



WCCE-JNEC 2022

STATEMENT BY THE GENERAL MANAGER COTTON AND CASHEW COUNCIL OF COTE D'IVOIRE

Mr. President of the CICC

Ladies and Gentlemen, members of Ministerial Cabinets, Directors General and Directors of Central Administration

Mr. President of the Association of Cashew Exporters of Côte d'Ivoire

Mr. General Manager of FORTEL, Co-organizer of this event

Mr. President of the Interprofession of the Cashew Sector

Ladies and Gentlemen Heads of International Delegations

Ladies and Gentlemen, Technical and Financial Partners

Ladies and Gentlemen, General Managers and Representatives of Support Structures for the Cashew Sector

Ladies and Gentlemen, Presidents and General Managers and representatives of Producer Cooperative Societies, Exporting Commercial Companies and Cashew Processing Companies

Distinguished Experts of the Global Cashew Industry

Dear producer-producer parents

Dear friends of the national and international press

Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished delegates.

It is always a great pleasure to meet in a global meeting on the development issues of the cashew sector. A more authoritative voice, in this case that of the Prime Minister, Head of Government, HE Mr. Patrick ACHY expressed here yesterday afternoon at the opening ceremony, the great honor for Côte d'Ivoire to receive the elite of the global cashew industry as part of the 2022 edition of the World Cashew Convention and the National Days of Cashew Exporters of Côte d'Ivoire (WCCE-JNEC 2022).

It is therefore no longer a question this morning, when the debates on the themes chosen this year by the organizers are to begin, of making a long speech.

Just allow me to take advantage of this great opportunity to express to all of you my best wishes for your health, for yourselves, your families and for your employees in this year 2022, which we all wish is synonymous with the crowning achievement of all the efforts to control COVID-19. I wish a year of prosperity and fulfillment for all involved in the global cashew industry.

I would also like to express my congratulations and my thanks to the organizers who believed in it despite the still uncertain context of COVID-19.

Thanks to the know-how and commitment of the FORTEL team headed by Mr. STRIVATSAVA and the AEC-CI team, led by its brand new President, Mr. Alex N'GUETTIA, this edition is become a reality.

My gratitude also goes to all the Sponsors, to all the partners as well as to you the participants who have imposed this event as one of the obligatory passages of the world cashew trade.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Delegates of friendly countries, producers, processors and consumers of cashew products, thank you for your qualitative presence. I wish you an excellent stay in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

Ladies and gentlemen, there is no need now to demonstrate the importance of cashew for Côte d'Ivoire and for most producing countries.

The ambition of our States is to create stable jobs for our young people and our women, to ensure decent incomes, the fruits of the labor of our peasants. It is in this respect that Governments and the management structures of the sector are investing to varying degrees in increasing production, improving quality and in developing local processing.

Côte d'Ivoire is resolutely committed to promoting the local processing of its production while remaining aware of its role in the stability of the world cashew market through the continuous supply of its historical partners with raw nuts. It is for this reason that although our production records record levels year after year, our programs of varietal improvement, production and distribution of seedlings continue.

However, we will never cease to remind you that the counterpart of this stability is good and fair remuneration for our producers.

To you, businessmen in the cashew sector, this is a call to work to safeguard the interests of small producers. For them, it is a question of life, for them, the alternatives are rare and difficult to implement. We do not switch from one perennial crop to another like an investor or a trader would switch from one agricultural product or not to another. We therefore invite you to take this into account in your choices and decisions.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Cashew Experts, you will agree with me that our sector is evolving. Its potential and opportunities are blossoming in all countries. At the same time, ever greater challenges are emerging. Issues of standards, certification to meet consumer requirements, logistical constraints, competition both from substitute products and from other sectors of activity.