

**The XXVII International Conference of Agricultural Economists,
16 – 22 August 2009, International Convention Centre, Beijing,
CHINA**

The 27th International Conference of Agricultural Economists will take place in **Beijing, China** between *16th and 22nd August 2009* with the conference theme:

THE NEW LANDSCAPE OF GLOBAL AGRICULTURE

Global agricultural and food systems are experiencing major change. Increased urbanisation and the increased affluence in emerging economies combined with the demand for agricultural commodities for bio-energy are changing the landscape of global agricultural and food systems. The conference plans to address these issues and at the same time will consider what adjustments to the toolkit of agricultural economics are needed to address these complex issues.

In addition to the opening ceremony, the Elmhirst Memorial Lecture and the Presidential Address, the programme will include five additional plenary sessions covering the following themes:

- *New driving forces in emerging economies shaping the global agricultural landscape*
- *The new economics and politics of market power in the agricultural and food industry*
- *Global Public Goods and 21st Century Agriculture*
- *The new landscape and the need for an extension to the agricultural economics toolkit*
- *Energy and advances in technology*

In addition to the plenary speakers, the Vice President Programme of the IAAE, Johann Kirsten will also invite members to propose invited panels on a range of key topics broadly related to the conference theme.

Invitation for discussion groups

Discussion groups and mini-symposia will again be an important feature of this conference and members are hereby invited to submit proposals for discussion groups and mini symposia to Johann Kirsten (johann.kirsten@up.ac.za) before **31 January 2009**. These discussion groups will each have a 2 hour slot in which short presentations/papers and discussion could be facilitated. The emphasis in these groups should be on discussion and not necessary the presentation of papers.

Call for contributed papers

A formal call for contributed papers will be issued soon, but members can in the meantime note that the deadline for submission of contributed papers will be **30 November 2008**.

One important change to be introduced in the organization of the 2009 conference is that there will be a unified submission process for all contributed papers. All contributed papers will be reviewed. Papers will be accepted either for oral or for visual presentation (i.e. by means of a poster or display). This implies that all accepted papers will be considered 'refereed contributions', and that posters will therefore not receive second-class status.

There will be five time slots for oral presentation of accepted contributed papers. There will be between 10 and 15 concurrent sessions per time slot, with 3 - 5 papers in each session. Hence, the conference will be able to accommodate as many as 250 to 300 oral contributed paper presentations. In addition there will be three sessions for visual presentations of accepted contributed papers.

A committee comprising Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel, Bernhard Brümmer and Shenggen Fan will manage the contributed paper process. The address, procedure, and criteria for submission will be announced soon.

Invitation for proposals for learning workshops and computer sessions

Members are hereby invited to submit proposals for learning workshops to be presented on the day before the main conference programme – in 2009 that will be on Sunday 16 August 2009. Proposals for these learning workshops can also be submitted to Johann Kirsten at johann.kirsten@up.ac.za. Proposals for computer sessions can also be submitted to the same address. The deadline for all these proposals is **31 January 2009**

Important dates to remember

Conference dates: 16 to 22 August 2009

Learning workshops: Sunday 16th August 2009

Official opening and first plenary sessions: Monday 17th August 2009

Final sessions and departure: Saturday 22nd August 2009

Deadline for contributed papers: 30 November 2008

Deadline for proposals on discussion groups, mini-symposia, learning workshops and computer sessions: 31 January 2009