



For Immediate Release

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Clive James, ISAAA, joins the board of the ABIC Foundation

Saskatoon, SK: The Chairman of the board of the ABIC Foundation, Mr. Jerome Konecsni, is pleased to announce the appointment of Clive James, Chair of the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA).

ISAAA is a small, responsive, non-bureaucratic, international network with three Centers in North America, Africa and Asia. The network is composed of the AfriCenter in Nairobi, Kenya; AmeriCenter in Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; and the SEAsiaCenter in Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines.

Konecsni stated “at its very core, the ABIC Foundation supports the development of agricultural biotechnology as a major force in developing, creating and ensuring a sustainable planet. The appointment of Dr. James to the ABIC board enhances our mission of linking the global science, business, government and development communities to enable the application of sustainable agricultural biotechnologies for the good of all.”

“Whereas biotech crops are not a panacea, a compelling body of scientific evidence, generated in 29 countries around the world during the last 15 years, clearly indicate that they should be an essential element in any global strategy designed to achieve food security, sustainability and a more just society,” stated James. He went on to add “biotech crops offer multiple and significant benefits, which is why 100 million farmers have adopted biotech crops faster than any other crop technology - an unprecedented 87 fold increase in hectares between 1996 and 2010.”

As part of the commitment to internationalization and development of the third world, ABIC financially supports a travel bursary for researchers from developing countries to attend an ABIC conference. ABIC Conferences move around the globe, offering the opportunity to explore, discuss and understand many global challenges and triumphs facing agricultural biotechnology. The 2011 conference will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa; 2012 in New Zealand, and Calgary Alberta Canada in 2013. A call for proposals is currently underway for ABIC 2014.

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Visit the ABIC website at:
www.abic.ca

The ABIC Foundation and the **Agricultural Biotechnology International Center (ABIC)** are located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. ABIC Foundation's goal is to ensure ongoing opportunities for continuous learning and networking within the agbiotech community. The Foundation performs advisory, promotional and supportive functions for ABIC conferences and strives to position the conference at the forefront of agbiotech innovation. The ABIC Foundation's mission is dedicated to linking the global science, business, government and development communities to enable the application of sustainable agricultural biotechnologies for the good of all. Its focus for the future lies in the pursuit of three interrelated and interdependent strategic thrusts of Connecting People, Building Capacity and Enabling Progress through Commercialization.

The International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA) is a not-for-profit international organization that shares the benefits of crop biotechnology to various stakeholders, particularly resource-poor farmers in developing countries, through knowledge sharing initiatives and the transfer and delivery of proprietary biotechnology applications. ISAAA's global knowledge sharing network and public and private sector partnerships in the research and development continuum; provide a powerful combination of science-based information and appropriate technology to those who need to make informed decisions about their acceptance and use. In addition, an array of support services completes the holistic approach to agricultural development and ensures effective implementation and timely delivery of crop biotechnologies. These services include capacity building for policy makers and scientists; regulatory oversight on such issues as biosafety and food safety; and impact assessment.