

# Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar: Food security, innovation and research

Timing: 17<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET

Agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Lord Cameron of Dillington**
- 9.05 - 9.15 **Food security: a global challenge for the future**  
**Professor Michael Winter**, Professor & Director, Centre for Rural Policy Research, University of Exeter
- 9.15 - 9.25 **Research approaches to addressing food security**  
**John Ingram**, Executive Officer, Global Environmental Change and Food Systems (GECAFS), Environmental Change Institute, Centre for the Environment, University of Oxford
- 9.25 - 9.35 **Food security, science and public engagement**  
**Geoff Tansey**, Member and Trustee, Food Ethics Council
- 9.35 - 9.50 Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.50 - 10.40 **Food security, innovation and safety**  
*Themes: What should be the role of new technologies in meeting the challenge of future food security in a changing climate, particularly GM, nanotechnology and novel processing methods? What are the alternatives? What are the implications for consumer safety? What is the effect of intellectual property claims on product development, access to new technologies and safety? How could new technologies help to reduce world hunger, and do new technologies need to be made more available to those most at risk from food insecurity?*  
**Dominic Dyer**, Chief Executive, Crop Protection Association  
**Dr Simon Branch**, Head of Innovation and Improvement, Premier Foods  
**Dr Isobel Tomlinson**, Policy and Campaigns Officer, Soil Association  
**Dr Mike Bushell**, Principal Scientific Advisor, Syngenta  
**Duncan Green**, Head of Research, Oxfam GB  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 - 10.45 **Chairman's closing remarks**  
**Lord Cameron of Dillington**
- 10.45 - 11.05 Coffee
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Professor David Cope**, Director, Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology
- 11.10 - 11.40 **Funding and investment in research**  
*Themes: What kind of investment is needed to promote research and development for agricultural science in the UK? Where should investment come from? Who should fund applied or translational research for food and crop production?*  
**Steve Visscher**, Deputy Chief Executive, and Chief Operating Officer, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 - 12.35 **Identifying future research needs for food production**  
*Themes: What is the status of research and development for food production in the UK? What are the requirements for future research and development to meet the challenge of improving future food security? To what extent should R&D be technology-driven, or market and consumer led? What do consumers want and expect from food technology? How does regulation affect the development and introduction of new products, and does regulation have a knock-on effect on drives to increase food production? How might a difficult economic climate, as well as cuts to university funding, affect R&D for food production in the UK?*  
**Professor David Leaver**, Chairman, Practice with Science Group, Royal Agricultural Society of England  
**Dr Helen Ferrier**, Chief Science and Regulatory Affairs Adviser, National Farmers' Union  
**Dr Richard Summers**, European Cereal Breeding Lead, RAGT Seeds  
**Dr Julian Little**, Chair, Agricultural Biotechnology Council (abc)  
**Mette Kahlin**, Food, Environment and Energy Efficiency Public Affairs, Which?  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 - 12.55 **The view from Defra: future developments in food security, innovation and research**  
*Themes: What should be the future of the UK's R&D strategy in order to meet the challenge of improving food security and sustainability? What are the wider issues that need to be taken into consideration?*  
**Dr Sue Poppel**, Deputy Director, Farming & Food Science, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum's closing remarks**  
**Professor David Cope**, Director, Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology  
**Michael Ryan**, Senior Producer, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum