



Munich, 18th June 2008

52nd CIES WORLD FOOD BUSINESS SUMMIT KICKS OFF IN MUNICH Leaders in the food retail industry debate sustainable growth

The world's current food crisis – and the future of sustainable food provision – will be in the spotlight at the 52nd World Food Business Summit, hosted by CIES – The Food Business Forum which commences today.

Close to 800 leaders in the food retail, manufacturing and supply industries, from 50 countries and representing 430 CIES member companies, will meet in Munich for the three-day Summit, which is themed *Growth and Sustainability – Building Profit with Responsibility*.

"This Summit represents the apex of the food industry worldwide," says Summit chairman Gareth Ackerman, the chairman of South Africa's Pick n Pay Holdings. "It is the forum where the global leaders in our industry are gathering to debate the considerable challenges that the world faces at the moment, in terms of how to address the issues of sustainable food production, supply and retail.

"With rampant fuel and commodity prices driving up food inflation, food security becoming a more and more critical problem – particularly in the developing world, and sustainability the most important focus of how we do business globally now and in the future, we will have a lot to talk about.

"It is important also that we build on the debate that was generated at the recent World Economic Forum summit in Cape Town, South Africa, which I had the privilege to address, and where the nascent global food problems were described as a ticking time bomb. CIES' members have the power – and the responsibility – to come up with solutions that are lasting, relevant and sustainable."

Among the speakers at the Summit will be:

- **Dr. Angela Merkel**, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, who will deliver a keynote address via video
- **Roger Corbett AM**, Chairman of CIES – The Food Business Forum & Chairman, ALH Group PTY Limited (a subsidiary of Woolworths Australia)
- **Andrea Debanné**, Vice President Strategy & Strategic Programmes, Communications, Airbus, who will speak on *Steering for growth and sustainability through different economic cycles*
- **Professor Robert Pickard**, Chairman of Consumer's Association, *Which?*, who will speak on *Sustainable business in a world that is out of control*
- **Patricia Glyn**, South African adventurer and broadcaster, who will speak on *What our ancestors saw in Africa – and I never will! A wake up call to living mindfully*
- **Dr. Jürgen Elfers**, European Retail Research, Commerzbank Corporate & Markets, who will speak on *The mystery of German retail and the impact of the discount model*

- **Alain Caparros**, Chief Executive Officer, REWE Group, who will speak on *How a tough home market can lead to business excellence: the view of a German retailer*
- **Stephan Grünewald**, Managing Partner, Rheingold Institute, who will speak on *On the couch: an analysis of green consumerism in Germany*
- **Ray C. Anderson**, Founder & Chairman, Interface, Inc., who will speak on *Eco-Sense: combining environmentalism with economic performance*
- **Mark Price**, Managing Director, Waitrose Ltd, who will speak on *Sustainability in retailing: the story of a corporate philosophy*
- **Muhtar Kent**, President & Chief Operating Officer, The Coca-Cola Company, who will speak on *The next generation of sustainable leadership – making a real difference*
- **Franck Riboud**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Danone Group, who will speak on *A business model for sustainable economic prosperity*
- **Caroline Sami**, Chief ID:ologist, ID:OLOGY, who will speak on *Inclusive leadership: releasing human potential to its full*
- **Dr. August Oetker**, Dr. August Oetker K.G, who will speak on *Corporate Social Responsibility – a critical success factor for family businesses*
- **Andrew Robertson**, President & Chief Executive Officer, BBDO Worldwide, Inc., who will speak on *New media: The communication specialist's view*
- **Willy Tomboy**, Director of Environmental Affairs, Toyota Motor Europe, who will speak on *Beyond the green business hype - a car manufacturer's perspective*
- **Rob Reid**, Co-Founder RipCam Media and Former CEO & Chairman, Listen.com, who will speak on *New technology: The Internet and the super-empowered consumer*
- **Pierre-Olivier Beckers**, President & Chief Executive Officer, Delhaize Group
- **Sebastian Coe KBE**, Olympic athlete, who will deliver the closing keynote address

Sessions will be moderated by **Alex Thomson**, Presenter & Chief Correspondent, ITN's Channel 4 News. Thomson will also facilitate a group discussion on *How will the grocery industry manage a sustained rise in the cost of food?* with **José Maria Folache**, Member of Management Board & Managing Director Commercial and Marketing, Carrefour, **Serge Papin**, Chief Executive Officer, Système U, **Alexander Waugh**, General Director, National Association of British and Irish Millers, Professor Pickard and Ms Glyn.

In addition, Thomson will also hold a discussion with Dr. August Oetker on *Which of the various ownership models (Private equity/Public ownership/family ownership/the cooperative model) have greater benefits in terms of sustainability for all stakeholders?*

"We look forward to a Summit that will stimulate constructive debate, where great ideas will be shared and innovative solutions found," says Ackerman.

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