



worldAgriculturalforum™
Empowering Agriculture

Feeding 7 billion- World Agricultural Forum Congress 2011 – how to feed the world

World Agricultural Forum 2011
28 November- 1 December

In 1798, the English economist and clergyman Thomas Malthus predicted that one day the population of the world would outstrip the globe's ability to feed it. 31 October 2011 is the day the UN estimates that the global population will reach 7 billion.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and others are alarmed that the world is running out of agricultural capacity to feed itself and to provide all the other necessary things the land provides. The talk is of improving 'food security'.

According to the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs, global population is predicted to rise to anywhere between 9 and 12 billion by 2050.

Jim Bolger, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the World Agricultural Forum says: "If there is one thing which must not be compromised, it is the availability of food. Food shortages lead directly to a disrupted society, no matter where in the world". He continues "while the concerns about 'food security' are real, it does not mean we are necessarily facing catastrophe – far from it. The human race is hugely innovative and adaptive and with the right approach, can almost certainly make up any perceived shortfalls. But if history is any guide, it won't happen by doing things the same old way".

The 2011 Congress of the World Agricultural Forum (WAF) entitled "***Rethinking Agriculture to sustain a growing global population***" from the 28th November to the 1st December 2011 in Brussels will address the new ways of feeding the growing global population. This Congress focused on "rethinking" what we do now in agriculture and food production aims to provoke the generation of ideas to solve real problems and not solutions to fit a particular political problem.

Constituted by the non-profit World Agricultural Forum, the Congresses have a unique record of bringing together speakers and delegates from all walks of life in a neutral environment. Global leaders from the business, political, diplomatic, NGO and academic worlds will be present to think and debate how things can be done differently to improve global food security. As always many delegates will have strong opinions. But being impartial, the Congress is open to all ideas and shades of opinion.

For more press information please contact:

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Notes to Editors

- The Rt. Hon. James Bolger is Chairman of the Advisory Board of the World Agricultural Forum and former 3 term Prime Minister of New Zealand
- Congress dates- *28 November to 1 December 2011*
- Venue- Renaissance Hotel, Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels, Belgium
- The speaker line-up and latest programme can be seen at www.worldagriculturalforum2011.com
- **Press Accreditation**- media can register for accreditation here: WAFcongress@fourcommunications.com