



## **World Agricultural Forum 2011 28 November- 1 December**

*As demand for food grows across the world so do opportunities for business expansion: how should we re-think agricultural production*

Hungry people can mean one of two things: Public unrest or a opportunity. In these turbulent economic times the combination of rising food prices, climate change and population growth mean different things to different people; increased challenges for agriculture production but the chance of big profits for private companies and commodity traders.

Do Agricultural markets need regulating? How can we get more agricultural production from the same or less? What are the best methods of financing development programmes? Can the private sector work with governmental bodies to increase effectiveness? Do land deals in Africa represent economic growth and food security or a replay of colonial-era exploitation? Will discontent with food security lead to political unrest.

Rt Hon James Bolger, Chairman of the Advisory Board, WAF and Former Prime minister of New Zealand comments:

“Are there sufficient international mechanisms to ensure fairness in agriculture commodity markets, and especially are international trade policies fair for developing countries?”

The World Agricultural Forum, taking place in Brussels from 28 November-1 December, will answer these questions by bringing together the world’s leading experts in agriculture, economics, technology and trade as well as senior politicians from every continent.

Following on from the G20 meeting in November, the World Agricultural Forum will offer a unique platform and opportunity to peer into the future, to address and re-think global agricultural systems to better serve the growing global population.

The conference will breakdown in to three main themes: the issues, potential solutions and financial management for the future with sessions ranging from agricultural productivity, finance, land availability, development, natural resource conservation and combating hunger.

Key topics include:

- Links between political unrest and hunger
- The role of South-South partnerships
- Global trading systems/agricultural supply chains and market based solutions
- Improved sustainability and the use of natural resources

Key note speakers include:

**Hon. Clayton Yuetter**, Former US Agriculture Secretary and former US Trade Representative

**Professor Paul Collier**, Professor of Economics, Oxford University

**Dr Franz Fischler**, Chairman of RISE and Former European Commissioner of Agriculture

**Rt. Hon James Bolger**, Chairman of the Advisory Board, WAF and Former Prime minister of New Zealand

**Professor Paolo De Castro**, Chairman of the Agricultural and Rural Development Committee of the European Parliament

**HE. N Kiran Kymar**, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, India

**Lord Deben**, Former UK Minister of Agriculture and Environment

The 2011 World Agricultural Forum is calling together all segments of society from business to government, NGO's and academics to discuss, debate and determine the future of agriculture.

**For more press information please contact:**

Eleanor Hutchins or Marion Hardman on [WAFcongress@fourcommunications.com](mailto:WAFcongress@fourcommunications.com)

or +44(0)870 626 9000

#### **Notes to Editors**

- 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](http://www.worldagriculturalforum2011.com)
- Media can register for accreditation here: [WAFcongress@fourcommunications.com](mailto:WAFcongress@fourcommunications.com)