



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Roger CORBETT, CEO, Woolworths Australia, elected new Chairman of CIES**

Paris, France, Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2006

CIES - The Food Business Forum announced the election, effective today, of **Roger CORBETT, Chief Executive Officer, Woolworths Australia**, as its new chairman. He will hold the position for the next two years.

The CIES Board of Directors will also be strengthened by the arrival of **Kian Chew TAN, Chief Executive Officer of NTUC FAIRPRICE**, Singapore, as a new board member.

**Roger CORBETT** commented, "CIES is a unique international organisation which will continue to provide an important place for a global dialogue. I am very proud that I have been given the privilege to lead this forum for the next two years." He observed that "the world of retailing is seeing many opportunities, but also significant dangers, with the boom of new and existing major economies, technological and social developments.

The challenges we are facing today are those of the whole of society. Questions of ageing population, health & nutrition, safety, working conditions are part of our everyday business and of our customers' lives everywhere in the world. Retailers can and must more than ever contribute to society by working together on these issues with manufacturers and civil society.

Another prerequisite for the future is the acceptance of common standards and protocols around the world. This will call for close collaboration.

I am looking forward to working with the Board of Directors, the seven CIES expert Committees and CIES members to advance this dialogue and to implement action on these and other projects during my tenure."



Roger CORBETT

**Roger CORBETT** has been involved in the retail industry for over 40 years. Over some 20 years he rose through the various ranks of Grace Bros' management to subsequently hold the positions of Merchandise Director and Stores Director.

In late 1984 Roger joined the Board of David Jones Australia as Director of Operations. In 1990 he was appointed to the Board of Woolworths Limited and to the position of Managing Director of BIG W Australia. Over the next 10 years Roger subsequently, in addition to his new role as Deputy Group Managing Director, held the positions of Managing Director - Retail, Chief Operating Officer and CEO-elect. On 1 January 1999, Roger was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Woolworths

Limited and still holds this position.

In June 2003, Roger was awarded a Member in the Order of Australia (AM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for "service to the retail industry, particularly as a contributor to the development of industry policy and standards, and to the community."

Mr Corbett has recently received the following recognition:

May 2004 - Honorary Doctorate of Business (*Dbus honoris causa*) from the University of Southern Queensland in recognition of his "outstanding leadership in the Australian business community and commitment to the development of business skills, ethical principles and social responsibilities in young people."

January 2006 - International Retailer of the Year 2005 by the prestigious US MMR Magazine.

May 2006 - B'nai B'rith (Australia-New Zealand) Gold Medal.

In addition to being a Director on the Board of Woolworths Limited (Australia), Mr Corbett has also holds positions on the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia and John Fairfax Holdings Limited.

**Woolworths Limited** is the largest retailer in Australasia with a market capitalisation of AU\$22.6 billion. Employing 175,000 staff members, Woolworths operates in excess of 2,500 retail outlets under the brands Woolworths/Safeway supermarkets and petrol sites, BIG W discount department stores, Dick Smith Electronics, Tandy and Powerhouse consumer electronics stores, and Dan Murphy's and BWS liquor stores. Woolworths also owns 150 supermarkets in New Zealand under the brands Woolworths, Countdown and Foodtown and has recently established a joint venture interest in India with the Tata Group. Woolworths Limited is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and headquartered in Sydney.

## **Tan Kian Chew, CEO, NTUC FairPrice, Singapore appointed new member of the CIES Board of Directors**



Kian Chew TAN

Mr Kian Chew TAN is the Chief Executive Officer of NTUC Fairprice Co-operative Ltd. He joined the Co-operative in 1992, after holding key appointments in the Singapore Navy, the Ministry of Trade & Industry and the Prime Minister's Office as Principal Private Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister.

A graduate from the University of Aston, Birmingham (United Kingdom), Mr Tan also has a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration from the University of Singapore. Besides holding overseas appointments as a Director of the Independent Grocers Alliance (IGA) International, Inc and Member of The Coca-Cola Retailing Research Council Asia (CCRRCA), Mr Tan serves as a Director in various Government statutory boards such as Spring Singapore, the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) and the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA).

Established in 1973, **NTUC FairPrice Co-operative Ltd** is the leading supermarket retailer in Singapore with more than 160 stores island wide. The Group registers annual sales of more than S\$1.4 billion and employs about 5,000 workers.

FairPrice is the first supermarket retailer in Singapore to have its own central warehousing and distribution company. It also built and operates a 13,000-square-metre Fresh Food Distribution Centre. With these structural systems in place, FairPrice is able to achieve excellent inventory control and optimize procedural efficiency.

FairPrice's founding mission was to help moderate the cost of living for low-income households in Singapore. Today, that social mission remains at the heart of its operations. Its many community projects are aimed at adding value to the well-being of the community it is involved in.

The corporate mission of NTUC FairPrice is to be "The Best Place to Shop, The Best Place to Work, The Best Corporate Citizen". This underscores its commitment to bring value to the community, its customers, its staff and ultimately, to the Co-operative members who, through their support make it Singapore's very own leading supermarket chain.

**CIES - The Food Business Forum** is the only independent global food business network. It serves the CEOs and senior management of 175 retailer and 175 supplier member companies, and their subsidiaries, in over 150 countries.

Providing a platform for knowledge-exchange, thought-leadership and networking, CIES has been growing with the food business for over 50 years. Its strength lies in the active commitment of its member companies and its privileged access to key industry players which allows the organisation to facilitate the development of common positions and tools on key strategic and practical issues affecting the food business.

**Press contact:**

Anne Malbrancq  
CIES - The Food Business Forum  
Phone: (+33) 1 44 69 99 20  
Fax: (+33) 1 44 69 99 39