

## Event Details

Date:

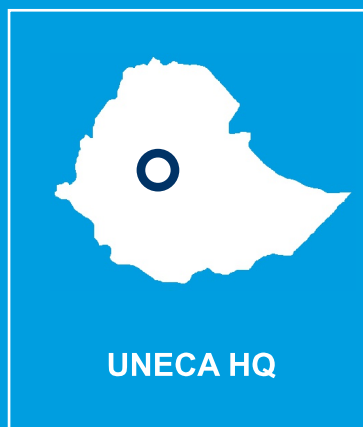
October 31<sup>st</sup> 2014

Time:

9:00am - 5:30pm

Location:

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Contact:

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Ms Frederique Mestre  
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Investing in rural people

*Promoting Good Contract Practices between Producers and Buyers in Contract Farming Operations in the African Context*

## THE LEGAL DIMENSION OF CONTRACT FARMING

# Consultation Workshop

UNIDROIT / FAO

Legal Guide on Contract Farming

In partnership with FAO and IFAD, UNIDROIT is inviting participants with experience in contract farming in countries in Africa to help shape the content of a forthcoming international legal reference document on contract farming. A consultation event for the development of the Guide will be held in Addis Ababa on October 31<sup>st</sup> 2014.

This workshop will focus on the legal framework for contract farming arrangements and on how practical issues that may come up between producers and buyers can be addressed in the contract. Thus, the **objectives** of this consultation event are to inform the drafting process, to create awareness regarding the future use of the Guide and to serve to build a network within target groups which will participate in the future implementation of the Guide.

The **target audience** for this consultation includes all stakeholders with practical and/or legal experience in contract farming operations in the African region, i.e., representatives of producers and agribusinesses, government officials, IGOs, development agencies and NGOs, supply chain financing institutions, and participants from academic and research institutions (contract law). To express interest in attending this consultation, please contact Ms. Marina Schneider at m.schneider@unidroit.org, or Ms. Frederique Mestre at f.mestre@unidroit.org.

A **programme** outline can be found on the next page and final details as well as working materials for the event will be made available three weeks in advance on the website below. Participants and interested persons are welcome to send relevant material on legal aspects of contract farming (such as public regulations, contract models and samples, guidelines, etc.) which will be shared with participants at the workshop.

For more information about this project, check out:

<http://www.unidroit.org/work-in-progress-studies/current-studies/contract-farming>

# THE LEGAL DIMENSION OF CONTRACT FARMING

## Programme Outline Last Updated: 2 September 2014

**8:30 - 9:00 - Participant Registration**

**9:00 - 9:20 - Welcome and Opening**

### **9:20 - 10:00 - Session 1: Contract Farming: An Economic and Legal Introduction**

An overview of the potential of contract farming to promote more efficient agricultural supply chains and economic and social inclusion of small farmers; and an overview of the main legal issues involved in contract farming under the transactional perspective, with a presentation of the forthcoming UNIDROIT/FAO Legal Guide on Contract Farming.

### **10:00 - 12:30 - Session 2: The Legal Framework for Producer-Buyer Relationships**

An overview of the diversity of approaches in the legal regime applicable to contract relations between producers and buyers, against the backdrop of the economic and social functions of contract farming; a tentative assessment as to whether the mandatory rules and existing gap-filling methods applicable to contract farming relationships – including in case of dispute – provide adequate solutions to enhance fair terms and behaviours.

**10:45 - 11:15 - Light Refreshments**

**12:30 - 14:00 - Lunch Provided by UNIDROIT**

### **14:00 - 15:30 - Session 3: Contract Formation and Obligations of the Parties**

*Practical Experiences Panel 1:* A moderated panel, as well as the full group of participants, will share experiences, recommendations, and best practices focusing on issues related to the negotiation process, the conclusion of the contract and the definition of reciprocal contractual obligations.

**15:30 - 16:00 - Light Refreshments**

### **16:00 - 17:30 - Session 4: Performance, Nonperformance and Dispute Resolution**

*Practical Experiences Panel 2:* A moderated panel, as well as the full group of participants, will share experiences, recommendations, and best practices focusing on issues related to performance of parties' obligations, as well as nonperformance/breach – including excuses and remedies, and dispute resolution mechanisms.

**17:30 - Session Closing**