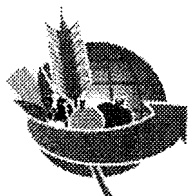


NOTICE 371 OF 2012

**National Agricultural
Marketing Council**

Promoting market access for South African agriculture

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PRESS RELEASE
TABLE GRAPE INDUSTRY

**APPLICATION FOR THE CONTINUATION OF STATUTORY MEASURES ON
TABLE GRAPES**

COMMENTS REQUESTED BY NAMC

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries received a request from the South African Table Grape Industry (SATI) on behalf of the South African Table Grapes (SAT), for the implementation of a new term of statutory measures (registration, records & returns, and levies), on table grapes exported, in terms of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act (MAP Act), Act No. 47 of 1996. It is proposed that the statutory measures be implemented for a new four year period (SATI requested that the implementation date be 1 November 2012).

Currently, the following statutory measures are applicable on table grapes:

- Keeping of records and returns;
- Registration of directly affected groups; and
- Payment of statutory levies.

The current statutory measures on table grapes were implemented on 21 November 2008 and will lapse on 20 November 2012.

SATI argued that the statutory measures requested herewith, are necessary to compel exporters of table grapes to render returns on an individual basis so that market and production information for the whole of the country can be processed and disseminated. Obligatory registration will ensure that the statutory measures relating to records and

Council Members: Ms N Msimang (Chairperson), Mr A M Cronje, Ms M Gill, Mr D L Maduna, Dr L Magingxa, Dr J L Purchase, Mr S Symington, Ms M van der Merwe, Mr AD Young, Ms T E Zimu

returns, as well as levies, can be administered efficiently. SATI budgeted to collect approximately R19 million per annum *via* the proposed statutory levies.

It is proposed that the levy on table grapes exported, remains the same (8c/kg), and that the payment of the levy will finance the following activities in the table grape industry:

- Market Access: Trade & Development;
- Knowledge Management (Industry Information & Market Intelligence);
- Research and Technology & Technical Transfer;
- Transformation and Training; and
- Administration.

It is also argued that these statutory measures will not be detrimental to food security, the number of employment opportunities within the economy or to fair labour practice. In fact, SATI is of the opinion that they are aimed at growing the competitiveness and capacity of the industry.

Directly affected groups (e.g. producers, traders, agents, exporters and export inspection bodies) in the table grape industry are kindly requested to submit any comments, in writing, regarding the proposed statutory measures, to the NAMC on or before 1 June 2012, to enable the Council to finalise its recommendation to the Minister in this regard.

ENQUIRIES:

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