



Media Alert

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For Immediate Release

To: All Media

Date: 21 November 2018

Attention: News Editors / Agricultural writers

**The ARC participates in the International Symposium on Agriculture Innovation for Family Farmers organised by the FAO in Rome, Italy.**

**Pretoria:** The Agricultural Research Council is participating in the International Symposium on Agricultural Innovation for Family Farmers hosted by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) from 21-23 November 2018. Agricultural scientists and farmers are converging at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy to discuss and deliberate under the theme “Unlocking the potential agricultural innovations to achieve Sustainable Developmental Goal”.

The ARC CEO Dr Shadrack Moephuli is joining international delegations, agricultural scientists and farmers to discuss innovations in agriculture and their potential to alleviate poverty. The ARC’s participation at the conference emphasise the role it’s playing in the supporting the programs of government in alleviating poverty and hunger. Dr Moephuli is participating in the symposium and chairing the discussion on ***unlocking, the potential of agricultural innovations for millions of family farmers: the way ahead.***

“The ARC’s participation in the symposium is to make a meaningful contribution to the alleviation of poverty and hunger in the world and is another milestone for the South African agricultural sector. The ARC and the government of South Africa support the United Nations development goal to end poverty and hunger by 2030,” said Dr Moephuli during the opening of the conference.

The International Symposium on Agricultural Innovation for Family Farmers is an opportunity to engage with agricultural experts, leaders in government, policy makers and scientists across the globe to understand the challenges that farmers are facing and how research and development can assist to unlock the potential of the small scale farmers and assist them to participate in the mainstream economy.

**Ends**

**Issued by:**

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## ***Notes to the Editors***

### **About the Agricultural Research Council**

The Agricultural Research Council is a premier science institution that conducts research with partners, develops human capital and fosters innovation in support of the agricultural sector. The ARC provides diagnostic, laboratory, analytical, agricultural engineering services, post-harvest technology development, agrochemical evaluation, consultation and advisory services, food processing technology services as well as various surveys and training interventions. For more information visit the ARC website at [www.arc.agric.za](http://www.arc.agric.za)