

**RECORD OF THE KWANALU CONGRESS
HELD ON THURSDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2018
AT THE ROYAL SHOW, PIETERMARITZBURG**



**20th Annual Congress
CONGRESS THEME**

**“Harnessing our collective power to be an
authoritative force”**

Congress will discuss the importance of strategy,
Change management, leadership and the role of members and
The Union in influencing the economic, legal and social
Environments in which the agricultural sector
Must uphold its rights to ensure economic productivity

1. Registration

2. Welcome

The President, Mr Andy Buchan called the meeting to order and asked the Vice-Chairman, Mr Peter-John Hassard, to open proceedings. Mr Hassard welcomed the guests, including past presidents, Fred Visser, Walter Ntuli, Robin Barnsley and Michael Black, speakers Dan Kriek Agri SA President, Mrs Melanie Verwoerd, Political analyst and freelance columnist and Dr Mark Manley, specialist in the areas of strategy, leadership and transformation, the 2018 Young Farmer finalists, representatives from Toyota SA Motors (sponsors of the Young Farmer Competition), students from the Future Farmer Foundation, Cedara College of Agriculture, Owen Sithole Agricultural College and Weston Agricultural College, representatives from sponsors, Government officials, and specifically the Kwanalu delegates and members.

Apologies had been recorded on the attendance register.

3. Opening

The Chairman requested Mr Robin Barnsley to open proceedings with a scripture reading and prayer. He read a passage from the book of Jeremiah 29 where the Lord encouraged his people to build, grow, plant and settle, not to be discouraged and He would prosper them. He said a prayer and commended the meeting into the Lord's hands.

4. Motions

The Chairman requested Congress to stand for a moment's silence in remembrance of those who had lost loved ones as well as those who had been victims of crime since the 2017 Congress.

5. Constitution of Congress

The CEO, Mrs Sandy La Marque, confirmed that the notice of Congress had been circulated and with the representative delegates present, a quorum had been met and Congress was properly constituted.

6. President's Address

The Chairman handed over the chair to the Vice-Chairman, Mr Phineas Gumede, to enable him to present his address. The Chairman presented his President's Address to Congress. A copy of his address is attached to the file copy of this report.

Mr Buchan thanked the members for affording him the opportunity to lead the organisation. He said that most farmers remained optimistic and were prepared to find solutions to problems. Kwanalu would continue to lead. Much had transpired in the political arena during the past year. It had been the most politically, economically and socially challenging period since the post-apartheid era. South Africans could not envisage what would happen.

Kwanalu was committed to the development of better communication with its members and said that accurate, informed and well considered communication was critical in building trust with all stakeholders in the sector. Uninformed communication served only to cause unnecessary concern, instability and disunity within the sector.

The reintroduction of annual roadshows highlighted the need for social interaction with members and farmers remain optimistic about the future of agriculture.

He said that land remained the primary focus of debate and it was evident that the discussion around land would need to evolve. Commercial farmers were being challenged and solutions for the future

needed to be found. Government was being called upon to provide an environment that would allow for the agricultural sector to succeed.

At a national level, sincere appreciation must be shown to Agri SA who have spent many hours amongst other lobbying for property rights.

To improve functionality of Kwanalu structures and streamlining of processes, a proposal to amend the constitution, which has taken many years to design, would be presented to Congress for their approval.

In closing, he thanked the Kwanalu staff team for the tireless work done for the benefit of members. The workload continues to grow and members were asked to consider a revision of membership contributions to include additional services such as a land desk and support for the development desk to provide better service to members.

He also thanked the Board, Management committee and Vice-Presidents for their invaluable support and commitment and for challenging and inspiring Kwanalu to greater heights. He thanked their families for the sacrifices made.

Mr Buchan said we should remember what we have been given and it was our responsibility to manage, share and invest these resources.

The Vice-President, Phineas Gumede, thanked the President for his address. He said that the President's address was aimed at the entire organisation. Mr Guemde said that we relied on Government for aid, but he believed that organised agriculture should form part of the policy adoption, implementation and what the role of farmers was in this exercise. He proposed the adoption of the President's address.

7. Annual Report 2017/2018

The CEO addressed Congress and highlighted some of the issues dealt with during the past year. A copy of the presentation is attached to the file copy of this report.

Mrs La Marque said that Kwanalu was based on four pillars – information, professional image, integrity and social and moral responsibility.

The focus areas for a sustainable and inclusive growth were agricultural development and land reform, safety and security, natural resources, commercial policy, public relations and image building and labour.

She mentioned that as requested in last year's survey, road shows had taken place over the past year at 10 different meetings. Various issues were voiced at the meetings including expropriation, water, fake news, land rights, etc.

One of the issues taking up a lot of time was expropriation without compensation. Homework was done in this regard looking at international practice, legal framework, economic and social impact, legislation and the constitution. The other opportunity that had been taken up was engagement with stakeholders, public, etc. The core focus was to lobby, and the Land and Expropriation fund was initiated. Submissions to the Constitutional Review Committee hearings were also made and in addition to other stakeholders.

Kwanalu's stance is that the property clause is not an obstacle or impediment to land reform and that no changes needed to be made to Section 25 of the Constitution to achieve just and equitable land redistribution.

Kwanalu did not believe that expropriation without compensation would be the solution to land reform progressing but that the mechanisms currently exist and that a basket of models was quickly available (noting many successful models continue to be implemented).

She said that lack of adequate budgeting, policy uncertainty, the lack of a comprehensive, integrated support network, lack of or poor communication with stakeholders, corruption and poor settlement support systems were the real reasons why land reform had not occurred at a faster pace and in a more sustainable manner and these issues were a concern.

Kwanalu opposes any constitutional amendments to section 25 as a viable mechanism to speed up the national imperative of land reform. Kwanalu agrees that constructive and effective debate was

crucial to address the ineffectiveness of the current land reform system and Kwanalu pledges its support for workable solutions within the existing constitutional framework.

She referred further to a couple of initiatives taking place involving mentorship, training, etc.

She mentioned the Development Program and the challenges as Government need to get on board.

Mrs La Marque referred to the Public Relations and Image Building Campaign, of which each action undertaken was part of a well conceived plan and mentioned the public relations value obtained to date. She then called on Mrs Cindy Kidger from Urban House Media to report on this. A copy of Mrs Kidger's report is attached to the file copy of this report.

Mrs Kidger said that Urban House Media had structured the media campaign for Kwanalu for the past 4 years. She said that most would ask why a PR exercise was necessary and she said that as an organisation, Kwanalu was competing for a share of a voice in a current media environment that is cluttered, negative and non-stop and in a such an environment it is easy for an organisation's voice to get lost. The prevalence of fake news was another reason.

A communication strategy was necessary to ensure that the message was correct and not lost. She said that Kwanalu needed to be constantly and consistently retelling and reiterating what it stood for, what it does and its objectives. Kwanalu's media strategy focuses on showcasing the good work farmers are doing with land reform, transformation and upliftment and the role the farmers play in the economy of South Africa.

She said that the public should not be swayed by what news was going around. News was instantaneous whether it was fake or not and often reporting was not accurate. Kwanalu's credible and sound reputation as a leader in agriculture cannot afford to be viewed as impulsive, aggressive or reactive to rhetoric and emotional messaging.

Mrs Kidger said that every year Urban House Media sit with Kwanalu to work on a media communications strategy going forward to ensure that the organisation is perceived as sound, credible and informed leaders of organised agriculture in the province.

Mrs La Marque continued with her report on the Fracking / Mining Legal Action explaining that two high court litigation matters were pending. The action involves interdicting the Minister of Mineral Resources from granting exploration rights. The objective being to set a legal precedent and ensure that fracking / mining takes place in the correct manner.

She then reported on the Kwanalu Safety and Security Desk, one that Kwanalu has been proud of over the past number of years. Kwanalu was represented on the provincial structures and the National Safety Committee and dealt with all aspects of safety and security. Kwanalu conducts an analysis of farm murders and attacks that have taken place in KZN and what has come through was the lack of security measures on many farms. She reminded members on a local level to have adequate security. Kwanalu was confident that its analysis was correct.

From the survey taken last year, farmer involvement at local level and the relationship with the local police was vital and results were more positive. By means of the presentation, she showed statistics on farm murders/attacks and land invasions.

As far as land invasions were concerned, there had been no expropriation without compensation styled farm land invasions but there had been some urban land invasions. On-going land rights disputes however and the extension of rights was a serious issue and unless mediated could lead to invasions.

In closing, she said that there were six policy focus areas and there was a multitude of issues that fitted in those areas. She reiterated that Kwanalu continued to lobby, was apolitical and abusiness, served its members, facilitated and empowered, was socially responsible, provided leadership, was sector specific focused and principled.

8. **Financial Statements year ending 30 June 2018**

The President called on Mrs La Marque to present the financials. Delegates were all in possession of the audited financials. She said that Kwanalu was compliant and sound accounting practices were in place. She ran through the audited financials. She said that Board and Management examine the draft financials during the year. The auditors and Board had expressed their satisfaction with the financial status of Kwanalu.

9. Annual membership subscription & Budget proposal

The CEO presented the proposed Income and Expenditure for year ending 2020. It was pointed out that the statements reflected a shortfall. However she reported that the Board felt that Kwanalu should fund their own Land, Development and Security desks as there are core to the business of Kwanalu. Grant funding was increasingly difficult to come by.

The CEO informed Congress that according to the Kwanalu Constitution, the Board of Governors had determined subscriptions for the 2019/2020 year. These would be:

- Main member (including Vat)
 - R4 092.05 if received by 30 September 2019 or R4 307.40 if received thereafter
- Medium members (including Vat)
 - R2 046.05 if received by 30 September 2019 or R2 153.70 if received thereafter
- Previously disadvantaged farmers (including Vat)
 - R588.40

Mrs La Marque explained the various categories of membership.

10. Acceptance

Mr Andy Mason congratulated Mrs La Marque and her team on an excellent set of books and thanked the CEO and staff who operated on a limited budget. He said that in his opinion, the proposed subscription was a bargain. He referred again to the implementation of the three desks. He proposed the acceptance of the financials, the budget and the annual report.

The financials, budget and annual report were seconded and unanimously **ACCEPTED**.

11. Constitutional Amendments

Mrs La Marque advised Congress that long deliberations had taken place over the past 6 or so years relative to the amendments to the Constitution to ensure good governance, sound fiducial practices, alignment with King IV, the functionality of the institutional structure, streamlining the functions of purpose, responsibilities, accountability, liability, etc of the board. Best practice was looked at as well as duties of the board and inputs and instructions were taken to oversee the organisation's finances and ensure the organisation was run properly. It was noted that the Constitutional amendments had been circulated in terms of the Constitution for members to consider. Mrs La Marque presented to Congress the proposed amendments. (A copy is attached to the file copy). She said that all aspects of governance, duties of board members and liability of board members were looked at to make Kwanalu relevant and compliant. Congress remained the highest authority and delegates rights remained unchanged. The Board of Governors would be a new structure. The old Board would become an Advisory Council.

The President said that the proposals had been sent out for comments and thanked those for their recommendations and suggestions.

The President called on Mr Bobby Hoole to propose the changes to the Constitution. Mr Hoole said that Kwanalu needed to remain focussed and relevant to its members. In the past, Kwanalu had always had a large board with 37 board members and in any governance structure this was not ideal. The circle of knowledge was continually changing. Association of membership and what Kwanalu was about was important; local level inputs are crucial. He said that the current board would revert to an Advisory council and have far more discussion and membership could benefit from it. The Advisory council would advise the Board and he felt that this was the best way forward for Kwanalu. He felt that this was a structure where we can listen and have a Board that could carry out as instructed. He called for the proposed amendments to be accepted and this was seconded.

By a show of hands, delegates agreed unanimously to the proposed amendments which were **ACCEPTED**.

12. Mr Dan Kriek, Agri SA President

Agricultural policy and the positioning of organised agriculture in the context of current issues amongst other expropriation without compensation

The President introduced Mr Kriek, the Agri SA President and farmer from the Free State, to Congress and welcomed him to the meeting.

Mr Kriek said that he had a positive message for all farmers who should unite in diversity.

He thanked the President and the CEO for their leadership. He said there had been troubling times and leadership was needed. He said it was a huge privilege to address Congress.

He mentioned the ANC election and their announcement of Expropriation without compensation, which had caused huge uncertainty, both irrational and unnecessary. He said South Africa was a country with a history and as farmers, we had not been through a good time. There were signs of land devaluation and a hardening of attitudes. This was obvious when one watches Parliament. He asked what could be done from a stand off position and the answer was either to start talking or go for a show down and the latter was not the road forward.

Agri SA has been consistent and does not support EWC because it is not constitutional. What people read and what they think they read and do not read in social media is dangerous. Sentiment is formed in social media. He explained “negotiate” as in what does it mean, “sacrifice” as in what are you up to and “transformation” as in what does it mean. What should the action be? He said that we are organised agriculture, not disorganised agriculture and cannot be influenced by social media. He said that Agri SA does not negotiate on constitutional matters and the rights of its members.

He said that social media was a large disrupter in our lives. We have political and economic problems that we have to solve in South Africa. Vast amounts have been squandered and wasted and this was atrocious, and the responsible people should be held accountable for what they have done.

Mr Kriek said that we need to get people talking and as leaders that is what should happen. Leadership was essential. He said talking about the Constitution, the whole constitution, would get people talking. We must assess what values we need to use and apply these.

He read the preamble to the SA Constitution: -

“We, the people of South Africa, recognise the injustices of our past; honour those who suffered for justice and freedom in our land; respect those who have worked to build and develop our country; and believe that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity. We therefore, through our freely elected representatives, adopt this Constitution as the supreme law of the Republic so as to

- Heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights;
- Lay the foundations for a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people and every citizen is equally protected by law;
- Improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person; and
- Build a united and democratic South Africa able to take its rightful place as a sovereign state in the family of nations.

May God protect our people. Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika. Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso. God seën Suid-Afrika. God bless South Africa. Mudzimu fhatutshedza Afurika. Hosi katekisa Afrika”

He reiterated the words, recognise, honour, respect and build and said that those were the topics to talk about. Each of us has a past and history. At the end of the colonial era, 7% of land was owned by black and we have to recognise the debate of rectifying this. Respect has to be given to farmers for providing for all. He said that leaders get people talking and the ANC have opened the doors from their side.

Mr Kriek said that he had been asked to be on the panel to address land reform and in particular look at land expropriation by President Cyril Ramaphosa. Doors have been opened but the proof of the talk is in the eating. He said trust needs to be built and let Government see what farmers are prepared to do. Agri SA can also supply them with the best advice.

He said that Agri SA was making the case of EWC on numerous levels by talking to international banks, embassies, and overseas people. He said that plans must be brought forward and how they can be implemented. He believed that our farmers are progressive and society can be told where we are going. And the land plan needs to be kept going. No longer will you be able to say that farmers are not progressive and we are not going to take charge of our future.

We have to uphold the rule of law. Farmers are not disorganised and have to remain calm. He said that the moral high ground must not be left and everything that comes our way will be handled.

He said farmers should defend the Constitution, get people talking, recognise and earn respect for what we do, propose plans and draw on all experts.

Mr Kriek said farmers should support their leadership, the Chairpersons of their Associations and management, as well as the future ones to be elected. He said Agri SA is organised, have mandates and leadership needed support and encouraged Kwanalu to make use of its PR campaigns.

He said we have a beautiful country, beautiful people and he believes we have a bright future in agriculture.

He wished farmers good luck for the season and to sharpen their pencils in anticipation of production.

The President thanked Mr Kriek for his presentation.

13. **Presentation of Awards**

- Mrs Judy Stuart – a Meritorious Award in recognition of dedicated, committed and faithful service to Agriculture.

Mr Duma accepted the certificate on her behalf.

- Mrs Lyn Vincent – Certificate of Long Service

Young Farmer 2018

Mrs Sandy La Marque explained the running of the competition. She said it was the 10th year that the competition had been held with the support of Toyota SA. She explained the criteria for competing in the competition. She thanked Toyota SA for sponsoring the competition. She introduced the finalists to Congress:-

- **Alan Briscoe**

Alan farms in the Beaumont-Eston area with approx. 430ha of cane, runs a small beef herd, farms timber and has a conservation area.

Alan farms in a manner that each farm enterprise works in tandem with each other which results in rest periods for his land which then gives higher yields, in addition seeking maximising production and profitability in a more sustainable manner. In addition, he has a vision to expand vertically through conservation farming.

- **Rustin Shawe**

Rustin farms in the Groenvlei area with 3 268 commercial beef and Droughtmaster stud. He contributes the success of the business to a combination of his focus on the Droughtmaster stud, keeping all his heifer weaners every year to increase his herd sizes over the summer months, a decision to keep all bull calves, the purchase of a 700ha grazing farm for summer veldt grazing and the building of four dams on the properties has transformed and prolonged the life of his grazing paddocks, His farm also boasts its own sale complex which hosts an annual production sale.

Mr Rustin Shawe was announced as the winner of the Young Farmer 2018. The President and Mr Dieter Rossler, Toyota SA presented him and the runner up with their Certificates. Mr Rossler congratulated the finalists. He thanked Kwanalu for being partners with Toyota SA and thanked farmers for their confidence with their brand. Farmers are the custodians of food security in South Africa and trusted that this partnership showed the trust Toyota SA had in agriculture.

14. **Acknowledgment of Sponsors**

The CEO thanked the sponsors for their generous contributions and continued donations and their support of Congress.

15. **Tea**

Congress adjourned for tea.

16. **Mrs Melanie Verwoerd, Political Analyst and Freelance Columnist**

The President introduced Mrs Verwoerd to Congress, who is a political analyst and freelance columnist.

Mrs Verwoerd thanked Congress for inviting her to speak.

She said she was aware that people were scared now. She grew up on farms and those were some of her happiest days. She said that she gets annoyed by how the fears are being used and the way the media reports on matters. She believes that the ANC lost control of the narrative. She gave a

brief outline of the ANC conference when President Ramaphosa was elected. As a counter measure, EWC was raised for political reasons. She pointed out that whilst Parliament had the Constitutional Review Committee going through a process on EWC she felt this process had been flawed to some extent and was being used for further political and other gain by various parties/groups.

She spoke at length on the hugely topical issue of land reform and gave various scenarios on the issue. An audio recording on her talk has been filed. She said that the ANC acknowledge that there is a historic problem around land and that it needs to be speeded up. Assurances have been given that personal homes nor productive agricultural land will be taken, but urban and peri-urban areas will be considered.

Mrs Verwoerd said that President Ramaphosa understood the economy and asset markets of South Africa and knows that the market would collapse overnight if there was land grabbing and that was not the legacy he wanted to leave. In view of the eminent next election, matters must be handled prudently.

She believed that there would be a constitutional amendment but that this would not happen before the next election.

She referred to the list for EWC that had been mooted and believed firmly that there was no list.

She said that we must remind ourselves that land reform was not going to go away as the majority of property is in the hand of whites. For the stability of the country, land reform needed to happen a lot faster. She said farmers should remain calm and distance themselves against those speaking on behalf of agriculture or whites, which puts everything in danger. Be very careful and make yourselves heard and ask how this problem could be solved so we can all be happy. There was no way to get a peaceful resolution except the way Agri SA was going.

We can choose to talk, see how we can resolve this issue and make this a more equitable distribution of land.

She said that all people should have the opportunity to grow up on farms.

The President thanked Mrs Verwoerd for her address.

17. Dr Mark Manley, Specialist in the areas of Strategy, leadership and Transformation

The President introduced Dr Manley to Congress.

Dr Manley said he had enormous respect for farmers. He said that leadership was all about mental models, so what is done takes you into the future. There are key business principles,

He outlined some tools in the process to go through. One of the most important bits of information came from the future – As we look to the future in South Africa, we must acknowledge that you can't have leadership without change. "Planning is what you do before you do it. Then you do it." The imperative of planning and then turning it into something was wise.

He asked why we should change. He said we stood on the edge of another exponential growth curve in human history. In the next 20 years we are going to have a different way of life. It is going to change things and what it means for us. Why do we do what we're doing? There needs to be passion and we need to be nimble (faster and quicker than ever before). We need to keep on keeping on – passion, heart, character.

The reason we do what we do is because of motive – behaviour, attitude (repeated behaviour), values (ethics, rules for success) and beliefs (chosen truth). We need to understand that there are three areas of trust, truth about yourself, truth about others and truth about the system and we must determine what is true and what is not true. We can base our future on three plans: -

- Plan A – based in hope
- Plan B – based in reason
- Plan C – based in fear

Hope and fear reside in the same side of the brain so you need to manage your imagination and your hope for the future. We should prepare for all three scenarios but act on Plan A.

He said that people do not like change but growth happens outside your comfort zone. Change is not part of life, it is life.

We want a different world but if we continue to think the same, we will continue to do the same, we will continue to have the same. He said we should understand our thinking, denial, resistance, exploration, commitment and that is where the future lies.

He said we should embrace the people and push back the revolution.

He spoke on leadership in difficult times which did not delight in the failure of others. On decision making, there was emotional decisions, but rational decisions are better. He said a key technique in crisis was to slow down, think, motivate, engage and generate hope.

Dr Manley said we should run for success. When you have hope, the positive expectation of the future, gives you clarity to transcend. In a position of a macro view, you can soar, see the future, walk and not be weary and not faint.

The President thank Dr Mark Manley for his address.

18. Panel discussion

Mr Humphrey Hamilton, Underberg Farmers' Association asked if this was not a political storm for the government's own ends.

Mrs Verwoerd said that it was a fallacy that people did not want land but what they wanted to do with it was a different story. She said the land issue was artificially hot but we must not underestimate the need for people to have land.

Dr Manley said that it was a matter of justice for a lot of people.

Mr Kriek said it was a dignity mechanism. We should open opportunities for people in the hope of restoring dignity.

Mr Harald Niebuhr, Paulpietersburg/Luneburg Farmers' Association, did not believe that coalition governments were the best and asked if the panel were aware of when the elections would take place. He said that in 1994 the rainbow nation was formed to activate goodwill and he believed the concept of a rainbow register, that acknowledged what people did, would make a difference.

Mrs Verwoerd said that a coalition government would not work. You needed very mature executives to pull off a coalition government and historically the minority side gets destroyed. The chances of the ANC splitting were objectively zero. She surmised that the election date would be either the end of April/May otherwise August.

She thought the rainbow register was a perfect vehicle and you should run with it.

Mr Roger Godsmark, FSA said that in terms of land, the Government had backed off from giving title deeds to tribal land and asked what the panel thought the changes were of the Zondo Commission charging the individuals being questioned and being put in jail.

Mr Kriek said that what happened in the Zondo Commission was uncertain. As far as communal land was concerned, this was a political issue and needed to be solved and assist people to up their production.

Mrs Verwoerd said that the Commission could not jail anyone, only recommendations could be made. She said that tribal land was a hot political issue and the issue of the Ingonyama Trust would not be touched now but would have to be addressed at some point.

Mr Lloyd Phillips, Newcastle Woolgrowers and Farmers' Association said that land needed to be distributed and some needed to be earmarked with title deed but whatever land was redistributed had any thought been given on what was going to happen to the land as far as agriculture and solutions were concerned.

Mr Kriek said that giving title deeds was a no brainer which also provided dignity. He said as far as successes were concerned, agriculture knew the formulas as to why they had not succeeded. He said that relationships were built on trust and these needed to be fostered.

Mr Rolf Konigkramer, Kranskop Farmers' Association said that a lot of messages had been mentioned with the purpose of catching votes. Service delivery strikes were taking place because of promises

not fulfilled. An expectation had been created and he asked how South Africa would be able to handle the expectation into the future.

Mrs Verwoerd said that there were certain inherent things that had not got anything to do with politics and the inherent correction of human rights need to take place. Everyone was only looking at EWC but there were massive amounts of other things that could be done and quicker. She said that it always astonished her how forgiving people were.

Mr Kriek said that farmers had the best plans and to get the economy growing we must do something ourselves.

Mr Butch Bujela from Santam thanked Congress for the positive outlook depicted.

Mr Kriek said that what had happened in Bela Bela was very positive.

Mrs La Marque said that was the reason for the Land Desk, which was linking farmers / mentors with emerging farmers.

Mr Craig Petersen from Newcastle Woolgrowers and Farmers' Association asked what the difference between labour tenants and farm dwellers was.

Mrs Verwoerd said that people working on the land were tenants.

Mrs La Marque mentioned the criteria between labour tenants and farm dwellers. She said agriculture had an opportunity to take the lead before the debate is brought up. It is an issue that needs to be looked at and what the criteria was.

Mr Kriek said the members should empower Kwanalu to ask the question.

Ms Lindiwe Madonsela, Mahlabathini DFA said that speeches had been made but actions needed to materialise. She wanted to thank Kwanalu where emerging farmers were given the platform to talk but asked what the commercial farmers were doing for the emerging farmers. She said the emerging farmers needed farmers to help them with the possibility of Landbank partnering Kwanalu to visit emerging farmers and assist them. To put things right, colour needs to be put aside to improve the quality of life for all. She said that emerging farmers needed farmers support and assistance.

Mr James Kean, Mooi-Mpofana Agricultural Association said they had started an initiative where they were attempting to educate students and employ people who had an interest in agriculture. This initiative strives to educate students to show them about commercial agriculture. Farmers co-operate and host students to enable them to see how things are done and realistic expectations are exposed.

A student from Owen Sithole college said that South Africa would be a better place when those who had much gave to those who did not have much.

Mr Robin Barnsley, Hon President of Kwanalu said that production was one thing but market development was not talked about and asked what could be done about market development.

Mr Kriek said that many opportunities pass us by. Those types of discussions should take place and Agri SA would follow up on that.

Siya Vilakazi, a Cedara old boy and lecturer said that there was insufficient training for farmers, especially with regards entrepreneurship and asked about financing without collateral. He agreed with Mr Barnsley's comment on marketing and said that strategies needed to be put into place against products coming into the country.

Dr Manley said that many faculties do not talk to one another and thus solutions are not found. The need was jobs and the lack of talking was not only in agriculture.

Mrs Suzanne Fortmann, Estcourt Farmers' Association asked where the list originated from.

Mrs Verwoerd replied that no one knew. It was a matter of fake news. She encouraged members to ensure that any news was real before passing it on. She said that the press was not eager to print the list and, in this way, it could be assumed that it was not true.

Mr Kriek said that the affects of the list on members was real. This type of press impacted negatively on land values and on stability.

19. **President's conclusions**

The President thanked all the speakers for their addresses.

Mr Buchan highlighted some of the points which had run through congress:

- the need for transformation and to lobby for a “rainbow register” – something which could record the initiatives being undertaken to truly transform the rural landscape
- the issue of labour tenants / farm dwellers and occupiers must receive attention, potential solutions could be considered. This should not diminish the rights of landowners. This was a matter that should be further investigated for consideration.
- the importance of establishing the land desk should not be underestimated and called on members to support the establishment thereof and challenged donors to consider providing funds to the desk and play a role in positive tangible transformation.
- The importance of education and training focused initiatives was also reiterated
- The matter of markets and production should be addressed with economic sustainability, profitability and viability being central to the matter

Mr Buchan called on congress to stand united. He said that the future of agriculture is in the hands of farmers. He called on leaders to exercise strong principled leadership and always be true to oneself, others and the organisation. He said he had hope and encouraged Congress to cling to hope and not become discouraged.

Sandy announced the Board:-

- Andy Buchan
- Andy Mason
- Phineas Gumede
- Peter-John Hassard
- Bobby Hoole
- Kathy Hurly
- Christopher Hadebe

Mr Buchan thanked delegates and observers for attending, the officials of the various Departments, the Kwanalu staff for their work, the media and press for their support and the sponsors.

He reiterated Robin Barnsley's message and said that we must put our trust in God.

He closed Congress with a prayer and said grace.

The President closed the meeting at 14.20.

20. **Lunch**

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