

## GLOBAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THE WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF OF THE GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



September 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> 2009

For more information on the Global Agricultural Development Initiative, and previous editions of *Global Food for Thought*, please visit [www.thechicagocouncil.org/globalagdevelopment](http://www.thechicagocouncil.org/globalagdevelopment).

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### KEY ARTICLES

**PLEASE NOTE: THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION WILL RELEASE ITS GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY PLAN ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, AT THE HIGH-LEVEL FOOD SECURITY EVENT. THE EVENT IS CO-HOSTED BY U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY CLINTON AND UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BAN KI-MOON, AND WILL TAKE PLACE AT 4:00 PM ET AT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS. GLOBAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT WILL SEND OUT A COPY OF THE PLAN TO ITS SUBSCRIBERS AS SOON AS IT IS MADE PUBLIC. THE MEETING SHOULD BE VIEWABLE ON [WWW.STATE.GOV](http://WWW.STATE.GOV) OR [WWW.AMERICA.GOV](http://WWW.AMERICA.GOV). FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE THE "UPCOMING EVENTS" SECTION BELOW.**

**Obama set to unveil plan on global food security**, *Reuters, September 22*

The Obama administration will unveil its long-awaited global food security plan during the next few days with the United States expected to focus on helping farmers in poor countries feed themselves through better productivity, research and infrastructure. Much of the blame on the failure to combat global hunger is because U.S. politicians, business leaders and others have not made it a priority, said **Dan Glickman**, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/politicsNews/idUSTRE58L4VN20090922>

*See Also: Secretary Clinton and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon To Co-Host Food Security Event at the United Nations Headquarters, U.S. State Department, September 24*  
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2009/sept/129465.htm>

**Saving A Billion People from Starvation**, Catherine Bertini and Dan Glickman (Cochairs, Global Agricultural Development Initiative), *Huffington Post*, September 18

America is working to rebuild its international image and has committed to dealing proactively with the problems associated with global food shortages and modernizing agricultural systems. Norm Borlaug's life is both a symbol of what can be done, and a reminder of the enormous problem of global poverty we still face.

Why not finish his work?

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dan-glickman/saving-a-billion-people-f b 291677.html>

**Think Again: The Green Revolution**, Peter Hazell (former director of the development strategy and governance division at the International Food Policy Research Institute), *Foreign Policy*, September 22

Critics of Asia's Green Revolution argue that it would be better if Africa focused on organic and other low-input farming rather than going the route of its neighbors to the east. But this advice describes exactly what African farmers have been doing all along, and as a result, average cereal yields on the continent have hardly changed in 50 years and now hover at about one-third of those achieved in Asia. Africa badly needs to raise its farmers' productivity, and this cannot be done without increasing fertilizer use to offset low and declining soil fertility, capturing and using more rainwater for irrigation, and planting improved crop varieties. In a word, it can't be done without a Green Revolution.

[http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2009/09/22/think\\_again\\_green\\_revolution](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2009/09/22/think_again_green_revolution)

**So Much Food. So Much Hunger.**, *New York Times*, September 19

How can so many people be hungry when farmers produce enough food, at least in theory, to feed every person on the planet? The answers are complex and involve everything from American farm politics and African corruption to war, poverty, climate change and drought, which is now the single most common cause of food shortages on the planet.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/20/weekinreview/20martin.html>

**Agriculture co's see business opportunity in food aid**, *Reuters*, September 23

U.S. agricultural business giants said that working to create sustainable production around the world will not only bring food to millions of starving people, but it's ultimately a lucrative source of revenue for their companies. Deere & Co, along with Archer Daniels Midland Co, DuPont Co and Monsanto Co, competitors in the agricultural industry, have founded The Global Harvest Initiative with the goal of doubling agricultural output by 2050 to meet rising world demand.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/vcCandidateFeed1/idUSN22368300>

*See Also: Ag rivals team up on global crop issues*, *Des Moines Register*, September 23

DuPont and Monsanto are tough competitors when it comes to selling seed to farmers, but the two companies are uniting to promote high-tech agriculture as a way of meeting rising global food needs.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20090923/BUSINESS01/909230345/-1/NEWS04>

**Hunger's Perfect Storm Is Back**, Josette Sheeran (Executive Director, UN World Food Program), *Huffington Post*, September 22

The perfect storm for the world's most vulnerable is back -- and with a vengeance. Now bad weather and soaring food prices have been joined by a financial crisis sucking the economic life out of poor communities -- and urgent hunger is the result.

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/josette-sheeran/hungers-perfect-storm-is b 294705.html>

**Pittsburgh should be a turning point for the poor**, Robert Zoellick (President, World Bank), *Op-Ed, Financial Times*, September 20

Leaders need to put in place mechanisms to protect the most vulnerable. A start would be to act on the new \$20bn food security initiative launched at Italy's G8 meeting. Paper pledges alone will not put seeds in soil or feed the hungry.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/48a08b1a-a870-11de-9242-00144feabdc0.html>

**Why the U.S. Needs Africa**, Paul Kagame (President, Rwanda), *Op-Ed, Washington Post, September 21*

Africa and the United States may be on the verge of a new partnership, not one of dependency and aid but one of shared ideas, vision and investments that increase our mutual prosperities. The development of regional trading pacts similar to the North American Free Trade Agreement is among Africa's highest priorities. Regional development would better allow U.S. products and companies to reach beyond individual countries to greater markets without the burden of tariffs and legislative burdens.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/09/20/AR2009092001296.html>

**All Together Now**, Gordon Brown (Prime Minister, Great Britain), *Op-Ed, New York Times, September 22*

We cannot solve these problems immediately, of course, but momentous decisions are demanded now toward halting climate change, renewing economic prosperity, and overcoming poverty. We must make good on our pledges to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which are already well behind schedule.

*See Also: Copenhagen or Bust*, Gordon Brown (Prime Minister, Great Britain), *Newsweek, September 21*

The time is now for an international deal on climate change.

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/215699>

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## RELEVANT U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Lugar recalls Borlaug vision of peace through feeding in speech at the Global Harvest Initiative Symposium**, *Office of Senator Richard Lugar, September 22*

As we consider the mission of the Global Harvest Initiative, two things seem clear. First, given trends in population growth, economic growth and diets, the world will have to double its food production by 2050. And because of environmental and practical limitations, it will have to harvest that food from roughly the same amount of land that is in production today. Second, it is also clear that there will be grave consequences, from both a humanitarian and national security perspective, if we do not meet that goal.

<http://lugar.senate.gov/press/record.cfm?id=318071&&>

**Obama lunches with Sub-Saharan African Leaders**, *Fox News, September 22*

The White House described the lunch as a free flowing dialogue which focused mainly on three topics: creating jobs, particularly for youth, increasing trade and investment, and strengthening agricultural productivity. On agriculture, Tanzanian President Kikwete led the discussion on productivity and the food security initiative which was a topic at this summers G8.

<http://whitehouse.blogs.foxnews.com/2009/09/22/obama-lunches-with-sub-saharan-african-leaders/>

**Remarks by President Barack Obama at the Clinton Global Initiative**, *The White House, September 22*

We're making major new investments in food security. But this can't simply be hand-outs of American food. We need to share new methods and technologies so that countries and communities can become more self-sufficient.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/the\\_press\\_office/Remarks-by-the-President-at-the-Clinton-global-initiative/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Remarks-by-the-President-at-the-Clinton-global-initiative/)

**Speech in Advance of the United Nations General Assembly**, *Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Brookings Institution, September 18*

To solve the complex problems of poverty, hunger, health, climate change, where they intersect, we want to focus on those root causes, and look for approaches that really change, transform the environment in which people are making these decisions and in which governments are held accountable to a higher degree of performance and transparency. We will be looking for ways to not only explain our approach, but to highlight issues. I will be, for example, participating in an event with Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, hosted by the UN and the United States Government, on food security.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/09/129366.htm>

**Full text: Obama's speech to United Nations, *Financial Times*, September 23**

We mobilized resources that helped prevent the crisis from spreading further to developing countries. And we joined with others to launch a \$20 billion global food security initiative that will lend a hand to those who need it most, and help them build their own capacity.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/a9ee6d6e-a853-11de-9242-00144feabdc0.html>

**Senate poobahs to Obama: What's up with USAID?, *Foreign Policy (The Cable)*, September 23**

Nine months into the Obama administration, there is still no nominee for the post of administrator for the U.S. Agency for International Development, and now the heads of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee are sounding the alarm. In a letter to President Obama, Senators John Kerry, D-MA, and Richard Lugar, R-IN, decry the vacancy at the top of USAID, noting it as the only major agency in the government without a captain at a time when American leadership in development around the world is more needed than ever.

[http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2009/09/23/senate\\_poobahs\\_to\\_obama\\_whats\\_up\\_with\\_usaid](http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2009/09/23/senate_poobahs_to_obama_whats_up_with_usaid)

*See Also: Letter from Senators Kerry and Lugar to President Barack Obama, September 18*

[http://www.foreignpolicy.com/images/090923\\_09-18-09\\_JK\\_RL\\_to\\_Obama\\_re\\_foreign\\_aid.pdf](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/images/090923_09-18-09_JK_RL_to_Obama_re_foreign_aid.pdf)

**Vilsack and Chinese Agriculture Minister Address Trade Concerns, Agree to Renew Cooperation Agreement, *USDA*, September 22**

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and China's Minister of Agriculture Sun Zhengcai concluded their talks by renewing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on bilateral cooperation in scientific research and agricultural trade between the two countries. The original MOU signed in August 2003 established a Joint Committee on Cooperation in Agriculture (JCCA), which meets at least once every two years alternately in the United States and China.

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/.s.7.0.A/7.0.10B?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/09/0458.xml>

**Using Development to Alleviate Poverty, *VOA News*, September 22**

Interview with Darius Mans, Acting Chief Executive Officer for the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/Africa/2009-09-22-voa32.cfm>

**Indian American nominated as US' chief agriculture negotiator, *Times of India*, September 23**

US President Barack Obama has nominated an eminent Indian American agricultural scientist for the post of chief agricultural negotiator in the Office of the US Trade Representative, a position which has assumed a critical role in the days of tough global negotiations on the concerned issues.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/world/indians-abroad/Indian-American-nominated-as-US-chief-agriculture-negotiator/articleshow/5045294.cms>

**EPA Rule Will Reflect 'Uncertainty' on Indirect Biofuels Emissions, Fending Off Amendment, *New York Times*, September 24**

Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) backed off efforts to block EPA from weighing contested ethanol emissions after Administrator Lisa Jackson pledged that biofuels rules will reflect uncertainty around international indirect land-use change emissions.

*See Also: Senator would drop land-use from U.S. biofuels rule, Reuters, September 22*

A senator from the U.S. Corn Iowa Senator Tom Harkin filed an amendment that would bar federal regulators from considering how land is used overseas when they write rules to expand use of biofuels.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/GCA-GreenBusiness/idUSTRE58L3RA20090922>

*See Also: Nelson backs bill to protect biofuels, Omaha World-Heard, September 24*

U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson has joined several other Midwest senators in introducing federal legislation they say is aimed at protecting the region's biofuels industry.

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20090924/MONEY/709249892>

**Upper chamber bristles at criticism from abroad on climate change pace, *The Hill*, September 22**

Senators from both parties bristled Tuesday at international pressure to pass climate change legislation ahead of the United Nations' (U.N.) December summit on global warming.

<http://thehill.com/homenews/senate/59915-upper-chamber-bristles-at-criticism-from-abroad>

**Arkansas senator steps up as forceful ag advocate**, *Des Moines Register*, September 20

Southern farmers haven't had a lock on the Senate Agriculture Committee like this since the 1970s.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20090920/BUSINESS03/909200320/-1/NEWS04>

**Interim Guidelines for the Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement Pilot Project**, *USDA*, September 2009

Local and regional food aid procurement projects were authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill. The primary purpose of these projects is to reduce the time it takes for food aid to reach vulnerable populations affected by food crises and disasters. The guidelines set procedures and criteria for organizations to apply for and implement food aid field projects in developing countries using local and regional procurement. They also establish requirements for program implementation, monitoring and reporting.

[http://www.fas.usda.gov/excredits/FoodAid/LRP/Interim\\_PPP\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.fas.usda.gov/excredits/FoodAid/LRP/Interim_PPP_Guidelines.pdf)

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## NEW REPORTS/POLICY BRIEFS/BOOKS

**Global agriculture towards 2050**, *FAO*, September 2009

Agriculture in the 21st century faces multiple challenges: it has to produce more food and fibre to feed a growing population, more feedstocks for a potentially huge bioenergy market, contribute to overall development in the many agriculture-dependent developing countries, adopt more sustainable production methods and adapt to climate change.

[http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/wsfs/docs/Issues\\_papers/HLEF2050\\_Global\\_Agriculture.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/wsfs/docs/Issues_papers/HLEF2050_Global_Agriculture.pdf)

See Also: **World food output must rise 70 percent by 2050: FAO**, *Reuters*, September 23

<http://www.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idUSTRE58M1UF20090923>

**Strengthening the Global Partnership for Development in a Time of Crisis**, *United Nations Millennium Development Goals Task Force*, September 2009

The food crisis of 2008 underlined the need for developing countries to increase investment in their food security, including by reversing the neglect of their agriculture sector. The need for food and nutrition assistance remains as a result of persistently high food prices and the global economic and financial crisis, which has led to declining incomes and job losses. In 2009, the number of hungry people was more than 1 billion.

[http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG\\_Gap\\_%20Task\\_Force\\_%20Report\\_2009.pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG_Gap_%20Task_Force_%20Report_2009.pdf)

**Running on Empty: Pakistan's Water Crisis**, *Asia Program*, *Woodrow Wilson Center*, September 2009

Pakistan's total water availability per capita ranks dead last in a list of 26 Asian countries and the United States. Pakistan is expected to become water-scarce by 2035, though some experts project this may happen as soon as 2020, if not earlier.

[http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/pubs/ASIA\\_090422\\_Running%20on%20Empty\\_web.pdf](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/pubs/ASIA_090422_Running%20on%20Empty_web.pdf)

**The global financial crisis and developing countries: taking stock, taking action**, *Overseas Development Institute*, September 2009

The economic crisis affected developing countries through declining private financial flows, trade, and remittances. By the end of 2009, developing countries may have lost incomes of at least \$750 billion – more than \$50 billion in sub-Saharan Africa. The human consequences include rising unemployment, poverty and hunger, and an additional 50 million people trapped in absolute poverty, with the number expected to rise to 90 million by December 2010.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/2822.pdf>

**Agricultural Land Tenure and Carbon Offsets**, *USDA Economic Research Service*, September 2009

This report examines the potential role that land ownership might play in determining the agricultural sector's involvement in carbon sequestration programs. By estimating the carbon sequestration potential of

agricultural producers who own most of the land they operate, this report finds that land ownership should not be a constraining factor in agriculture's ability to provide carbon offsets.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EB14/EB14.pdf>

**G-20 Summit: Recovering from the Crisis**, *Brookings Institution, September 2009*

To enhance global coordination and to implement effective financial recovery policies, Brookings experts provide recommendations on how the G-20 can overcome current global governance and economic challenges.

[http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2009/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/0917\\_g20\\_summit/0917\\_g20\\_summit.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2009/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/0917_g20_summit/0917_g20_summit.pdf)

*See Also: To the G-20: Don't Overlook Africa During the Recovery*, *Brookings Institution, September 2009*

The G-20 can work with Africa to highlight the major changes in policies and institutions that have taken place in the last 10 years—changes that make the continent more attractive to foreign direct investments targeted to value addition in agriculture.

[http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2009/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/0917\\_g20\\_summit/0917\\_g20\\_summit\\_aryeetey.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2009/~media/Files/rc/reports/2009/0917_g20_summit/0917_g20_summit_aryeetey.pdf)

**Aiding Economic Growth in Africa: The Political Economy of Roads Reform in Uganda**, *Overseas Development Institute, September 2009*

District and community access roads have been often taken as the pro-poor investment par excellence, and it would be hard to deny their importance. However, the tendency for Ugandan economic growth to become more focused on urban construction and services, and less on agriculture and agriculture-related industries, is strongly related to the high transport and power costs associated with the needed investments.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/3829.pdf>

**U.S. Cotton Prices and the World Cotton Market: Forecasting and Structural Change**, *USDA Economic Research Service, September 2009*

This report analyzes recent structural changes in the world cotton industry and develops a statistical model that reflects current drivers of U.S. cotton prices.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR80/ERR80.pdf>

**The Effects of Low-Carbon Policies on Net Farm Income**, *Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, Duke University, September 2009*

Concerns about expected increases in energy and other agricultural input costs have led some to oppose greenhouse gas cap-and-trade legislative proposals. However, these policies could result in significant revenue for U.S. agriculture, which is a potential source of low-carbon bioenergy and low-cost abatement alternatives to fossil fuel emission reductions (i.e., offsets) through terrestrial sequestration, afforestation, and reductions in nitrous oxide and methane emissions.

<http://www.nicholas.duke.edu/institute/ni.wp.09.04.pdf>

**Food Insecurity in Households with Children: Prevalence, Severity, and Household Characteristics**, *USDA Economic Research Service, September 2009*

Eighty-four percent of U.S. households with children were food secure throughout 2007, meaning that they had consistent access to adequate food for active, healthy lives for all household members. Nearly 16 percent of households with children were food insecure sometime during the year, including 8.3 percent in which children were food insecure and 0.8 percent in which one or more children experienced very low food security.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB56/EIB56.pdf>

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### **\*\*\*SPECIAL SECTION DEVOTED TO U.N. CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT**

#### **Climate change: Avoiding a crash at Copenhagen**, *Economist*, September 24

That so much energy is being focused on solving this most intractable of problems is a good thing. Unfortunately, much of it is misdirected. The Kyoto protocol was a flawed treaty, and if negotiators continue to follow its precepts too slavishly, the world risks ending up with a diplomatic train-wreck.

[http://www.economist.com/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=14506350](http://www.economist.com/displaystory.cfm?story_id=14506350)

#### **Climate change and the UN: Nice words**, *Economist*, September 23

The outlook for the global summit on climate change to be held in Copenhagen in December is uncertain. The current version of the draft outcome document for the meeting is hundreds of pages long, with thousands of passages in brackets representing points of disagreement.

[http://www.economist.com/daily/news/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=14491729](http://www.economist.com/daily/news/displaystory.cfm?story_id=14491729)

*See Also: Climate Summit Concludes Where It Began*, *Wall Street Journal*, September 23

The world's two largest greenhouse-gas emitters called for new action to curb emissions linked to climate change, but they didn't make any concrete new commitments themselves.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB125362691727230691.html>

#### **India signals flexibility on climate targets**, *Financial Times*, September 22

India says it could agree to 'implicit' carbon emissions measures as part of a global climate change deal, but no specific caps, if developed countries reciprocate by agreeing to cuts.

*See Also: India's Climate Change Forecast*, *Interview with Jairam Ramesh, Minister of State for Environment and Forests, India, Council on Foreign Relations*, September 22

<http://www.cfr.org/publication/20248/>

*See Also: India 'could halve emissions by 2030'*, *Financial Times*, September 9

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/9843f400-9d20-11de-9f4a-00144feabdc0.html>

#### **Mr. Obama and Mr. Hu on Warming**, *Editorial*, *New York Times*, September 22

The United States and China must lead the way to an effective global response to the clear global threat of climate change.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/23/opinion/23wed1.html>

*See Also: Hu Jintao's Speech on Climate Change*, September 22

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/23/world/asia/23hu.text.html>

*See Also: Obama's Speech on Climate Change*, September 22

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/23/us/politics/23obama.text.html>

*See Also: Decoupling China in the Climate Debate*, *Elizabeth C. Economy (C.V. Starr Senior Fellow and Director for Asia Studies), Council on Foreign Relations*, September 22

<http://www.cfr.org/publication/20247/>

#### **Proposals Lag Behind Promises on Climate**, *New York Times*, September 22

President Obama told some 100 heads of state gathered at the United Nations that "old divisions" should not block progress on forging an agreement on emissions.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/23/science/earth/23climate.html>

*See Also: Momentum on Climate Pact Is Elusive*, *New York Times*, September 21

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/23/science/earth/23cool.html>

*See Also: Deal on climate change is elusive*, *USA Today*, September 22

[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/climate/2009-09-22-climate-change\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/climate/2009-09-22-climate-change_N.htm)

#### **Europeans Say U.S. Lacks Will on Climate**, *New York Times*, September 20

As world leaders gather in New York for the highest-level conference yet on climate change, European leaders are expressing growing unease about the United States' stance in international talks aimed at reaching a global agreement in Copenhagen in December.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/21/world/europe/21climate.html>

*See Also: U.K. official confident U.S. will act on climate change legislation*, *The Hill*, September 20

Even though climate change legislation has stalled in Congress, a senior British official who is working with U.S. policymakers expressed confidence that the bill's prospects are bright.

<http://thehill.com/homenews/news/59475-uk-official-confident-us-will-act-on-climate-change>

See Also: **US-EU rift clouds climate summit**, *Financial Times*, September 21

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/e4328854-a6da-11de-bd14-00144feabdc0.html>

### **No Climate Change Leader as Nations Meet**, *New York Times*, September 19

While virtually all of the largest developed and developing nations have made domestic commitments toward creating more efficient, renewable sources of energy to cut emissions, none want to take the lead in fighting for significant international emissions reduction targets. Blocs of smaller, poorer nations have their own agendas. The Africans are threatening to walk out of the negotiations if they are not promised \$300 billion in aid.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/20/science/earth/20nations.html>

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **High-Level Food Security Meeting**

*Date & Time:* September 26, 2009; 4:00 p.m. ET

*Location:* Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York, NY

At the July, 2009 G8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy, more than 25 countries and organizations agreed on principles for a comprehensive and coordinated approach to support country-led food security strategies, pledging \$20 billion to that effort. The September 26 meeting will bring together stakeholders to broaden support for these principles and discuss how best to animate them to reduce hunger. Secretary Clinton will deliver opening and closing remarks.

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2009/sept/129465.htm>

### **Fifth Annual Meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI)**

*Date:* September 22-25, 2009

*Location:* Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, New York, NY

The following are among those who have confirmed their attendance at the 2009 CGI Annual Meeting: 35 current and former heads of state, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Larry Summers, Valerie Jarrett, Lloyd Blankfein of Goldman Sachs, Angela Braley of WellPoint, John Chambers of Cisco, James Dimon of JP Morgan Chase & Co., Mike Duke of Wal-Mart, Carlos Ghosn of Nissan Motor, Muhtar Kent of The Coca-Cola Company, Jack Ma of Alibaba Group, Indra Nooyi of PepsiCo, Inc., and Carlos Slim Helú of Grupo Carso S.A. de C.V. For the Fifth Annual Meeting, CGI is introducing four new Action Areas – points of collaboration and intervention – that will guide CGI's program. The 2009 Action Areas are: Harnessing Innovation for Development; Strengthening Infrastructure; Developing Human Capital; Financing a Sustainable Future.

*Agenda:* <http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/Document.Doc?id=460>

See Also: **Clinton Summit Adds Gender Issues, Lures Obama, Lloyd Blankfein**, *Bloomberg*, September 22

The new theme added to the 2009 meeting is investing in women and girls to narrow the gender gap.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=ax3VTW2Ykpt0>

### **UN General Assembly Meeting**

*Date:* September 23-30, 2009

*Location:* New York, NY

President Obama scheduled to address the assembly on September 23.

For a preliminary outline of agenda items, see

[http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/50](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/64/50)

For the Assembly's "Resolution on Agriculture and Food Security," developed March 17, 2009, see

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/484/89/PDF/N0848489.pdf?OpenElement>

### **G-20 Summit**

*Date:* September 24-25, 2009

*Location:* Pittsburgh, PA

<http://www.pittsburghsummit.gov/>

### **7th Biennial U.S.-Africa Business Summit: Realizing the Investment Power of Africa**

*Date:* September 29 – October 1, 2009

*Location:* Washington, D.C.

In addition to an agribusiness plenary, participants will have the opportunity to attend more than 50 industry-specific sessions and workshops on other promising sectors in Africa, including infrastructure, natural resources, health, financing, power, social responsibility and tourism.

<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=a83433d4-f64f-4adb-aeda-0525c94ca0eb>

### **Agriculture for Development and Food Security in the Americas**

*Date:* October 1, 2009

*Location:* Washington, DC

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Organization of American States (OAS) are organizing a high level Food Security Conference on food security in the Americas. The conference will be an opportunity to follow up on the agreements reached at the Fifth Summit of the Americas, in advance of the Week of Agriculture and Rural Life, to be held in Jamaica (October 25-31).

### **Agricultural Adaptation to Climate Change in the Developing World: What will it Cost?**

*Date:* October 5, 2009

*Location:* International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC

<http://www.ifpri.org/event/agricultural-adaptation-climate-change-developing-world-what-will-it-cost>

### **Annual Meeting of the World Bank and IMF**

*Date:* October 6-7, 2009

*Location:* Istanbul, Turkey

<http://www.imf.org/external/am/2009/schedule.htm>

### **How to Feed the World in 2050 High-Level Expert Forum**

*Date:* October 12-13, 2009

*Location:* Rome, Italy

<http://www.fao.org/wsfs/forum2050/about-the-forum/en/>

### **2009 World Food Prize and “Borlaug Dialogue” Symposium: Food, Agriculture, and National Security**

***Date:* October 14-16, 2009**

***Location:* Des Moines, IA**

The formal awarding of the \$250,000 World Food Prize will be the cornerstone of a week-long series of events that will attract several hundred government officials and policymakers, private-sector and agribusiness executives, academics and scientists, and NGO and development-agency leaders from over 65 countries. The “conversations” of the annual Norman E. Borlaug International Symposium will this year focus on the connection between food and agriculture and national and international security and cooperation, with speakers including renowned global CEOs, agricultural ministers and diplomats, noted intelligence and security experts, and other eminent leaders in agricultural and rural development.

**SPEAKERS INCLUDE:** [Bill Gates](#) (Co-Chair, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation); [Tom Vilsack](#) (Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture); [Alonzo Fulgham](#) (Acting Administrator, United States Agency for International Development); [Indra Nooyi](#) (Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PepsiCo); [Patricia Woertz](#) (Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Archer Daniels Midland Company); [Jeffrey Sachs](#) (Director, The Earth Institute at Columbia University); [Namanga Ngongi](#) (President, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa); [Joachim von Braun](#) (Director General, The International Food Policy Research Institute); [Catherine Bertini](#) (Professor, The Maxwell School, Syracuse University; 2003 World Food Prize Laureate); [Per Pinstrup-Andersen](#) (H.E. Babcock Professor of Food, Nutrition and Public Policy, Cornell University; 2001 World Food Prize Laureate); [Richard Williamson](#) (Partner, Winston & Strawn LLP; Former U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan)

**Agenda:** <http://www.worldfoodprize.org/symposium/2009/agenda.htm>

Register Now: <http://www.worldfoodprize.org/Registration/2009/09Registration.htm>  
Speaker's Biographies: <http://www.worldfoodprize.org/symposium/2009/speakers.htm>

### **FAO Summit on Food Security**

Date: November 16-18, 2009

Location: Rome, Italy

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/29219/icode/>

### **CABI Global Summit: Food security in a climate of change**

Date: October 19-21, 2009

Location: London, UK

The CABI Global Summit will bring together environment and agriculture ministers and other senior government officials from around the world. Also attending will be major funding organizations and representatives from international development and corporate organizations. Together, they will consider policies, practices and technologies that can help improve food security against this background of change. [https://www.cabiglobalsummit.com/delegate\\_landing.aspx](https://www.cabiglobalsummit.com/delegate_landing.aspx) (registration available)

### **London Business Conferences hosts 3rd Sustainable Agriculture Summit**

Date: November 30-December 1, 2009

Location: London, UK

<http://www.carbonoffsetsdaily.com/uk-carbonmarketnews/farmers-groups-join-london-sustainable-agriculture-summit-november-2009-12122.htm> (registration available)

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## **AGRICULTURAL ISSUES**

### **World Food Security and Investment in Agriculture, *International Economic Bulletin, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, September 2009***

Hunger is a global problem, and it is getting worse. The FAO estimates that more than one billion people—a full 15 percent of humanity—are hungry today. Until recently, however, policy makers and development workers largely agreed that the problem does not lie with the supply of food. As a result, investment in agriculture has been neglected. However, recent empirical studies suggest that such investment is essential to combating hunger. In addition to increasing food availability, it raises the incomes of the rural poor and enhances their access to food. Policy must shift to reflect this empirical reality.

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=23850&prog=zgp&proj=zie>

### **Property rights: Bid to unlock potential of land, *Financial Times, September 22***

Eighty per cent of Rwandans depend directly on agriculture; they live at a density of 350 people per sq km, the highest in Africa; and the population is growing at 2.6 per cent a year. That is a stark reminder that Rwanda's future depends on what happens to the impoverished millions who hoe the soil. Population pressure is a recipe for social friction when the wounds of the 1994 genocide remain so fresh.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/68d291e4-a654-11de-8c92-00144feabdc0.html>

### **Diseases Threaten Banana Crops in Africa, *VOA News, September 20***

Two separate diseases are destroying banana and plantain crops in Africa. They could threaten food security for millions of Africans who depend on bananas as an important part of their diet.

<http://www.voanews.com/specialenglish/2009-09-20-voa2.cfm>

### **Waste not, want not, *Economist, September 18***

Attention has now turned to more benign feedstocks for biofuels—including wood-chips and other forms of agricultural waste. But most still need lots of energy or expensive enzymes to work.

[http://www.economist.com/daily/columns/techview/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=14483677](http://www.economist.com/daily/columns/techview/displaystory.cfm?story_id=14483677)

**Why I Still Oppose Genetically Modified Crops, *Verlyn Klinkenborg (member of the editorial board, New York Times), Yale Environment360, September 17***

Introduced more than a decade ago, genetically modified crops are now planted on millions of acres throughout the world. But the fundamental questions about them remain — both about their safety and their long-term impact on global food security and the environment.

<http://e360.yale.edu/content/feature.msp?id=2191>

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## FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

### **Capitol Hill backs Pakistan civilian aid plan**, *Financial Times*, September 25

The Obama administration finally secured on Thursday passage of a \$1.5bn a year civilian aid programme for Pakistan that Washington hopes will transform its relationship with Islamabad.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/c6d272e4-a958-11de-9b7f-00144feabdc0.html>

*See Also: U.S. Fears Pakistan Aid Will Feed Graft*, *New York Times*, September 20

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/21/world/asia/21aid.html>

### **Hunger Crisis Worsens in East Africa as Boreholes, Funds Dry Up**, *Bloomberg*, September 23

Eastern Africa is threatened with famine after drought parched crops and the financial crisis sapped funds for food relief, aid groups said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=aBVwDLPT0tZc>

### **President Obama and the Spirit of Global Development Partnership**, *Noam Unger (Brookings Fellow and Policy Director, Foreign Assistance Reform Project)*, *Huffington Post*, September 23

In the face of compounding global crises threatening development, the outdated U.S. foreign assistance system must catch up to a changed landscape of influential actors including corporations, mega-foundations, faith-based organizations and other non-governmental groups. Within the context of broader foreign assistance reform, the Obama administration and Congress have an opportunity to retool official U.S. efforts to more effectively and efficiently support global development by adapting to this new ecosystem.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/noam-unger/president-obama-and-the-s\\_b\\_297017.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/noam-unger/president-obama-and-the-s_b_297017.html)

### **Gates Foundation to make \$400 million in investments**, *Seattle Times*, September 22

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is planning to use its massive endowment to offer \$400 million in new low-interest loans, loan guarantees and equity investments. The \$400 million will be used for a range of new opportunities, including charter school expansion, agricultural financing for small farmers in Africa, and investment in global health technologies, according to people familiar with the plan.

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/thebusinessofgiving/2009922082\\_gates\\_foundation\\_to\\_make\\_400\\_m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/thebusinessofgiving/2009922082_gates_foundation_to_make_400_m.html)

### **China Spreads Aid in Africa, With a Catch**, *New York Times*, September 21

China, which is not a member of the O.E.C.D., is operating under rules that the West has largely abandoned. It mixes aid and business in secret government-to-government agreements. It requires that foreign aid contracts be awarded to Chinese contractors it picks through a closed-door bidding process in Beijing.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/22/world/africa/22namibia.html>

### **Is Afghanistan the New Africa?**, *Foreign Policy*, September 21

But the lack of coordination and focus among aid efforts has hurt. So has the United States' military-led insistence on pouring aid into the Taliban-saturated south, to the neglect of central and northern regions that could have more easily been made a bulwark for an Afghan government. Agriculture and other crucial sectors have gotten short shrift.

[http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2009/09/21/is\\_afghanistan\\_the\\_new\\_africa](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2009/09/21/is_afghanistan_the_new_africa)

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## ENVIRONMENT (WATER/CLIMATE)

### **Copenhagen and Beyond**, *CGIAR, September 2009*

Once a bit player in climate change negotiations, agriculture now plays a role more in line with its significance in the run up to Copenhagen.

[http://www.cgiar.org/enews/september2009/story\\_02.html](http://www.cgiar.org/enews/september2009/story_02.html)

### **East Africa's drought: A catastrophe is looming**, *Economist, September 24*

This year's drought is the worst in east Africa since 2000, and possibly since 1991. Famine stalks the land. The production of Kenyan maize, the country's staple, is likely to drop by one-third, hitting poor farmers' families hardest. The International Committee of the Red Cross says famine in Somalia is going to be worse than ever.

[http://www.economist.com/world/middleeast-africa/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=14506436](http://www.economist.com/world/middleeast-africa/displaystory.cfm?story_id=14506436)

*See Also: UN warns over East Africa hunger*, *BBC News, September 24*

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8273897.stm>

*See Also: East Africa faces a 'perfect storm' as humanitarian disasters combine*, *Deutsche Welle, September 23*

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,4711350,00.html>

### **Bigger Than Africa**, *Huffington Post, September 22*

There is an issue even bigger than Africa that demands our attention: the global water and sanitation crisis. Though many do not realize it, almost two-thirds of the people without access to clean water live outside of Africa. And the number of those in India without improved sanitation is nearly double those in Africa.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jonathan-greenblatt/bigger-than-africa\\_b\\_294788.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jonathan-greenblatt/bigger-than-africa_b_294788.html)

### **The Security Implications of Climate Change**, *Huffington Post, September 22*

Climate security, energy security, food security and water security are now all inextricably linked. There is no long term and stable security outcome that is viable unless all four challenges are met, understood and resolved.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/justin-mundy/the-security-implications\\_b\\_294851.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/justin-mundy/the-security-implications_b_294851.html)

### **Bangladeshis live on the edge as sea rises**, *Financial Times, September 21*

But the human dislocation that unchecked global warming could cause in the Maldives is dwarfed by the scale of the threat to Bangladesh, one of the world's most densely populated countries. Scientists see it as the nation that will be hardest hit by the consequences of climate change.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/8c60de14-a6cb-11de-bd14-00144feabdc0.html>

### **Guatemala Gripped by Severe Drought**, *VOA News, September 19*

United Nations agencies say Guatemala is facing the worst drought in 30 years. They report some 2.5 million people in 21 provinces are affected and in need of urgent food assistance. The effects of the weather phenomenon known as El Nino have extended the dry spell in Guatemala, triggering a food crisis in the country. The drought has caused a reduction and loss of agricultural production.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2009-09-19-voa14.cfm>

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## GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

### **Will the G-20 do anything about poverty?**, *Foreign Policy (Passport Blog), September 24*

Oxfam International and Save the Children, two of the world's largest and most influential NGOs working on global poverty, are separately urging the G-20 to do more to protect the world's most vulnerable populations from the continued fallout of the global economic crisis.

[http://blog.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2009/09/24/will\\_the\\_g\\_20\\_do\\_anything\\_about\\_poverty](http://blog.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2009/09/24/will_the_g_20_do_anything_about_poverty)

### **For the World's Hungry, the Recession Is Far from Over**, *TIME, September 21*

In 2009, rich western governments have kept a tighter grip on their purse strings, leading to significant funding shortfalls for international organizations dependent on government contributions.

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1925099,00.html>

**Keeping Poverty on the Global Agenda**, *Georgetown/On Faith, The Washington Post, September 20*

This bitter year of painful economic news has translated into billions of stories of disappointment and misery. The world's poorest people and societies have felt the impact most harshly. With hopes rising for recovery, there is a real danger that the challenge of poverty will be neglected in the scramble to put the crisis behind us.

[http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/georgetown/2009/09/global\\_agendas\\_first\\_and\\_last.html](http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/georgetown/2009/09/global_agendas_first_and_last.html)

**Small change**, *Boston Globe, September 20*

Billions of dollars and a Nobel Prize later, it looks like 'microlending' doesn't actually do much to fight poverty.

[http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/ideas/articles/2009/09/20/small\\_change\\_does\\_microlending\\_actually\\_fight\\_poverty/](http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/ideas/articles/2009/09/20/small_change_does_microlending_actually_fight_poverty/)

**Two million under-5s starving in Bangladesh: UN**, *Agence France-Presse, September 19*

Millions of impoverished Bangladeshis are barely sustaining a hand-to-mouth existence that would be wrenched from their grasp by any fresh "economic shock," according to the UN food aid agency. Bangladesh was cushioned from the worst ravages of the global financial meltdown, but experts warn remittances and exports could be badly hit towards the end of this year.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jgXpCQ-01Tz9n7SpZDVL4FcDmE0w>

**False Pledges to Africa in the Crisis**, *AllAfrica.com, September 17*

Obama also aims to strengthen 'soft power' approaches by increasing support for the State Department and USAID worldwide. Foreign assistance will jump from US\$1.5 billion to US\$2.73 billion in the coming year, with US\$450 million for Africa. But these numbers pale in comparison to the US\$800 million 'security' budget for Africa.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200909180988.html>

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## WOMEN

**A Changing Tide of Opinion for Girls and Women**, *Sarah Brown (Wife of British Prime Minister Gordon Brown), Huffington Post, September 24*

What organisations as diverse as corporate foundations like Nike's, Novo's, Exxon Mobil's and Goldman Sachs', and girl's education charity Camfed and the safe motherhood advocates, the White Ribbon Alliance and the World Food Programme have understood is that early investment in girls and women -- with education, good nutrition and economic empowerment -- yields the greatest of results with rising economic contributions of those invested-in girls and women for themselves, their families, their communities and our world.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sarah-brown/a-changing-tide-of-opinion\\_b\\_299033.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sarah-brown/a-changing-tide-of-opinion_b_299033.html)

**Amy Meyer: Leading Efforts to Spur the Economy in a Volatile Region**, *Washington Post, September 21*

Amy Meyer of USAID is charged with leading the nation's effort to spur economic development in Pakistan, a daunting job in one of the world's most volatile regions. Meyer has used the funds to create a diverse suite of programs dealing with horticulture, livestock, small business development and projects with a particular focus on women. Within Meyer's "Empower Pakistan: Agriculture" program, as many as one million women could join dairy cooperatives. The milk they collect will be stored in a shared chiller and then sold in markets. The women will receive the income from these transactions.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/09/21/AR2009092100617.html>

**A Team Player Who Stands Apart**, *Washington Post, September 19*

The impression of many foreign policy experts is that Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has her own agenda, such as her focus on women's rights. With her political hat on, Clinton said she feels an urgent need to help explain to Americans -- "somebody who is an unemployed autoworker or a family worried about losing their home or a small-business person struggling with health-care costs" -- why it is important to spend money on curbing maternal mortality or improving girls' education overseas.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/09/18/AR2009091803739.html>

*See Also: Interview of Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Washington Post, September 14*  
So I thought, and the President agreed when I presented it to him, that we needed to demonstrate that our first list of priorities includes Africa. And what we're doing on food security, what we're doing on climate change, and Africa has a big role in all of that. And so we wanted to send that message. And I think we did.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/09/16/AR2009091602467.html>

*See Also: Remarks at Female Heads of State and Foreign Ministers Luncheon, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, September 24*

As many of you know, I have advocated for many years that women are the key to progress and prosperity around the world. I believe that. I know that many of you do as well. And the evidence increasingly supports that assertion. We know that investments in women yield very big dividends, and we want women to be given the tools so that they can make the most out of their own lives.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/09/129598.htm>

#### **UN says Climate Change Hurting African Women, VOA News, September 18**

A U.N. official has told a regional conference in Togo that climate change in West Africa is disproportionately affecting women and girls. Cecile Mukarubuga says that "the negative impact of climate change effects the agriculture and food production, and we all know that in Africa women contribute to 80 percent of the food production." Mukarubuga says climate change is affecting drop out rates among young girls who quit school to help their struggling mothers.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2009-09-17-voa27.cfm>

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## **MARKET ACCESS AND TRADE ISSUES**

#### **Connecting the world, Economist, September 25**

Mobile phones have proved to be a boon for the poor world. An extra ten mobile phones per 100 people in a typical developing country boosts growth in GDP per person by 0.8 percentage points, according to a recent study. The next challenge is to expand the use of mobile technology to access the internet. Despite huge strides in producing cheap netbooks that connect via mobile networks, the mobile phone may still provide the cheapest way to access the internet in the developing world.

[http://www.economist.com/daily/news/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=14529802](http://www.economist.com/daily/news/displaystory.cfm?story_id=14529802)

#### **Sugar rises on Brazil supply concern, Financial Times, September 24**

Unica, Brazil's sugar cane industry association, said the world's largest cane growing region, the Centre South, would process 529.5m tonnes of cane in the 2009-10 season, a 3.7 per cent reduction from a previous production forecast made in April. Wet weather has disrupted the peak harvesting period and also affected yields. Global sugar stocks have already shrunk to record lows as India, the world's largest consumer, was forced to import substantial volumes of sugar to meet its domestic needs.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/2291d868-a90e-11de-b8bd-00144feabdc0.html>

#### **Trade becomes the poor relation, Financial Times, September 23**

All the G20 leaders are happy to pay lip service to the need to eschew protectionism and will no doubt endorse last July's call by the Group of Eight industrialised countries and five leading emerging economies to conclude the Doha global trade talks by the end of next year. Yet there is little sign that the summiteers are ready to go beyond a statement of lofty principles and flesh out the difficult political decisions needed to put them into practice.

[http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/5dcb0884-a7d6-11de-b0ee-00144feabdc0.dwp\\_uuid=40df5a84-a7dd-11de-b0ee-00144feabdc0.html](http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/5dcb0884-a7d6-11de-b0ee-00144feabdc0.dwp_uuid=40df5a84-a7dd-11de-b0ee-00144feabdc0.html)

**WTO chief Lamy cautious on Doha prospects**, *Reuters*, September 22

It is uncertain whether trading powers will make the political effort needed over the rest of this year to complete a new global trade deal in 2010, the head of the World Trade Organisation said. Briefing the group's 153 members on his message to this week's G20 summit in Pittsburgh, WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy refrained from his usual comments that a deal in the long-running Doha round can be reached.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-42628020090922>

*See Also: More meetings, no movement in intense Doha trade talks*, *Reuters*, September 18

<http://in.reuters.com/article/economicNews/idINIndia-42564220090918>

**We should find a global package on food security**, *Economic Times (India)*, September 24

In an interview, Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel says that the EU would support special safeguards for Indian farmers and push for the development objective of the Doha round of WTO negotiations.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/5049026.cms>

**US health reform 'threatens Doha'**, *Financial Times*, September 20

America's all-consuming debate over healthcare reform is threatening to snuff out efforts to conclude the Doha round of world trade negotiations, Europe's top trade chief, Baroness Ashton, said.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/e769f70e-a618-11de-8c92-00144feabdc0.html>

**Milk 'strikes' and shortages hit Europe as UK dairy industry reels from crisis**, *Guardian (U.K.)*, September 20

Dairy farmers in the UK and across Europe are quitting because prices are so low. Some are refusing to deliver their milk, sparking fears of widespread shortages that could begin this week.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/sep/20/milk-strikes-dairy-industry-farming>

*See Also: EU farmers in milk lake protest*, *Al Jazeera English*, September 22

<http://english.aljazeera.net/news/europe/2009/09/200992272217170908.html>

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## AGRIBUSINESS

**Agriculture at a Crossroads**, *Global Harvest Initiative Symposium Series, The Newseum*, September 22

The first in a series of Global Harvest Initiative symposiums brought together thought leaders across the agriculture, environmental, food security, international trade and food industry sectors to critically evaluate the challenges faced by global agriculture today, to anticipate how they will evolve in the future, and to consider the actions necessary to meet these demands in an environmentally sustainable manner. Speakers included The Honorable Richard Lugar, The Honorable Jim McGovern, Dr. Rajiv Shah, **Ms. Catherine Bertini**, **Mr. Dan Glickman**, **Dr. Robert L. Thompson**, and agribusiness CEOs Patricia Woertz (Archer Daniels Midland Company), Ellen Kullman (DuPont), Samuel Allen (John Deere), and Hugh Grant (Monsanto Company).

*Final Agenda:*

<http://www.globalharvestinitiative.org/Agriculture%20at%20a%20Crossroads%20Final%20Agenda.pdf>

**Deere Chief Allen Doesn't See Recovery in Business Until 2010**, *Bloomberg*, September 23

Deere is planning to increase its market presence in Asia, Africa and the rest of the developing world by increasing sales of products tailored to those regions, Deere & Co. Chief Executive Officer Samuel Allen said. Between 2006 and 2008, revenue grew more than six times as fast outside the U.S. and Canada as it did within that region. North America will remain important while smaller tractors and other equipment are adapted to smaller third-world farms, he said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=aG5kZ6IofpQc>

**ADM Says Crop-Yield Gains Enough to Meet Food, Ethanol Demand**, *Bloomberg*, September 23

Archer Daniels Midland Co., the world's largest grain processor, expects improved yields will deliver enough crops during the next 40 years to supply rising demand for ethanol without hurting the food supply.

Increased corn yields in the U.S., commercialization of cellulosic-ethanol technology and the development of

alternative biofuel crops on marginal land worldwide should ease conflicts between food and fuel, Chief Executive Officer Patricia Woertz said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=arKqhOxl6n6g>

**Cadbury tries to force Kraft's hand**, *Financial Times*, September 21

Cadbury approached the panel on Monday to ask Kraft either to make a formal takeover proposal or walk away for six months, said people close to the matter, after Kraft made an indicative offer in late August.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/406b1c78-a701-11de-bd14-00144feabdc0.html>

**Advice on Doing Business in Africa**, *BusinessWeek*, September 18

There's a great deal of negative publicity surrounding Africa, and that tends to be all that people hear. But in reality there are 53 countries on the continent and in many of them, there are an enormous amount of positive things happening. There are extraordinarily promising possibilities in agribusiness, infrastructure, and tourism.

[http://www.businessweek.com/smallbiz/content/sep2009/sb20090918\\_418026.htm](http://www.businessweek.com/smallbiz/content/sep2009/sb20090918_418026.htm)

*See Also: Africa Called Booming Opportunity for US Investors*, *VOA News*, September 4

Despite the global economic crisis, US investors are being told to strongly consider putting their money in Africa. US firms invest about \$40 billion a year in Africa. Most of that is in energy.

Agribusiness is also a major investment target.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/Africa/2009-09-04-voa11.cfm>

**Cargill and Yum! Brands to Lead Newly-Launched Business Council to End Global Hunger**, *Press Release*, September 10

The Friends of the World Food Program announced the official launch of the Business Council to End Global Hunger. Cargill and Yum! Brands, two global corporations, will lead this critical effort for the U.S. private sector. The Business Council to End Global Hunger will encourage trade associations, companies and other private sector entities in the United States to support the Roadmap to End Global Hunger – an advocacy initiative laying out a comprehensive strategy for the U.S. government to set the stage for a permanent end to global hunger and poverty.

[http://www.friendsofwfp.org/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=hrKJIXPFIqE&b=5031511&content\\_id={2B3A90EE-7233-4565-96E0-743D7D296FF9}&notoc=1](http://www.friendsofwfp.org/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=hrKJIXPFIqE&b=5031511&content_id={2B3A90EE-7233-4565-96E0-743D7D296FF9}&notoc=1)

*Banner Photograph: © Ray Witlin / World Bank*