standards
- Government regulations regarding trade barriers and trade quality standards

Objectives:

- Increasing understanding about production, processing, marketing, distribution and consumption trends in the nut and dried fruit industry.
- Increasing market access by monitoring customs duties and trade barriers and advising governments on behalf of INC membership.
- Assuring global quality standards and trading terms are within the framework of existing national and international bodies and do not inhibit trade within the industry.
- Promoting research, especially nutrition, education and new product development.
- Promoting international cooperation by interacting with various public, private, national and international organizations, which share our common goals.
- Increasing goodwill and mutual understanding of the nut and dried fruit industry by promoting international meetings in producing and consuming countries.
- Providing a single source of annual statistical information from producing and consuming countries.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Official recognition by the Committee of Agriculture of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva where harmonization of global quality standards are set.
- Market outlook review on a quarterly basis.
- Industry watchdog and government liaison, including EC and US representation in all producing and consuming countries via our Country Ambassadors.
- Access to government leaders and industry experts via the magazine and annual meetings.
- Access to timely information on industry developments, steered by INC Secretariat and industry working groups.
- Three free annual issues of The Cracker, the only international magazine dedicated entirely to the nut and dried fruit industry (price: 170 EUR).
- A significant discount on the annual World Nut and Dried Fruit Congresses.
- Access to the online Meeting Point: a virtual meeting place for INC members to connect, interact and pre-arrange meetings with Congress participants.
- Participation in international symposiums that promote nut and dried fruit consumption to food experts including chefs, editors, writers, nutritionists and researchers.
- The INC website, with a password protected Database, containing statistics, government regulations and scientific studies.
- A biweekly digital Newsletter sent to the members, with information on the latest INC projects, scientific and regulatory news.
- An Annual Global Statistical Review, a single source of annual statistical information about nuts and dried fruits from producing and consuming countries.
- Brochures on nuts/dried fruit nutrition profiles, posters, recipes, bookmarks, etc.

Giles Hacking
Chairman

Dear Friends,

2011 has been a challenging year due to supply shortage and rising prices, but it also brought many highlights and exciting developments. The future is bright indeed and our beloved nuts and dried fruits are receiving much attention due to their ever growing popularity amongst consumers.

The INC added 70 new members in 2011. We are excited and committed to find new ways to reach out and connect with our membership. New scientific findings have been especially significant. Studies on the benefits of nuts and dried fruits consumption on cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cognitive function, and even stress reduction, have reinforced the growing body of scientific evidence promoted by the INC and worldwide commodity groups over the past 30 years.

The INC continues to make food safety one of its top priorities. The world class team of doctors and experts that make up the Scientific Committee provides the specialized care needed to improve the safety of the dried fruit sector. Promoting food safety is equally important. The INC has recently edited the Training Video for Mycotoxin Sampling under the EU funded project MycoRed (Novel integrated strategies for worldwide mycotoxin reduction), for regional training courses and dissemination in developing countries.

Research and promotion through education is another key goal in the investing of our members' funds. The Board of Directors conducts evaluations of proposals from many areas in order to advance the nut and dried fruit industry on behalf of our members' benefits. The INC also participated in the 11th European Congress of Nutrition, where the importance of nuts on health cropped up in front of the largest group of nutritionists, dietitians and nutrition educators.

More than 680 industry executives gathered in Budapest, May 2011, for the World Nut and Dried Fruit Congress to discuss such major issues as market dynamics, supply chain, consumption, product innovation, food safety, nutrition and research. I would like to thank the organizing committee, chairs, speakers, INC members, supporters, and staff for their contributions in making the Congress a success.

The Congress also reached a historic milestone with the signature inauguration of the Global Cashew Task Force. I am pleased to let you know that this alliance continues to enable further market development and to promote usage and consumption of cashews. By bringing together the major consuming and producing countries under one umbrella we hope to be able to add value to all operators in this field.

You may want to make plans to visit our first-time ever and exclusive INC Nut and Dried Fruit Pavilion at SIAL Paris 21st to 25th October 2012. All available booth space was completely sold out ten months ahead of the event. The INC is enthusiastic about the first-ever pavilion, exclusively dedicated to nuts and dried fruits, at one of the largest food expositions recognized by the international trade.

I hope you have taken some time to explore the new website. Launched beginning 2012, the website was revamped in order to provide the ultimate online resource for industry, academia and consumers. The goal was to make it more user-friendly and visually appealing, while expanding the information for health professionals and consumers through two new sections: Wikinuts and Health&Professionals. For food industry professionals, we set up a new newsletter, the Congress micro-site and the online Meeting Point -the only one in the industry.

The INC plans to open the doors to its New Home mid-2012 in the Technology Park of Reus. The new office will be located in one of the city's most prominent sites, the Techno Park, an integrated network of innovation, health and nutrition research centers. The INC is deeply grateful for the support it has received from members around the world in this tribute to INC's critical role as a leader in the global nut and dried fruit industry.

As I approach my first anniversary as your Chairman, I would like to reiterate my commitment to this tremendous industry and to thank all INC members who have demonstrated such confidence and unswerving support over recent years. It is a great honor to serve as INC Chairman, and I look forward to playing my part in this industry, which has such an exciting future for all concerned.

Sincerely yours,

Giles Hacking
Chairman

PRIORITIES FOR 2012/13

Goretti Guasch
Executive Director

Our priorities for the coming year are based on our strategic purposes that are critical for the development of our industry in the current and future international environment: promote sustainability and growth, increase consumers' confidence, and continue to expand the understanding of the health benefits of nuts and dried fruits. Key program areas include production research, food safety, health, sustainability, industry information and statistics.

We are committed to address strategic actions towards scientific and government affairs, taking into account the provisions and measures laid by international and supranational bodies, such as the United Nations and the Codex Alimentarius, regarding food safety, agricultural quality standards, and trade barriers.

The INC preserves the interests of the sector in its role as the industry's umbrella organization; furthermore the INC is committed to providing growers, handlers, traders and stakeholders with the most up-to-date tools and resources necessary to join forces together for a common cause: promote the industry's development and identify potential issues of relevance to the sector. The Global Cashew Task Force and the Macadamia Steering Committee are some good examples.

It is during the World Nut and Dried Fruit Congress that industry and stakeholders gather in the international platform for the nut and dried fruit industries to discuss high-priority issues. Next May 2013, we will celebrate INC's 30th anniversary with an incredible celebration in Barcelona and the official opening of the New INC Home in Reus.

We aim to continue to make nuts and dried fruits a prosperous industry and ensure consumer confidence by science based communication. With this in mind, we are founding the INC World Forum of Nutrition Research and Dissemination which is aimed at becoming the international umbrella for scientific research related to health and nutrition for nuts and dried fruits. This Forum will define research priorities, coordinate and promote calls for research, and monitor health claims.

Sustainability and climate change are two issues of increasing importance, and the INC has responded by organizing a network of experts to identify appropriate information and provide a benchmark for future initiatives.

In addition to these priorities, we will continue to deliver important services to our members, as the INC's UN Program, Database and Global Statistical Review, in our commitment to provide tools to support the development of our industry.

NEW INC HOME

Building the Future Together

INC's new headquarters will be located in one of the city's most prominent sites, the Technology Park of Reus, an integrated network of innovation, Health and Nutrition research centers that will offer companies the most advanced facilities with a rigorous academic and leadership experience.

The project to remodel and move into the new headquarters is progressing on schedule and the INC plans to open the doors to its new home mid-2012. Designed with the "office in the park" concept, its modern and friendly work environment is conducive to creativity and initiative. The project also involves a 2,500 square meters Arboretum, a place to observe and study a variety of trees, including 12 species (4-5 trees per specie).

The INC has launched a page on Flickr for everyone interested in following the construction works www.flickr.com/photos/international_nut, and installed a camera on the area with the aim to edit a time-lapse video of the building progress.

More than 50 donors, among INC members and institutions, have signed on to support the New INC Home with donations for a brick to be placed at the entrance to the building. The INC extends a very big and heartfelt thank you to the donors -many of which have been loyal supporters of the INC for nearly 30 years now.

DONORS WALL

INSTITUTIONAL

OFFICIALS

INSTITUTIONS

PLATINUM

GOLD

OUR STRUCTURE

LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors: The Board is formed by recognized leaders of the nut and dried frui industry who volunteer their time and expertise on matters that benefit the entire industry.

Executive Committee: The Committee is formed by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and a maximum of eight more members of the Board of Directors including the Executive Director, representing the regions of the INC members.

Senators: The Senators perform exceptional services towards achieving the aims of the INC and participate in Board meetings, sharing knowledge and collaborating with the members of the Board.

SUB-COMMITTEES

Scientific and Government Affairs Committee: This committee deals with issues regarding science and research on technical issues such as aflatoxins, ochratoxins, pesticides, heavy metals, etc. It monitors technical issues related to international and supranational regulations, trade barriers, quality standards, food safety, shipping and transportation.

PR, Membership and Ambassador's Committee: This Committee deals with issues related to new members, fees & dues, and establishes the best relations with all nut and dried fruit boards, the officials of the different countries and all industries using nuts and dried fruits. Ambassadors are requested to have a proactive attitude in order to motivate and incorporate new members.

Congress Committee: Formed by the INC Chairman, the Congress Chairman and the Executive Director, this committee is in charge of the local selection, assisting the local host, and reviewing the budget and the sessions of the World Nut and Dried Fruit Congress.

Editorial Review and Statistics Committee: Chaired by the INC Chairman and formed by the Editor and the Executive Director, this committee gives strategic direction to the magazine content, and collects and evaluates trade statistics about nuts and dried fruits' production and consumption worldwide.

Audit Committee: Internal Audit Committee formed by INC members not belonging to the Executive Committee, to further professionalize and insure the funds of the Foundation.

INC World Forum of Nutrition Research and Dissemination: The Forum is aimed at becoming the international umbrella for scientific research related to health, nutrition and nuts and dried fruits. The objectives of the Forum include: to define research priorities; to promote calls for research; to coordinate research of different groups, and to monitor health claims.

GOLDEN NUT AWARD

CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL GOLDEN NUT AND DRIED FRUIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

1984 – Reus / Spain
Jack Axer, USA
Ferrero S.p.A., Italy
Alick J. Renshaw, United Kingdom
1985 – Hamburg / Germany
Antonio Borras, Spain
Dr. Leon Pisani, Germany
Lewis S. Slate, USA
1986 – Istanbul / Turkey
Dr. Pier Luigi Noberasco, Italy
Prof. Dr. Mahmut Ayfer, Turkey
1987 – Montreaux / Switzerland
Migros Cooperative, Switzerland
Rafael Moran Mediña, Spain
Edmond Opler, USA
1988 – Lisbon / Portugal
Perugina S.r.L., Italy
Antonio Magalhaes Silva, Portugal
1989 – Paris / France
Nestle S.A., Switzerland
Gill & Duffus Landauer, United Kingdom
Simon Khayat, France
1991 – Vienna / Austria
Dipl. Ing. Otto Riedl, Austria
Cadbury Ltd., United Kingdom
1992 – Manaus / Brazil
Maseto S.L., Spain
Isaac Benayon Sabba, Brazil
1993 – Athens / Greece
ION S.A., Greece
Paul Graf, Switzerland
1994 – Cairns / Australia
Deane Stahmann, Australia
Ian McConachie, Australia
1995 – Luxembourg
The Ülker Group, Turkey
1996 – Tel-Aviv / Israel
Elite Industries Ltd., Israel
1997 – London / United Kingdom
Hershey Foods Corporation, USA
Chris Hacking, United Kingdom
1998 – Charleston / USA
Planters Company, USA
Dr. Gary Fraser, USA
1999 – Rome / Italy
Barilla Spa, Italy
2000 – Kona, Hawaii / USA
Ömer Faruk Dogan, Turkey
2001 – Barcelona / Spain
José Borrell S.A., Spain
2003 – Istanbul / Turkey
Don Soetaert, USA
2005 – Berlin / Germany
Werner Holm, Germany
2006 – Montreal / Canada
Johnvince Foods, Canada
2007 – Madrid / Spain
Antonio Pont, Spain
Ferrero, Italy
2008 – Santiago de Chile / Chile
ProChile, Chile
2009 – Monte-Carlo / Monaco
Giuseppe Calcagni, Italy
2010 – Beijing / China
CCCFNA, China
Cheng Hung Kay, Hong Kong, China
2011 – Budapest / Hungary
Tesco Stores Ltd, UK

HONORARY GOLDEN NUT AND DRIED FRUIT AWARD RECIPIENTS

1985
Juan Carlos I – King of Spain

1989
Mario Soares – President of Portugal

1990
Turgut Ozal – President of Turkey

1992
Pete Wilson – Governor of California U.S.A.

1998
Jacques Delors – President EEC Commission Brussels

2000
Daniel Inouye – Senator U.S.A.

2001
Franz Fischler – Commissioner of Agriculture EEC Commission Brussels

2003
Recep Tayyip Erdogan – Prime Minister of Turkey

2005
Helmut Kohl (Former) – Chancellor of Germany

2007
Josep Puxeu – General Secretary of Agriculture and Food of the Ministry of Agriculture of Spain

THE INTERNATIONAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION

THE CRACKER

The Cracker is the official voice of the International Nut and Dried Fruit Council Foundation and the only international magazine dedicated to the nut and dried fruit industries. It is published three times a year, also on-line: in March, July and November, with more than 2,500 copies in circulation. The magazine features industry leaders, government officials and guest food experts and researches who provide a global network of information about statistics, new crop information, food safety, trade issues, government regulations, promotional campaigns, and many other topics.

NEWSLETTER

The INC e-newsletter is produced and edited biweekly and provides industry related news, research findings, new government regulations and information about INC projects and activities. The newsletter is distributed to over 1,000 INC members, stakeholders and industry related organizations.

DATABASE

The INC Database is the world reference for all international organizations, producers, handlers and industries in the nut and dried fruit business for information regarding:

- Statistics on production, trade and consumption. Over 20,000 data on stocks, production, imports, exports, and consumption of nuts and dried fruits starting from 1995.
- Government regulations on trade, agriculture quality standards, customs, duties and shipments, food safety, food control, and labeling. Access to over 400 legislations, guidelines, legislative documents and reports.
- Nutrition research references on individual nuts, dried fruits and mixed nuts on cancer and antioxidant activity, cardiovascular, diabetes, gallstones, menarche, weight control and nutrient composition. Access to over 600 scientific references.

GLOBAL STATISTICAL REVIEW

The book and CD “2006-2011 Nuts and Dried Fruits Global Statistical Review” was released December 2011. This is the second issue of a collection of international statistics exclusively focused on nuts and dried fruits as regards production, imports, exports and consumption. The book gathers trade volume values for nuts and dried fruits from 2006 to 2010, production volume values from 2006 and 2011, and consumption estimates. Statistics are classified by product, year, country, production, exports and imports.

BROCHURES

The INC offers several brochures -free to members to distribute to clients:

- Recipes booklet with a collection of quick, healthy and delicious recipes.
- Bookmarks with nuts and dried fruits, and highlights on the health attributes of each one.
- Go Nuts Go Healthy brochure with nutritional information, health benefits and cooking tips, available in 10 languages (English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Turkish, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Swedish).
- The leaflet Nutrition in Every Handful presents nutritional information and cooking tips for consumers.
- Inspired by the brochure "Nutrition in Every Handful", the INC produces a poster featuring the Nutritional Composition in 100 g of Nuts and Dried Fruits.

NEW WEBSITE

INC's main platform for communicating with members, industry, media, researchers, consumers and other stakeholders can be found at www.nutfruit.org. The website is amied at being the world's best information resource in the nuts and dried fruit industry.

Members need factual, timely, and concise information to succeed. They also need to keep abreast of government policies, new technologies and research findings. To keep INC's website ahead of the industry, the INC has launched a new 2.0 version that embraces social media networks to serve up dynamic and personalized content, with an attractive, dynamic and modern design. In addition, the revamped website presents two new highlights:

- WIKINUTS: For up-to-date and comprehensive science-based information on nuts and dried fruits and their role in health and preventive care. This new microsite presents overall information about nutrition facts, health benefits, promotional materials, recipes, etc, targeted to consumers.
- HEALTH AND NUTRITION: Access accurate and practical information for health professionals, scientists, researchers and students.

The "Members Only" area is the gateway for exclusive resources, such as The Cracker online, Congress presentations and information, the Congress meeting point and the Database.

SOCIAL NETWORKS

The INC has also launched a new marketing program to help the industry communicate with its audience, outlining key messages to spread the positive effects of nuts and dried fruit consumption and the role of the INC for the industry. Social networks mobilize global sources, information, and initiatives, while promoting nuts and dried fruits across the world and online communities. Building a strong, positive online presence will help our industry as a whole.

WORLD NUT AND DRIED FRUIT CONGRESS

Congresses are held annually in May and are the largest international gatherings of food professionals, top managers, suppliers, traders and buyers dedicated to the nuts and dried fruit business.

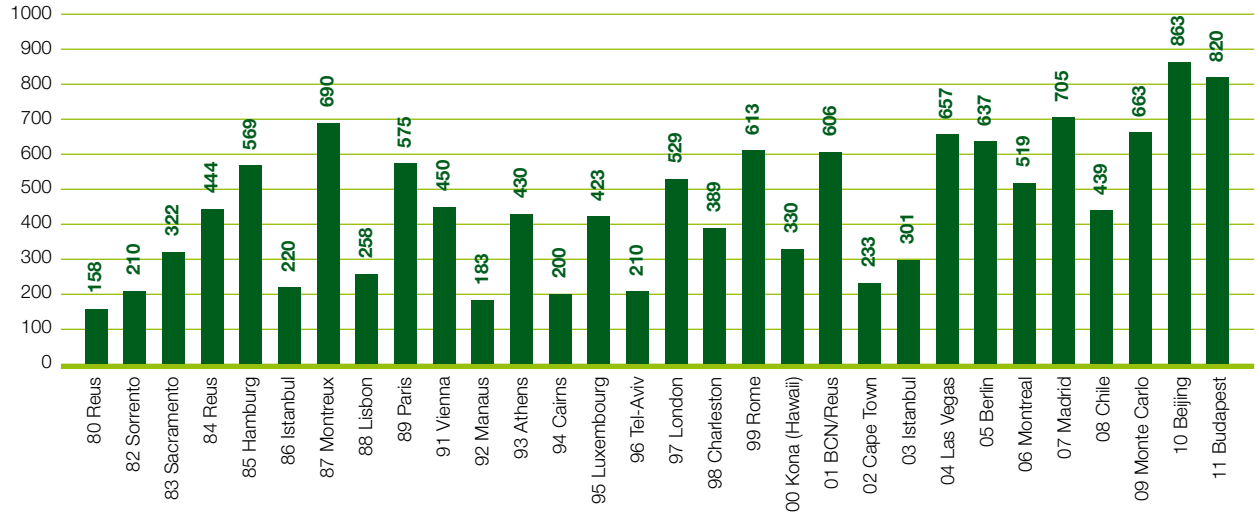
The event brings together top-level managers and specialists for a stimulating three-day program to consolidate business relationships and exchange knowledge and experience in market development, supply chain, consumption trends, product innovation, food safety, nutrition and research.

Welcome by Dr. Sándor Fazekas, Minister of Rural Development

Welcome Cocktail Sponsored by Blue Diamond Growers

Congress Officially Opens. From left to right: Mr. Cheng Hung Kay, former Congress Co-Chairman, Mr. Pino Calcagni and Mr. Károly Bognar, Congress Co-Chairmen, and Jack Mariani, INC Chairman

Total Congresses Participation 1980-2011



WORLD NUT AND DRIED FRUIT CONGRESS

BUDAPEST
XXX WORLD NUT & DRIED FRUIT CONGRESS
20/22 MAY 2011 HUNGARY

Tesco Stores Ltd Receives the Corporate Golden Nut Award

Global Cashew Representatives Sign Task Force Agreement

The 30th World Nut and Dried Fruit Congress welcomed 820 participants from 47 countries in Budapest, Hungary, from 20 to 22 May 2011. The program offered over a dozen working sessions, covering topics from market dynamics and new crop estimates, to scientific research and regulatory affairs, including round tables on market and consumption trends. Over 60 specialists in the fields of production, trade, distribution, health, nutrition and food law from all over the world presented their views on key industry topics.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to the sponsors who made the 30th World Nut and Dried Fruit Congress possible for all of us.

SPONSORS

BUDAPEST
XXX WORLD NUT & DRIED FRUIT CONGRESS
20/22 MAY 2011 HUNGARY

WORLD NUT AND DRIED FRUIT CONGRESS

The program included the **Scientific Seminar** "Challenges and Key Issues Facing the Nut and Dried Industry", which reviewed food safety issues, contaminants, pesticides, and agricultural quality standards. The **Scientific Symposium** "Nuts and Dried Fruit on Health and Disease" was presented by researchers from diverse disciplines that shared evidence, identified knowledge gaps and set a global research agenda for the future. The other sessions consisted of Round Tables on market dynamics, new crop estimates and promotional campaigns for each nut and dried fruit, including a keynote presentation by leaders of **Major Supermarket Chains**: **Delhaize Belgium** and **Tesco Stores Ltd**.

INC Ambassadors

Given the success in previous years, the Exhibition Area of the Congress also offered a great opportunity for companies to display products, services, technology and innovations in the nut and dried fruit industry to the target audience.

The Program included social events aimed at providing an enjoyable atmosphere for networking: the **Welcome Cocktail Party** in a sightseeing boat trip on the Danube, the **Casual Dinner** with traditional Hungarian food, gypsy music and acrobatics at the Sofitel Hotel, and the last night **Gala Dinner and Ball** at the InterContinental Hotel.

General Assembly

A historic agreement was signed at the 30th World Nut and Dried Fruit Congress by the main cashew producers and industry bodies, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the UN Economic Commission for Europe, and the INC in the name of promoting growth and sustainability of the sector. The signatories of the **Global Cashew Task Force** included the Vietnam Cashew Association, the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India, the Brazilian Association of Cashew Manufacturers, the Australian Cashew Association, the African Cashew Alliance, and representatives of global companies such as Kraft Foods, Olam International, Intersnack Group, and Richard Franco Agency.

The agreement created a joint task force aimed at promoting usage and consumption of cashews, initiating nutritional and health studies, promoting food safety, developing quality standards, and increasing awareness of the health benefits of cashews consumption.

SCIENTIFIC AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

CODEX COMMITTEE ON CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD

The INC participates as Official Observer in the sessions of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods. Over the past years, Member States discussed the Proposed Draft Maximum Levels for Total Aflatoxins in Dried Figs, among other issues. The INC participated in the electronic Working Group, led by Turkey, and formed by other Member States, the World Health Organization, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Based upon the incidence data of aflatoxins in dried figs evaluated, the impact upon human health of dietary exposure, and the relationship between the implementation of the Code of Practice for the prevention and reduction of aflatoxins in dried figs and the achievable Maximum Level, the e-Working Group recommended to set the ML for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat dried figs at 10 µg/kg.

After several years of discussions, an agreement was finally reached on the setting of a ML for aflatoxins in dried figs at 10 µg/kg. It was during the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food, held from 26 to 30 March 2012, in Maastricht. This agreement will lead to a decrease of around 45% in the number of dried figs rejected at EU borders when enforced in the European legislation.

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

The Thirty-fourth Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 4 to 9 July 2011, reviewed the report of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods, which agreed to draft a sampling plan for a Maximum Level of 10µg/kg. The Commission also adopted numerous standards for pesticides, additives, as well as guidance on the establishment of internationally recognized lists of acceptable previous cargoes for edible fats and oils.

AFLATOXIN-SAMPLING PLAN FOR DRIED FIGS

The INC collaborated with the Turkish TÜBITAK Marmara Research Centre in developing a method to design and evaluate the aflatoxin-sampling plan for dried figs. The project was requested by the Codex Alimentarius, and it was partially funded by TUBITAK and the Aegean Exporters Union, among others. Dr. Tom Whitaker, from the United States Department of Agriculture, prepared the experimental design.

The aim of the project was to determine the convenient method to decrease the uncertainty in the aflatoxin analysis due to sample homogenization for dried figs by developing a method to design and evaluate aflatoxin-sampling plan for dried figs. Therefore, increasing the reliability and decreasing the uncertainty of the analysis results will result in an improvement in the accuracy.

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

The INC also participated in the Nineteenth Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems, held in Cairns, Australia, on October 2011. Member States discussed principles and guidelines related to food import and export inspection and certification systems with a view to harmonizing methods

and procedures to protect the health of consumers, ensure fair trading practices and contribute to facilitating international trade. Among other things, the session discussed the Proposed draft Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems, and agreed to develop generic documentation concerning health and safety of food, to be completed by exporting countries, to reduce the burden created by importing countries.

FOOD SAFETY ALERTS

The INC continually monitors food safety alerts in Europe, the United States, Australia, and Japan, analyzing the trend and monitoring the casues and origins. The annual reports on food safety notifications and border rejections include information classified by product, country of origin, notifying country, and reason for notifying.

Europe: In 2011, the number of notifications by the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed for nuts reached 383, down 15% from 2010. This reduction is directly related to the decrease of aflatoxin notifications, from 405 to 294, which reflects the efforts by the industry and the adoption of new maximum level of aflatoxins in almonds, apricot kernels, Brazil nuts, hazelnuts and pistachios. Peanuts (183 notifications) and pistachios (86) were the most notified products. The strongest reduction was observed in Argentine peanuts, Iranian pistachios and California Almonds. Dried fruit notifications slightly increased from 2010, from 110 to 121. The main reasons for notifying were aflatoxins (77 notifications). Dried figs were the most notified products with 89 notifications (76 concerning aflatoxins), a 41% increase over 2010.

United States: Border rejections for edible nuts in 2011 totaled 96, 29% down from 2010. The strongest reduction was found in pistachios, with only 3 notifications compared to 66 in 2010, of which 62 were for salmonella. Peanuts were the most notified products, more than half of the notifications. The main reasons for notifying were aflatoxins (43). Total notifications for dried fruits in 2011 were 158, only one notification up from 2010. The most notified products were dried grapes (68 notifications), followed by dates (43) and prunes (33). The main reason for notifying was filthy (92 notifications).

Australia: In 2011, border rejections for nuts and dried fruits published by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service accounted for a total of 34, a 127% increase from 2010. The most notified products were peanuts by-products (21 notifications) and peanuts (7 notifications). Chlorpyrifos were the main reason for notifying (16 notifications), and the responsible of the increase in the number of notifications, followed by aflatoxins (15 notifications).

Japan: The number of order rejections for nuts and dried fruits in Japan in 2011 reached 65, a 19% decrease from 2010. The strongest reductions were found in pistachios with 6 notifications in front of 24 in 2010, and almonds with 2 notifications compared to 8 in 2010. Aflatoxins (56 notifications) were the main reasons for notifying. The most notified products were peanuts with 39 notifications

AGRICULTURAL QUALITY STANDARDS

The INC participates in the meetings of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, where Member States representatives revise and adopt UNECE Agricultural Quality Standards. In 2011, the UNECE adopted revised Standards for Macadamia Kernels and recommendations for a one-year trial period for Dried Apricots and Dried Figs.

SCIENTIFIC AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce specially thanked the support from the INC which collaborated in the revision of the Standards, and appreciated INC's feedback, particularly in the development of the Standards for Cashews, Macadamias and Pine Nuts. In 2012, the UNECE will develop new Standards Brazil Nuts and Sampling Plan, and will revise the standards on Cashews Kernels and Pine Nuts, with INC's collaboration.

CHINESE PINE NUTS BITTER AFTERTASTE

Throughout 2011 the INC has continued to intensively monitor the issue of the Chinese pine nuts bitter after taste. The China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Foodstuffs, CCFNA, released the new rules governing the exports of Chinese pine nut kernels to Europe in order to help and bolster the market on the 1st of July, 2011.

The European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumers, SANCO, was thoroughly informed of these rules and subsequent updates. By banning the exports of varieties Pinus armandi and Pinus massoniana for direct consumption, and avoiding small sizes, the pine nut industry was already reporting encouraging results beginning 2012.

The new regulatory documents concerning exports of Chinese pine nut kernels to Europe were available for download from the INC's website.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON FOOD AND NUTRITION

The INC participated in the 4th International Congress on Food and Nutrition and 3rd SAFE Consortium International Congress on Food Safety, organized by TÜBITAK Marmara Research Center and the SAFE Consortium on 12-14 October 2011, at the Istanbul Congress Center, Turkey. The joint Congress reviewed the most important areas of recent Research & Development in the disciplines of food, nutrition, health, and food safety, including nuts and dried fruits. Outstanding keynote speakers, scientists and experts from around the globe shared knowledge about the heatlh effects of nuts and dried fruit consumption, functional foods and beverages, phytochemicals and natural antioxidants, national nutrition strategies, and economical dimensions of nutrition.

The event was held in parallel with a workshop of the MycoRed project, where the INC gave a presentation on the economic impact of mycotoxins in nuts and dried fruits.

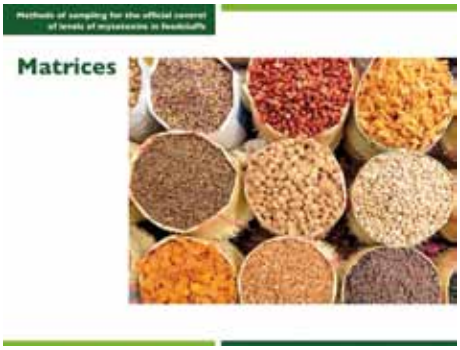
FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON MYCOTOXINS IN NUTS AND DRIED FRUITS

The First International Symposium on Mycotoxins in Nuts and Dried Fruits was held from 10 to 12 September 2011 at the Islamic Azad University, Damghan Branch, Iran, under the auspices of the International Society of Horticultural Sciences (ISHS). The symposium brought together scientists from around the world to address the current status and future course of action for mycotoxins in nuts and dried fruits.

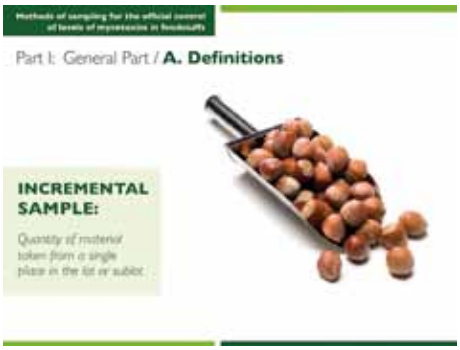
The INC gave a lecture on the economic impact of mycotoxin contamination of nuts and dried fruits; legislative controls for mycotoxins in nuts and dried fruits, and sampling and analysis of mycotoxins in nuts and dried fruits.

MYCORED

The INC participates in the EU-funded project MycoRed (Novel integrated strategies for worldwide mycotoxin reduction in the food and feed chains); a 4-years large collaborative research project that involves 25 participants from 17 countries. The project aims at developing strategic solutions to reduce contamination by mycotoxins in maize, wheat, grapes, nuts and dried fruit. Novel methodologies, efficient handling procedures, dissemination and educational strategies are considered in a context of multidisciplinary integration of know-how and technology. The INC, as participant of different working packages, developes the following tasks:



Training Video for Mycotoxin Sampling: The main goal of the Training Video for Mycotoxin Sampling is to reduce the total variance of the mycotoxin test procedure, where sampling and sample preparation steps accounts for most of the total error. It is intended for food and feed regional training courses and dissemination in developing countries, mainly Africa and South America. The video was released in English, Spanish and French in the INC website on February 2012.



Global Statistical Review: The book and CD "2006-2011 Nuts and Dried Fruits Global Statistical Review" was published on January 2012. This is the second issue of a collection of international statistics on production, imports, exports and consumption from 2006 to 2011 of almonds, Brazil nuts, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nuts, pistachios, walnuts, peanuts, dates, dried apricots, dried figs, dried grapes and prunes.

Economic Evaluation of the Impact of Mycotoxin Contamination: The INC published the Economic Evaluation of the Impact of Mycotoxin Contamination in Nuts and Dried Fruit Chain on March 2011. The report is focused on the industry losses due to border rejections, analysis, fees, demurrage at ports, staff and transportation, as well as government's costs on public health and controls in the borders.

Dissemination of GAP, GMP and GSP: A database of international standards, Good Agricultural Practices, Good Manufacturing Practices, Good Storage Practices, HACCP protocols and food safety alerts is available at INC's website. In addition, the INC monitors food safety alerts in Europe, the United States, Australia, and Japan, analyzing the trend and monitoring the casues and origins.

The European Commission evaluated the project as "Excellent Progress" in the Consolidated Mid-Term Review Report. The Commission concluded that the project has fully achieved its objectives and technical goals by its midterm course, and has even exceeded expectations. As for INC's performance, the Commission remarked the interesting investigation on economic evaluation of the impact of mycotoxin contamination, which will be of high interest for industry operators, and exemplary to other food or feed chains.

The next step will be to complement the economic evaluation with the impact of mycotoxin contamination in cereals and grapes, and to assess the efficacy and safety of food and feed processing procedures for reducing mycotoxin content in nuts and cereal based products.

STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS

Global Cashew Task Force Steering Committee Meeting, The Gambia, September 2011

INC MACADAMIA STEERING COMMITTEE SET

Following the Macadamia Industry Meeting that took place on May 22nd, 2011, in Budapest, where representatives of macadamia growers, processors and industry players discussed global challenges, the INC Macadamia Industry Steering Committee was appointed. The role of the 14 members of the Steering Committee is to study, comment and form a pathway for the industry to move forward. The Committee will draw on their own experience and expertise, and also the experience and expertise of the wider Macadamia Community, to achieve its goals and make its recommendations.

GOLDEN CASHEW RENDEZVOUS

The Golden Cashew Rendezvous 2011, hosted by the Vietnam Cashew Association, VINACAS, was held in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, from 10 to 12 of June, 2011, under the theme “Good Quantity parallel with Best Quality”. The INC was sponsor of this meeting aimed at developing a sustainable relationship between the Vietnamese cashew industry and international buyers; providing the latest information about the cashew market; and creating good opportunities for cashew players to meet and exchange insights and ideas. The meeting was attended by more than 350 participants, among leading cashew shippers and importers. The INC gave a presentation on “Nuts and Dried Fruits: World Market Trends”.

FRUCOM 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The European Federation of the Trade in Dried Fruit, Nuts, Processed Fruit & Vegetables, Processed Fishery Products, Spices, and Honey (FRUCOM) celebrated its 50th Anniversary on 17 June 2011 in Brussels, Belgium. The INC sponsored the event, the program of which included a seminar on “Food Policy in the EU: What Next” with Ms. Paola Testori-Goggi, Director General of the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers Protection of the European Commission.

AFRICAN CASHEW ALLIANCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Sixth African Cashew Alliance Conference took place from 19 to 22 September 2011, in Banjul, The Gambia, and held the First Meeting of the Global Cashew Task Force. Under the theme “Bringing the Cashew World Together,” the meeting showcased the growing importance of the African cashew sector to more than 360 participants from 33 countries around the globe. All stakeholders from along the cashew value chain were represented, from smallholder farmers to industry-leading cashew processors and buyers from the United States, Europe, Brazil, India, and Vietnam. Local and international NGOs, development agencies, and government representatives also participated in the event. The event also launched the ACA Quality and Sustainability Seal.

GLOBAL CASHEW TASK FORCE

The Sixth Annual African Cashew Alliance Conference hosted the First Meeting of the Global Cashew Task Force (GCTF). This joint task force was officially launched on May 21st this year in Budapest, Hungary, by the main Cashew producers and industry bodies, with the objective to promote the usage and consumption of cashews worldwide. Main agenda

subjects included the discussion of primary tasks and responsibilities of the Steering Committee, technical and quality matters, synergies with FAO, action plan and budget. During the GCTF Meeting in The Gambia, the Steering Committee discussed a number of important issues such as the research program for the year 2011/12; UNECE standards for cashews; food safety issues (insect infestation, fumigation, pesticide treatment and aflatoxins), synergies between the GCTF and FAO, as well as the action plan for the first year and the budget allocation.

November 2011, the INC met the UN Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy, to discuss FAO's participation in the GCTF and review the issues raised in The Gambia. FAO expressed its interest in participating in agricultural development projects in developing countries, such as African states, aimed at promoting overseas investment in new plants and production improvement. Such collaboration would be channeled through the INC to developing countries involved in the GCTF.

EUROPEAN DRIED FRUIT MEETING

The INC attended the Twenty-Sixth European Dried Fruit Meeting on November 18, 2011, in Hamburg, Germany, where representatives from national associations of producers, importers, and exporters met to discuss about scientific and regulatory issues. Participants had the chance to hear about the activities of FRUCOM; the Conference of Seedless Dried Grapes producing Countries; studies carried out in Turkey concerning aflatoxins in dried figs, and the Voluntary Aflatoxin Sampling Plan (VASP) system for California almonds. The meeting concluded with the Traditional Annual Dinner, hosted by the Waren-Verein der Hamburger Börse e.V.

CHINA TREE NUTS IMPORTERS & ROASTERS CONFERENCE

The INC participated in the Chinese Tree Nut Importers and Roasters Conference held in Guangzhou, on December 1-2, 2011, under the auspices of the China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Foodstuffs, CCCFNA. More than 200 delegates had the chance to hear presentations on worldwide production and market trends. Industry leaders from the producing and manufacturing sectors endorsed the rising popularity of tree nuts in China from a market perspective. The INC presented the Global Cashew Task Force, and chaired the conference on Amazonia (Brazil) nuts.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CASHEW NUTS

The INC participated in the First International Symposium on Cashew Nuts, held on December 9-12, 2011, at the Agricultural College and Research Institute in Madurai, India, with the support of the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS). The meeting focused on the theme "sustainable production, post harvest and export promotion", and provided new vista and knowledge among not only the scientific community, but also farmers and stakeholders.

Renowned scientists in the field of cashew nuts production discussed and exchanged research findings, latest advancement and industrial development in the cashew nut sector: conservation and utilization; production techniques; crop improvement; processing and value addition. The INC gave a presentation about cashews nut market trends.

RESEARCH AND PROMOTION

TREE NUTS HIGHLIGHTED AT THE 11TH EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF NUTRITION

The INC-funded symposium "Nut Consumption, Cardiovascular Risk and Body Weight" was held on Friday, 28 October 2011, at the 11th European Congress of Nutrition of the Federation of European Nutrition Societies, Madrid, Spain, from 26 to 29 October. Over 120 researchers, nutritionists and academics gathered to debate research findings and learn from leading researchers in the field of nutrition. Prof. Jordi Salas-Salvadó, Chair of Nutrition and Bromatology at the University Rovira i Virgili, Spain, moderated the session along with Dr. Emilio Ros, Head of the Lipid Clinic at Barcelona's Clinic Hospital, Spain.

Dr. Luc Djoussé, a cardiovascular epidemiologist in Harvard's Medical School, reviewed the current epidemiologic data on the role of nut consumption on the risk of coronary heart disease, stroke, and heart failure. Dr. Joan Sabaté, Professor and Chair of Nutrition at Loma Linda University, talked about the effect of nut consumption on cardiovascular risk including serum lipids and lipoproteins. He summarized the results from a pooled analysis of 25 clinical trials and outlined the evidence from the European Prospective Investigation on Cancer and Nutrition. Prof. Richard Mattes, from Purdue University, reviewed the most recent work on the effects of nuts on appetite and body weight, and to conclude, Dr. David Jenkins, from St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, presented the large, longer-term study of mixed nut intake in type 2 diabetic subjects, according to which nuts appear to help control type 2 diabetes and prevent its complications.

SUPPLEMENT "METABOLIC HEALTHY EFFECTS OF NUTS"

The journal Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Diseases, one of the world's most prestigious medical journals specialized in nutrition and dietetics, published the INC-funded supplement "Metabolic Health Effects of Nuts" on June 2011. The supplement is a review of scientific studies on the health effects of nut consumption on cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and obesity, and gathers the main outcomes of the INC-funded symposium "Nuts and Cardiovascular Health", held during the 2nd Congress of the Federation of Societies of Nutrition, Food and Dietetics.

- Cultural and historical aspects of Mediterranean nuts with emphasis on their attributed healthy and nutritional properties. J. Salas-Salvadó, P. Casas-Agustench and A. Salas-Huetos.
- Influence of body mass index and serum lipids on the cholesterol-lowering effects of almonds in free-living individuals. K. Jaceldo-Siegl, J. Sabaté, M. Batech and G.E. Fraser.
- Crossover study of diets enriched with virgin olive oil, walnuts or almonds. Effects on lipids and other cardiovascular risk markers. N.R.T. Damasceno, A. Pérez-Heras, M. Serra, M. Cofán, A. Sala-Vila, J. Salas-Salvadó and E. Ros.
- Nuts, hypertension and endothelial function. P. Casas-Agustench, P. López-Uriarte, E. Ros, M. Bulló and J. Salas-Salvadó.
- The glycemic effect of nut-enriched meals in healthy and diabetic subjects. C.W.C. Kendall, A. Esfahani, A.R. Josse, L.S.A. Augustin, E. Vidgen and D.J.A. Jenkins.

- Nut consumption, weight gain and obesity: Epidemiological evidence. M.A. Martínez-González and M. Bes-Rastrollo.

NUTS AND DRIED FRUITS ARE HEALTHY

Nucis Italy started up the INC-funded project “Nuts and Dried Fruit are Healthy” three years ago. This nutrition education initiative involved more than 4,000 practitioners and health professionals, providing useful information materials. Thanks to their participation and authoritative testimony, more than 1.5 million Italian families were informed about the importance of a healthy diet which should include nuts and dried fruits. Encouraged by the positive results, in 2011 Nucis Italy set an awareness raising campaigns addressed to consumers, at the points of sale, and through their new website. Billboards, crowns and posters were created to customize nuts and dried fruit departments, all bearing a catchy claim. Furthermore, informative leaflets were created with the advice of the University of Bologna. Materials can be customized, so that they can be used both in large supermarkets and in small shops. In autumn and winter 2011 more than 1,000 shops, hyper and supermarkets were fitted with the materials of the information campaign by Nucis Italia.

PROMOTING NUTS: A PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH TO INFLUENCE CONSUMER BEHAVIOR

The INC funded a study run in The Netherlands regarding consumer behavior and attitude change towards the use of nuts. The study, supported by the Netherlands Association for the Trade in Dried Fruits, Spices and Allied Products (NZV), was conducted by two students from the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Radboud University Nijmegen, both graduating in social psychology with a specialization in Behavioral Change. The aim of the study was to develop a method to motivate consumers to eat more nuts as an ingredient in meals, since this is considered to be a motivational niche. The study consisted of an explorative preliminary analysis and a social psychological intervention in supermarkets in the form of posters and leaflets. The strategy to promote nut consumption was to highlight the concept of variety that nuts bring in the eating pattern. Students intervened in three supermarkets and the material consisted of posters and recipes under the slogan “Variety is a necessity”. Especially combined with promotions these posters lead to a higher consumption.

EXHIBITS

IFT MEETING AND FOOD EXPO

The IFT Institute of Food Technologists' Annual Meeting and Food Expo was held from 12 to 14 June 2011, in New Orleans, USA, where thousands of food scientists, suppliers, and marketers from around the globe met to learn about the driving forces behind the innovations and information affecting consumers, growers, processors, regulators and researchers. INC's booth, ideally located in the Healthy Foods Pavilion, provided visitors with valuable information about nuts and dried fruits, and INC actitivies.

ANUGA KOLN

The INC participated in ANUGA, one of the largest food & beverage fairs in Europe, and very popular among importers and exporters around the world. The exhibition was held from 8 to 12 October 2011, in Cologne, Germany, and attracted visitors from more than 100 countries to hear about the newest products and form new professional relationships. The fair provided a great opportunity to reach new business contacts and increase general awareness of our activities.

GULFOOD DUBAI

GulFood Dubai is Middle East's number 1 trade event for the foodservice industry. In 2012, the fair welcomed more than 3,000 exhibitors and 55,000 visitors from 150 countries, from 19 to 22 February 2012. This was an excellent opportunity to show companies from the Middle East the wide-ranging services of our organization. All in all it was a successful exhibition which will contribute to further strengthening the INC.

ALIMENTARIA BARCELONA

Over 142,000 professionals from 60 countries visited Alimentaria 2012, in Barcelona, Spain, from 26th to 29th April 2012, exceeding all expectations. This was a great opportunity to spread our message, INC's projects and activities, and network with many nuts and dried fruit professionals who attended the fair as exhibitors or visitors, both INC members and new contacts.

INC NUTS AND DRIED FRUIT PAVILION

THE FIRST-EVER PAVILION EXCLUSIVELY DEDICATED TO NUTS AND DRIED FRUIT IN WORLD'S #1 FOOD PRODUCTS EXHIBITION

With the aim to become one of the most appealing pavilions within the Fruits and Vegetables Hall, and well visited by nuts and dried fruit related professionals, the INC launched this pioneer project -only for INC members- last year. All available booth space was sold out ten months ahead of the event.

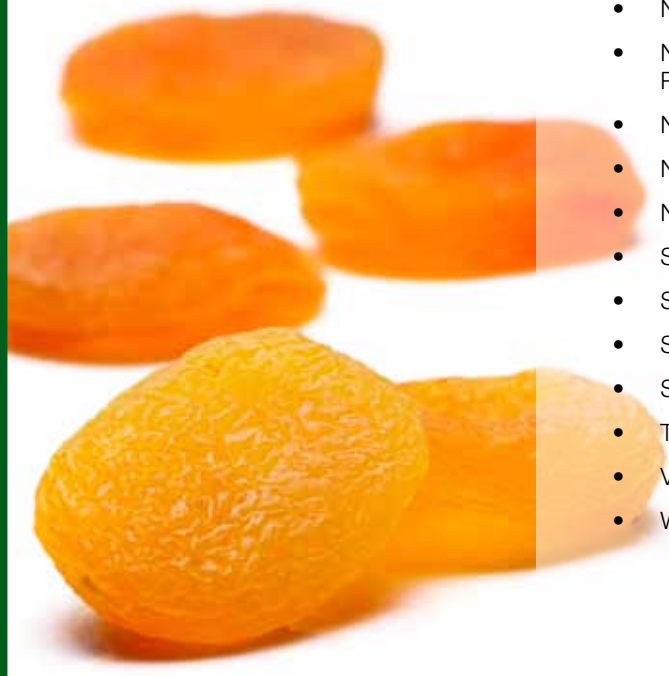
The 216 square meters pavilion will host 12 INC member companies from the broader ecosystem of the nuts and dried fruit industry. The pavilion offers a full-service package designed to optimize exhibitors experience, while enjoying a cost-effective package, and a poweful industry-specific marketing and promotion campaign. Exhibitors will benefit from a package of high quality services including: turnkey booth service, bus shuttle, multilingual personnel and booth amenities, while enjoying promotion campaings in The Cracker magazine, INC newsletter and website.

Co-Exhibitors

COLLABORATIONS

Throughout the year the INC collaborates with worldwide organizations that share common goals and interests in representing and defending the industry interests in different ways, promoting research, education, and/or consumer awareness campaigns.

- Aegean Exporters Association
- African Cashew Alliance
- Almond Board of California
- American Council for Food Safety & Quality
- American Pistachio Growers
- ANTEP Pistachio Promotion Group
- Australian Cashew Association
- Australian Macadamia Society
- Black Sea Exporters Union
- Brazilian Union of Processing Industries of Cashew Nuts and Almond Crop SINDICAJU
- California Walnut Commission
- Cashew Export Promotion Council of India
- China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Foodstuffs
- China Tree Nut Association
- European Federation of the Trade in Dried Fruit, Edible Nut, Processed Fruit and Vegetable, et al. FRUCOM
- Istanbul Exporters Unions
- Nutrition Research and Education Foundation
- Netherlands Association for the Trade in Dried Fruit, Spices and Allied Products NZV
- Nucis Germany
- Nucis Italy
- Nuts for Life Australia
- South African Macadamia Growers' Association SAMAC
- South African Subtropical Growers' Association
- Spanish Association of Almond and Hazelnut Exporters ALMENDRAVE
- Spanish Association of Dried Fruits and Carobs AEOFRUSE
- Turkish Hazelnut Promotion Group
- Vietnam Cashew Association VINACAS
- Waren-Verein der Hamburger Börse e.V.



INC 30th ANNIVERSARY

BARCELONA

WORLD NUT & DRIED FRUIT CONGRESS

Barcelona-Reus, 21-23 May 2013

We look forward to seeing you in Barcelona

21-23 MAY 2013

Stay tuned for more information in our NEW website: **www.nutfruit.org**

YouTube flickr

www.nutfruit.org

INC international Nut&DriedFruit

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