



## Speaker Biographies

### Hartmann

Hartmann has been Director General of the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Ibadan, Nigeria since November 2001. He was born and spent his early years in Tanzania. His international experience includes work in Africa, the Caribbean, and Latin America. His most recent appointments were Professor and Director of International Programs at the University of Florida. While at the University of Florida, he worked with the faculty on institutional linkages with universities and research institutions in Uganda, Cameroon, Nigeria, Nicaragua, the Netherlands, and Honduras.

### Venâncio Massingue

Venâncio Massingue is the Minister of Science and Technology, Mozambique. He holds a Doctoral degree in Information and Communication Technology Application and Management from Technology University of Delft, in the Netherlands. While he was the Director of Informatics Centre at Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), he was a key player in bringing the Internet to Mozambique. From 1996 to 1998, he masterminded the development of the Mozambique ICT Policy and ICT Strategy that were later approved by the Cabinet in 2000 and 2002, respectively. Presently he is a member of Mozambican Informatics Policy Task Force for Development of a National Information Policy. He has published a number of articles and publications in the field of ICT for national, regional and international institutions and organizations. In 1998, he received the UNESCO Albert Einstein Medal for Science and Technology.

### Soares Nhaca

Soares Nhaca was appointed Minister of Agriculture of Mozambique in December 2007. He was formerly Deputy Labor Minister, and has also served as Governor of the central province of Manica. Before entering government employment, he was general secretary of Mozambique's main trade union federation, the OTM.

### Katherine Sierra

Katherine Sierra, Chair of CGIAR and Vice President for Sustainable Development at the World Bank, has overall responsibility for strategies and work in agriculture and rural development, energy, the environment and natural resource management, social development, transport, urban policies, and water. Ms Sierra, an urban planning specialist, joined the World Bank in 1978 and has worked principally in Latin America and East Asia, holding increasingly senior positions in operational units. She served as Vice President, Human Resources (2000-2004) and Vice President, Infrastructure (2004-2006) before assuming her current position.

### Joachim von Braun

Joachim von Braun has been Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) since 2002. As IFPRI's Director General, he guides and oversees the Institute's efforts to provide research-based sustainable solutions for ending hunger and malnutrition. Before becoming IFPRI's Director General in 2002, he served as Director of the Center for Development Research at the University of Bonn, Germany, and was Professor at the Institute for Agricultural Policy and Applied Economics, University of Bonn. Dr. von Braun has

done economics research at global and regional levels and in Egypt, Sub Sahara Africa, China, and Russia. He has published extensively, chiefly on the topics of economic policy, agriculture change, science and technology and on policy issues relating to trade, hunger, health, and nutrition. He was President of the International Association of Agricultural Economists in 2000-2003, is a member of Academies in Germany and China, Fellow of AAAS, and serves numerous scientific societies, international organizations, and advisory councils/boards around the world.

## **Ren Wang**

As director of the CGIAR, Dr. Wang oversees the world's foremost international agricultural research system, whose 64 members support a network of 15 centers and more than 8,000 staff and scientists in their collaborative work with governments, NGOs, private businesses, and agricultural producers in over 100 countries. Prior to leading the CGIAR, Dr. Wang served as deputy director-general for research at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines and was a trustee of the International Potato Center in Peru. Dr. Wang began his career in agriculture as a farm worker in his home province of Shanxi, China. Beginning in 1985, he was a researcher and professor at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, where he pioneered China's program on managing invasive exotic plants using biological controls. He was later named vice president of CAAS, and also led the USDA-China Biological Control Laboratory and the International Institute of Biological Control in the United Kingdom. Dr. Wang holds degrees in plant protection, biological control, and entomology from Shanxi Agricultural University, CAAS, and Virginia Tech.