

2ND FORUM FOR THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE

Financing & governing food & environmental security – the new challenge

Bibliothèque Solvay

Brussels

8.45am – 6pm, Wednesday March 18th 2009

BACKGROUND

In March 2008, Syngenta and the European Landowners' Organization (ELO) came together to create a new forum in which the future of agriculture could be debated, where the main challenges facing the sector could be addressed, and the necessary responses understood, discussed and agreed. The inaugural meeting in 2008 focussed on the need to agree the objectives for European agriculture in the 21st Century against the backdrop of rapidly rising food prices, increased demand, particularly from China and India, and poor harvests, which had begun to stretch the supply chain to the limit.

Today, the underlying structural problems for global food production remain but the 2009 Forum on the Future of Agriculture (FFA) will take place in a different world to that of a year ago. Instead, the global financial crisis has diverted attention away from all other issues, including food security, and consumed the attention of political leaders, policy makers, legislators and regulators in co-ordinating an effective response to the problem. Their attention is now and will be focussed for the foreseeable future on trying to restore the health of the financial sector and the global economy.

Yet the global population is still rising and the projections for it to touch 9 billion by 2050 remain the same. Food consumption is increasing, spurred on not just by the number of mouths to feed but also by changing calorific and dietary demands, particularly in Asia. At the same time, ongoing problems with trade and distribution of food, access to water for agriculture, the land available for cultivation, and the looming impact of climate change, continues to exert pressure on the supply side.

The world may have changed since FFA 2008, but the food and environmental security challenges remain the same – to sustainably increase food production in a way that optimises the use of our natural resources, ensuring that healthy, nutritious, and varied food is universally accessible at an affordable price.

But to bring this about, many commentators and analysts have pointed to the need for a fundamental overhaul of the way we govern and – importantly – finance, food and environmental security. They argue that the financial crisis may have diverted attention but it should not detract from our determination to tackle the long term structural deficiencies in food supply and distribution in a sustainable way. Indeed, the global financial crisis has created such a state of flux that a unique and historical opportunity may now exist to re-order the world in a way that enables us to better respond to the great societal problems of our time, particularly how we harness our natural resources to feed our people.

FFA 2009 will therefore seek to address the subject of how we govern and provide finance for food and environmental security, against the backdrop of this global economic crisis. It will pose a number of fundamental questions:

- Do we need new structures to better govern and provide finance for food and environmental security?
- How has the financial crisis affected global trends and prospects for agriculture and the environment?
- Is Europe doing enough to build its own capacity for food and environmental security?
- What should be Europe's role in reforming the structures for governing and financing food and environmental security?



- Has the world responded effectively to the challenge of food and environmental security, and what should it do next?

These are questions that are key to the debate on the future of agriculture in Europe and around the world. They need to be highlighted and not lost sight of in the urgency and determination to solve the global economic crisis because food and environmental *insecurity* have the potential to have a greater impact over the longer term on the world than the economic travails of 2008.

We look forward to welcoming you to FFA2009 and debating these issues with you!

**FFA2009: FINANCING AND GOVERNING FOOD & ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY
THE NEW CHALLENGE**

- 8.45am Introduction by Franz FISCHLER, Chairman of the RISE Foundation
Chair of the Forum on the Future of Agriculture,
- 9am **Is a new architecture required for financing food and environmental security?**
Keynote speech: Paul KRUGMAN, Professor of Economics & International Affairs, Princeton University

Chair: Franz FISCHLER
Responses to the address from:
 - Alexander SARRIS, Director Trade and Markets Division at FAO
 - Marc van STRYDONCK, Senior Banker, European Bank for Reconstruction & Development
- 9.55am **The global financial crisis and speculation on commodity markets**
Panel Chair – Joseph DAUL MEP, Chairman of the EPP

Presentation: “Trading Practices and Price Dynamics in Commodity Markets”
Stephan SCHULMEISTER – Austrian Institute of Economic Research – WIFO

 - Klaus SCHUMACHER – Töpfer International (Invited)
 - Mikhail ORLOV, CEO, Agro-Invest, Russian Federation
- 10.45am Coffee break**
- 11am **Do the recent problems in the global economy impact on our ability to build Sustainable Farming Systems in Europe?**

Panel Chair – Roger WAITE AgraFacts

Panel Discussion I: expanding our capacity to produce efficiently

 - **Applying science & technology in farming**
John ATKIN, Chief Operating Officer (Crop Protection), Syngenta AG
 - **Importance to access to technology for expanding our capacity**
Benoit PASSARD, Vice-President, DeLaval
 - **Developing the physical tools for sustainable farming**
Francesco QUARANTA, Case New Holland
 - **Building our farming capacity**
Pekka PESONEN, Secretary-General, COPA-COGECA
Panel Discussion II: protecting & enhancing the environment

 - **Using our soil & water efficiently**
Michael HAMELL, Head of Unit, Agriculture, Forest, and Soil, DG Environment, EC
 - **Protecting & enhancing biodiversity**
Ariel BRUNNER, Birdlife International
 - **Protecting the environment whilst ensuring high productivity**
Hervé MORIZE, Société des Agriculteurs de France, Chairman
 - **Land manager’s perspective**
Antonio AMORIM, Grupo AMORIM

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1.00pm Lunch

- 2.30pm **The Nature & Scale of Public Goods Delivered by EU Land Managers**
- Report by the Director of the Ad hoc Task Force – RISE Foundation,
Professor Allan BUCKWELL, Chief Economist, Country Land & Business
Association
- David BALDOCK, Executive Director, IEEP
 - Peter NOWICKI, Wageningen University
 - Jozséf POPP, Hungarian Research Institute of Agrarian Economics
- 3.30pm **Is Europe responding effectively to the food & environmental security challenge?**
- Panel Chair – Neil PARISH, Chair, Committee on Agriculture & Rural
Development, European Parliament
- Keynote speech:** Michel BARNIER, Minister for Agriculture & Fisheries, France
- Andrzej DYCHA, Vice Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Poland
 - Loretta DORMAL-MARINO, Deputy DG Agriculture, European Commission
 - Willem Jan-LAAN, Director of External Affairs, Unilever

4.30pm Coffee break

- 4.45pm **Has the world responded effectively to the challenges of food and environment security?**
- Panel Chair – Carlo TROJAN Chairman - IPC
- Presentation: “Are we on track?”
Colin TUDGE, Biologist and writer
 - Dr. Josue DIONE, Director, (Food Security & Sustainability) United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa
 - Saliou SARR, Coordinator, Network of Farmers’ and Agricultural Producers’
Organisations of West Africa (ROPPA)
- 5.45pm **Closing presentations and debate:**
- Commissioner Mariann FISCHER-BOEL Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural
Development
Ivo HLAVAC, 1st Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Czech Republic
*Will the global economic crisis prevent us from achieving food & environmental
security?*
- 6.00pm **Conclusion: remarks from the Conference Chair**