

OPENING SESSION

SUNDAY, 22 AUGUST

17,00h

OPENING ADDRESS

AUDITORIUM I

Some reflections on sustainable development, diversity, and human dignity

Jorge Sampaio,
United Nations High Representative
for the Alliance of Civilizations,
Lisbon, Portugal

Dr. Jorge Sampaio, a former President of the Republic of Portugal, has an internationally outstanding political career with a particular attention to social and cultural affairs. He was Member of Parliament (1979-95), Mayor of Lisbon (1989-95), Member of the European Human Rights Commission of the Council of Europe (1979-84). From 1990 to 1995 he was President of the Union of Portuguese-speaking Cities (UCCLA) and in 1990 was elected Vice-President of the Union of Iberian-American Cities. He was also elected President of the Eurocities Movement (1990) and President of the World Federation of United Cities (1992). Jorge Sampaio was elected President of the Republic of Portugal in 1996 and re-elected for a second term in 2001. In May 2006 he was appointed by Kofi Anann as the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy to Stop TB and in April 2007 was appointed by Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General, as UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations. In February 2007, he was designated Chairman of the Consultative Council of the University of Lisbon. He holds several Portuguese and Foreign Honours and Awards including the European Prize Carlos V, in 2004.



In his intervention, Jorge Sampaio will address the main challenges confronting sustainable development in the 21st century, stressing the importance of preserving not only bio-diversity but cultural diversity also. He will elaborate on the role of the United Nations in promoting the Millennium Development Goals' agenda and how it relates to sustainable development and human rights for all. He will also share with participants in the 28th International Horticultural Congress his views on the role that horticulture can play to build a more just world and how horticulture's scientific components relate to society at large.



OPENING COLLOQUIUM

HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE AND THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

18,30h

AUDITORIUM I

Chairperson:

Norman Looney,
President of the ISHS



Meeting an ever increasing global demand for food, with a finite land resource and an increasingly problematic production environment, will require both the ingenuity of science and a richly stocked storehouse of genetic resources. Horticultural scientists and educators harbour a deep concern about the issues of hunger and rural poverty identified by the UN Millennium Development Goals and they recognize that horticultural science and industry can contribute importantly

to improving both health and livelihoods of the world's poor.

This Colloquium will address that potential from two perspectives. The first will be to focus on the economic botany of horticulture; on the impressive array of plants that can be utilized now or in the future to nurture and nourish the world's poor. Dr. Cary Fowler, Executive Director of the Global Crop Diversity Trust, will call attention to the responsibility of horticultural science and industry to identify, describe, utilize, and protect from loss the broadest possible range of genera, species and cultivars of horticultural plants.

The second perspective comes from renowned European molecular biologist, Dr. Pere Puigdomènech. He will address the potential of genomics and others tools and products of molecular biology to achieve the gains in crop productivity, adaptability, and quality that will be needed to support an additional three billion people by mid-century; and do this without exacerbating the loss of habitats where potentially useful horticultural plant genetic resources remain undiscovered or under-utilized. He will also reflect on how these new tools and gene-altered products must earn public acceptance if they are to achieve their full potential.

Cary Fowler,
Executive Director,
The Global Crop Diversity Trust,
Rome, Italy



Biosketch:

Dr. Cary Fowler was Professor and Director of Research in the Department for International Environment & Development Studies at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences and also Senior Advisor to the Director General of Bioversity International.

Cary's career in the conservation and use of crop diversity spans 30 years. He was Program Director for the National Sharecroppers Fund / Rural Advancement Fund, a US-based NGO engaged in plant genetic resources education and advocacy.

In 1985 he was awarded the Right Livelihood Award (the "Alternative Nobel Prize"). In the 1990s, he headed the International Conference and Programme on Plant Genetic Resources at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He drafted and supervised negotiations of FAO's Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources, adopted by 150 countries in 1996. That same year he served as Special Assistant to the Secretary General of the World Food Summit.

He is a past-member of the National Plant Genetic Resources Board of the U.S. and the Board of Trustees of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center in Mexico, and is currently Chair of the International Advisory Council of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. He holds a position as Associate Curator at the Memphis City Family of Museums.

**CONSERVING DIVERSITY:
THE CHALLENGE OF
COOPERATION**

Plant genetic resources for food and agriculture are the quintessential global public good. No nation is self-reliant. A viable market for their conservation and trade does not exist. The importance of these resources is likely to grow in the context of climate change, energy and water constraints. Yet, true international cooperation to conserve and make them available is difficult to achieve. What are the principles that might guide us in creating an effective Global System for conserving plant genetic resources? How can we get agriculture ready to meet the challenges of this century? What is the way forward in this International Year of Biodiversity?

Pere Puigdoménech,
Institute of Molecular Biology, CID-CSIC,
Barcelona, Spain



Biosketch:

Research Professor at the Department for Molecular Genetics, Director of Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics, CSIC-IRTA-UAB, Barcelona, Spain.

Studies in Physics (University of Barcelona, 1970). Thèse de l'Université, mention Chimie Physique (Montpellier, France, 1974). Ph.D. in Biology (Autonomous University of Barcelona, 1975). Postdoctoral at Biophysics Laboratory, Portsmouth Polytechnic, UK and Max-Planck-Institut für Molekulare Genetik, Berlin, Germany.

Research fellow at the Departament de Genètica Molecular, Centre d'Investigació i Desenvolupament (since 1981); Presently Profesor de Investigación del CSIC, Departament de Genètica Molecular and Director, Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics, CSIC-IRTA-UAB

Member of Academia Europaea and EMBO. Member of Institut d'Estudis Catalans and the Royal Academy of Sciences and Arts of Barcelona and corresponding member of Académie d'Agriculture de France. Member of the Commission on Biology and Society, European Science Foundation (2000-2001); Member of the Consultative Forum on Biotechnology USA-EU (2000); Member of the Scientific Steering Committee, European Union (2000-2002); Member of the European Group of Ethics of Sciences and New

**NEW BIOLOGICAL
APPROACHES FOR
AGRICULTURE. A GENERAL
PERSPECTIVE**

The demands for agricultural production are expanding at a global scale. World population is increasing and with it the demand for safe and healthy food. The United Nations Millennium Development Goals call attention to the hunger and malnutrition already afflicting nearly one billion people and call for solutions. The demand for new agricultural products such as biofuels is also increasing and we know that some of the methods employed in agriculture are aggressive to the environment. In the past the demands for increased agricultural production were solved by increasing the area of cultivated land, a practice that contradicts

Technologies (2002-2010), Chairman of the Ethics Committee of CSIC (2008); Narcís Monturiol Medal (1992); Award of the Fundació Catalana per la Recerca (2000); Main research subjects: Plant molecular Biology and Genomics, Gene regulation mechanisms. Funded by Spanish and European Agencies in collaboration with public and private groups, coordinator of the Spanish Cucurbit Genomics Project (2008-2012).

the needs to preserve the biodiversity of forests and wetlands and reduce the contribution of agriculture to prevent climate change. Fortunately, our knowledge of the molecules that form the building blocks of crop plants is growing exponentially. It allows us to understand how, in the past, plants have been adapted to the needs of agricultural production and to develop methods to face our future challenges. The database of genome sequences from plant species is expanding and methods are being developed to analyze complex phenomena such as quantitative genetic traits or metabolic pathways. Among the new products we also find genetically modified plants with new traits introduced by using molecular methods. However, a survey of what has happened in recent years and specifically in Europe shows that the introduction of new technologies may be at the same time an industrial success and a source of social conflicts. It is important that we find the conditions that allow using the potential of plant genomics, not only for a better understanding of the biology of plants but also to solve the problems and challenges facing agriculture.

“INNOVATION IN HORTICULTURE FOR HEALTH AND PROSPERITY”

GlobalHort is an international consortium for the promotion of innovation in horticulture, with a public-private partnership approach



Core activities

- Promotes and advocates horticulture for development
- Networks diverse and dispersed communities
- Facilitates funding and coaching of research for development projects
- Stimulates training, education and capacity building at regional level

Empowering Women



GlobalHort in action

- Creates and co-organizes events like the All Africa Horticulture Congress
 - Nairobi 2009
 - Nelspruit 2012
- Organizes workshops and conferences for stimulating regional coordination
 - Concept of regional innovation platform (CORIPHA)
 - Series of interactive seminars on horticulture in Southern and Eastern Africa

Reducing Child Mortality

Improving Maternal Health

Visit www.globalhort.org and support our activities!

