



**Program for a Joint Workshop Organized by UNCTAD and CAMS for  
Dates Farmers and Stakeholders (Processors and Exporters)  
19–21 March 2018, at Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat Oman**

**DAY 1**

<b>Monday: March 19, 2018</b>		<b>Venue: Conference Hall</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Participants</b>
8:00 – 9:00	Registration	All Participants & Speakers
9:00 – 9:05	The Holy Quran	
9:05 – 9:15	Opening Speech / Welcome Speech---( <b>Dr. Rashid Al-Yahyai, Dean CAMS</b> )	
9:15 – 9:50	<b>Keynote Address: Dr. Robert Hamwey, UNCTAD—Benefits to Omani farmers of Developing Dates as a Green Export Commodity</b>	
9:50 – 10:00	<b>Tea / Coffee break</b>	
	<b>Theme: Improving Dates Quality</b>	
10:00 – 12:30	<b>Chair: Dr. Saleem K Nadaf---Rapporteur: Dr. Tarig Gibreel</b>	
10:00 – 10:45	Strategies to Improve date palm production and hence Dates Quality in the Sultanate of Oman. <b>Dr. Rashid Al-Yahyai</b>	
10:45 – 11:10	The Quality of Dates in International Markets: The Role of Farmers. <b>Dr. Lokman Zaibet and Ms. Aisha Al-Maamari</b>	
11:10 – 11:40	Improvements in Dates Quality Through Appropriate Pest Control Approaches. <b>Dr. Salim Al-Hatri (Pest Expert, Ministry of Agriculture &amp; Fisheries)</b>	
11:40 – 12:10	Improvements in Dates Quality Through Appropriate Disease Control Approaches. <b>Dr. Qais Saif Al-Maawali (Disease Expert, Ministry of Agriculture &amp; Fisheries)</b>	
<b>12:10 – 12:20</b>	<b>Rapporteur: Dr. Tarig Gibreel: Session Summary Report (In Arabic)</b>	
12:20 – 12:30	<b>Tea / Coffee break</b>	
<b>12:30 – 13:50</b>	<b>Chair: Dr. Msafiri Mbagwa Rapporteur: Dr. Salim Ali Al-Rawahi</b>	
12:30 – 12:50	Improvement of Date Palm Fruit Quality in the Sultanate of Oman <b>Ms. Latifa Al-Kharusi</b>	
12:50 – 13:15	Date Quality Assessment in Postharvest Processing: Ms. <b>Sawsana Al-Rahbi and Dr. Hemantha Jayasuriya</b>	
13:15 – 13:40	Improved Approaches to Drying Dates for Export: <b>Dr. Khalid Mohammed Al-Shuaili (Head Food Processing Research Min. of Agriculture and Fisheries)</b>	
<b>13:40 – 13:50</b>	<b>Rapporteur: Dr. Salim Ali Al-Rawahi: Session Summary Report (Arabic)</b>	
13:50 – 14:00	<b>Farmer's workshop closing speech Dr. Omar Al-Jabri (Assistant Dean Training &amp; Community Services)</b>	
14:00----	Prayer and Lunch at Faculty Club	
<b>20:00 – 22:00</b>	<b>Workshop Dinner at Hormuz Hotel</b>	

<b>DAY 2</b>	
<b>Tuesday: March 20, 2018</b> <b>Venue: Conference Hall</b>	
	<b>Theme: Processing Techniques and Packaging</b>
<b>8:00 – 9:50</b>	<b>Chair: Dr. Shekar Bose</b> <b>Rapporteur: Dr. Rhonda Janke</b>
8:00 – 8:25	<b>Keynote Address: Dr. Malick Kane, UNCTAD</b> <b>The Importance of Developing Dates as a Green Export Commodity for Oman Economic Diversification and New Policies to Support it</b>
8:25 – 8:50	The Role of The Million Date Palm Project in Promoting Date Production and Export in Oman. <b>Eng. Abdullah Zaher Al Rawahi – Assistant Director of Planning, Studies and Follow-up Department</b>
8:50 – 9:15	Oman Date Products for Export. <b>Mr. Abdul-Aziz Al-Kharous: Owner and Managing Director MEDHIAF DATES COMPANY</b>
9:15 – 9:40	The Potential of Innovative Product from Omani Date Syrup: <b>Dr. Nasser Abdullah Al-Habsi, <i>Food Science and Nutrition</i> CAMS, SQU</b>
9:40 – 9:50	<b>Rapporteur: Dr. Rhonda Janke: Session Summary Report in English</b>
9:50 – 10:05	<b>Tea / Coffee break</b>
	<b>Theme: Marketing and Export</b>
<b>10.05 – 12:20</b>	<b>Chair: Dr. Amanat Ali: Rapporteur: Dr. Velazhahan Rethinasamy</b>
10:05 – 10:35	Oman Dates Marketing. <b>Salim Seif Al-Abdali Business Development Director—Oman Food Investment Company</b>
10:35 – 11:00	The Evaluation of Oman Dates Supply Chain Performance as a Prerequisite to Branding Oman Dates as Green Export Commodity: <b>Dr. Msafiri Daudi Mbage, Sultan Qaboos University.</b>
11:00 – 11:30	Agri-Food Export Promotion Programs and WTO <b>Dr. Houcine Boughanmi. WTO Chair, Sultan Qaboos University</b>
11:30 – 12:10	How to Increase Exports of Omani Dates Through Tourism and Through Direct Exports to US and European Markets. <b>Dr. Robert Hamwey, UNCTAD</b>
<b>12:10 – 12:20</b>	<b>Rapporteur: Dr. Velazhahan Rethinasamy: Session Summary Report in English</b>
12:20 – 12:30	<b>Tea / Coffee break</b>
<b>12:30 – 13:50</b>	<b>Chair: Dr. Mushtaque Ahmed: Rapporteur: Dr. Nejjib Guizani</b>
12:30 – 13: 00	Issues of Tariffs, Non- tariff Measures (SPS and TBT) and Organic and Fair Trade Certification in relation to Increasing Exports of Omani Dates. <b>Dr. Malick Kane, UNCTAD</b>
13:00 – 13:20	Developing Value Added Date Products. <b>Ms. Al-Jabri, MESHAN DATES CO.</b>
13:20 – 13:40	Oman National Green Export Review Report : Linking Dates, Fish and Tourism <b>Dr. Omar Al-Jabri. Assistant Dean (Training &amp; Community Services)</b>
<b>13:40 – 13:50</b>	<b>Rapporteur: Dr. Nejjib Guizani: Session Summary Report in English</b>
<b>13:50—14:00</b>	<b>Workshop Closing Speech: Dr. Rashid Al-Yahyai – Dean CAMS</b>
14:00----	Prayer and Lunch at Faculty Club

<b>DAY 3</b>
<b>Wednesday: March 21, 2018</b>
<b>Technical Tour of Date Farms (Dr. Omar Al-Jabri)</b>