



**First Announcement
International Conference
Policies against Hunger VIII:**

Improving Governance for Food Security and Nutrition

9 - 11 June 2010, Berlin

Since 2001, the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV) hosts the “Policies against Hunger” conference series which gathers annually high-level participants to deal with important issues of global food security. This year’s conference addresses the issue of “Improving Governance for Food Security and Nutrition”. Following the World Food Summit 2009 in Rome and the reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the objective of this event is to create a discussion forum on the subject of governance, food security and nutrition.

Background

Over the past years, the importance of efficient governance , i.e., international cooperation among governments, international organisations, civil society, academia and private sector to fight and overcome hunger has taken centre stage in the international debate, creating new perspectives for the global architecture for food security. The reform of the Committee on World Food Security adopted in October 2009 is a landmark in this process and opens a chance for significantly improved governance at global as well as at regional and national level. There is a widely recognized demand to improve the coordination, convergence, coherence and accountability of national and international actors in the fight against hunger and its causes. The urgent need for action is reinforced by the statistics, according to which the number of people suffering from hunger in the world has reached an alarming historic high of 1.02 billion (published by FAO in 2009).

With this conference, the Federal Government of Germany emphasizes its sustained commitment to contribute to the realization of the Right to Food.

Main Topics of the Conference

The conference aims at developing strategies for action and recommendations for policymakers, civil society, academia and the private sector. Four Working Groups will discuss the following topics and develop recommendations for action:

1. Global coordination and the future role of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS),
2. Linking national and regional strategies for food security and nutrition to the global level,
3. Promoting private sector activities for food security and nutrition,
4. Integrating nutrition into global strategies against hunger.

The findings and recommendations of the Working Groups will be presented to and discussed at the final plenary session, and subsequently handed over to the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection.

Target Audience

The conference is addressed to government representatives and members of parliament at German and international level, representatives of international organizations dealing with food issues, decision makers and interested actors of civil society involved in the areas of world food security, agriculture, development cooperation and human rights, academia as well as representatives of agriculture and the food industry.

Registration

If you are interested in participating in the conference, please visit our website, fill in the form “expression of interest”, and contact the Conference Secretariat by 19 April 2010. The official invitation will be sent at the end of April. Please note that due to limited capacities at the venue, it is not possible to attend the conference without invitation. If you have any further questions, please contact the Conference Secretariat.

Conference Secretariat

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Website

www.policies-against-hunger.de