



News from your section

Dear AOAC Sub-Saharan Section member & colleagues,

As COVID-19 grips our world in unprecedented ways the next few months are going to be challenging times and we have to look at alternative methods to deliver our objectives.

What does the rest of 2020 hold for our section?

- *More benefits for our members;*
- *Increased training and capacity building activities;*
- *Call for greater membership participation;*
- *Continued support for the development of Young Scientists*

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

AOAC Members are the heart of our organization. Membership and participation in the AOAC provide an opportunity for professionals to demonstrate their dedication to analytical excellence.

The AOAC have adopted a new membership model to boost member value and engagement, while ensuring the association's fiscal health. We will therefore offer Individual, Organizational and Student membership options at nominal annual fees going forward. With the new membership scheme, our members will automatically become members of the AOAC INTERNATIONAL, with all its benefits.

Join as an Individual Member – US\$30p/a

Individual members include laboratory managers, analytical chemists, microbiologists, toxicologists, forensic scientists, management executives and much more. Individual Memberships are held in the name of the individual, not the organization they work for, and are non-transferable. [Learn more](#)

Join as a Student Member – US20p/a

AOAC's Student Membership program is designed to give students the opportunity to participate in our dedicated Young Scientist development programme as well as to engage with AOAC INTERNATIONAL and leaders in the field to develop careers dedicated to analytical excellence. Student Memberships are held in the name of the individual, not the university they attend, and are non-transferable. If you would like to join as a Student Member, please contact our secretariat through Corné Engelbrecht at corne@savetcon.co.za

Join as an Organizational Affiliate Member

Organizational members include businesses, government agencies, and academic institutions. Organizational Memberships are held in the name of the organization and individual representative benefits are transferable. To join as an Organizational Affiliate Member or get more information, please contact [Dr Owen Fraser](#).

For more information on any of the above categories, please [click here](#).

ANNUAL MEETING 2020



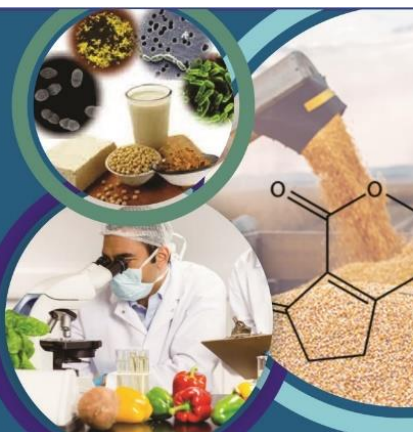
AOAC INTERNATIONAL Sub-Saharan Africa Section

ANNUAL MEETING

2-4 March 2021

Emperors Palace, Jhb South Africa

Food safety testing for increased intra-Africa trade



The challenging situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic prompted thorough consultations with our partners and supporters to decide the way-forward regarding our annual meeting. Considering the current information, trends, and projections, we considered the risk of infection, lock-down measures, restriction on gatherings, travel ban, financial constraints, and pressure on re-scheduling priorities during this trying times.

In view of the above, the Board of the Section has decided to postpone the annual meeting to **2-4 March 2021**, at Emperors Palace in Johannesburg South Africa. Registration fees remain the same as for the 2020 planned meeting and is now open. To take advantage from the early registration fee that will expire on 31 December 2020, click on this link to register: [Register2021](#)

For information regarding sponsorship & exhibition opportunities, please contact Corné Engelbrecht at corne@savetcon.co.za

WEBINARS

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting a series of webinars leading up to the 2021 Annual Meeting. Attendance to these webinars will be free of charge.

Our first webinar is sponsored by PerkinElmer, and is scheduled for **Wednesday 16 September 2020** and will be on

“Quantifying Salt & Sodium in foods – challenges and implications”

Our speakers for our first webinar will include:

- Dr Owen Fraser, Nestlé Research
- Dr Maria Fernandes-Whaley, National Metrology Institute of South Africa
- Dr Geoffrey Muriira, Kenya Bureau of Standards
- Mrs Linda Drummond, Consumer Goods Council of South Africa

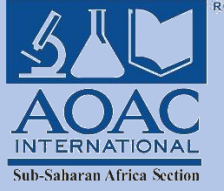
For more information and to register for this free webinar, please click here: [REGISTER](#)

The next in the series of webinars we will be hosting includes:

- Testing for viruses in food
- Food fraud: risk and how to detect
- Chemical contaminants in foods: Current testing methods and future challenges
- Analytical Method Alignment – Ensuring your analytical methods are fit-for-purpose
- Testing for allergens in foods – present and future

We would love to hear from you. Drop us an email, comment, query by clicking here: [Contact](#)

Owen, Musa, Jayne & Winta
AOAC-SSA Executive Committee



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