

International Seminar on Sustainability in the Food & Agricultural Sector

Washington, DC – 1 October 2007

The International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC) will host its 40th international seminar on sustainability in the food and agricultural sector in Stratford-Upon-Avon on October 15-16 at the Menzies Welcombe Hotel.

Population growth, changing food preferences, and climatic variability are among the challenges facing the agricultural sector, which provides food, feed, fiber, and increasingly also fuel. This international seminar features leading policymakers, farm leaders, agribusiness and retail executives, and academics from around the world. Over the course of the seminar, they will explore how to define, measure, and meet sustainable production and trade of food, agricultural products, and biofuels.

“We are pleased to bring together leading actors in agriculture and trade to address the complex challenges facing the agricultural sector and international trade,” IPC Chairman Piet Bukman stated. “In this period of change and uncertainty, it is critical that we work together to reach consensus on pragmatic solutions.”

Seminar sessions will explore and recommend ways policymakers and private sector leaders should respond to:

- Pressures on the agricultural sector, including the growing use of agricultural feedstocks for biofuel production;
- Likely impacts of climatic variability on agricultural production in developed and developing countries;
- Ways in which agriculture can contribute to and mitigate against climate change;
- Ways to achieve environmental, social, and economic sustainability at all levels of the supply chain;
- The role of technology in international trade.

Featured Distinguished Speakers:

Mr. Marcos Sawaya Jank will give his first major international speech since becoming President of UNICA (Brazilian Sugar Cane Union) on sustainability and trade issues in the biofuels sector.

Mr. Franz Fischler, former EU Commissioner for Agriculture, will address the past, present, and future roles of sustainability in the European Common Agricultural Policy.

Mr. Tiku Shah, Chairman of the Kenyan Fresh Producers' Association, will address Private Sector standards.

More information on this international seminar and the full program are available online at http://www.agritrade.org/events/sustainability_agriculture.html

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About IPC The International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC) promotes a more open and equitable global food system by pursuing pragmatic trade and development policies in food and agriculture to meet the world's growing needs. IPC convenes influential policymakers, agribusiness executives, farm leaders, and academics from developed and developing countries to clarify complex issues, build consensus, and advocate policies to decision-makers. More information on the organization and its membership can be found on our website: www.agritrade.org.