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International Indoor & Controlled Environment Agriculture Set for September Summit in Durban, South Africa

Durban, South Africa, 26 August 2019 - **Urban Agri World 2019** Summit, the third edition of the conference series highlighting progressive farming developments for the indoor agriculture industry, will be held next month on 17-18 September 2019 at the Durban International Convention Centre (Durban ICC), South Africa.

This is the region's leading urban agriculture event focused on hydroponics, aeroponics and aquaponics techniques in farming. It will bring together agriculture officers, growers, investors, produce buyers, academics, policy makers, technology and system integrators, and CEA business owners. The Summit will feature practical sessions on the hottest topics, exhibits, lunch table discussions and unlimited networking opportunities, connecting services and solution providers.

The 2019 edition will tackle the agricultural concerns many countries have about weather and pests problems, food security, climate change and environmental preservation challenges. Commercialization of vertical farming and urban agriculture is catching on in Asia, Europe, USA, Russia, and now Africa. Many private companies are interested in growing crops in hydroponic, aquaponic and aeroponic systems in warehouses, greenhouses, containers and skyscrapers.

In addition, this year's Summit will also address the burgeoning interest in the production of medicinal plants in vertical farms following the new rulings on cannabis production for medicinal use.

Delivering the Summit Keynote Address will be **MEC Bongwiwe Sithole-Moloi of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Province of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa**.

Some of the exciting presentations and their expert speakers include: "Vertical Farms & PFAL (Plant Factories with Artificial Lighting)" by Graeme Smith, *Managing Director*, **Graeme Smith Consulting** (Australia); "Future Technologies Driving Indoor Urban Agriculture" by Maartin Vandecruys, *Founder & Managing Director*, **Urban Crop Solutions** (Belgium); and "Marrying Proven Western Technologies with Localised Business Models to Create Pioneering Indoor Farming Businesses" by Michelle Adelman, *Managing Director*, **Accite Holdings** (Botswana).

International experts from Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, the USA, South Africa amongst others, will be sharing their project experiences and best practices.

Dube AgriZone will be hosting a field visit for participants. Dube AgriZone is Africa's first integrated perishables supply chain and the most technologically-advanced future farming platform on the continent.

International participants will also want to take advantage of the **City Tour** sponsored by the Summit's Destination Partners - the **Durban Convention Bureau** - which will showcase some of Durban's memorable experiences and attractions.

Conference Organiser **Magenta Global's** CEO, Maggie Tan commented: "*This is an important knowledge-sharing and networking platform for the indoor agriculture industry. Since the previous Summit in Johannesburg last year, we have seen promising developments in Africa of indoor urban agriculture initiatives. Innovating how we produce food to feed the growing urban centres is crucial to food security and sustainability. Much needs to be done to transform the agriculture sector*".

For more Summit information, contact Jose at +65 6846 2366 or email jose@magenta-global.com.sg, and follow / like the event's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/events/384938988754324/>) and Twitter channel (<https://twitter.com/josemaglobal>).

Media Contact:
Mr Jose Carpio
International Marketing Manager
DID: +65 6846 2366
Email: jose@magenta-global.com.sg

Notes for Editor:



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