



Media Advisory
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Margaret Catley-Carlson at Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference (ABIC 2010)

Saskatoon, SK: Water, water everywhere... but often too much in one place and not enough in another. Protecting the world's water supplies is Margaret Catley-Carlson's passion. She is chair of the Crop Diversity Trust and one of 66 industry experts to speak at **ABIC 2010 *Bridging Biology & Business***.

The Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference returns to Saskatoon September 12-15, 2010, hosted by Ag-West Bio. ABIC, which began in Saskatoon in 1996, has traveled the world: Australia, Ireland, Germany and Thailand have each hosted the conference. ABIC 2010 is expected to draw 1000 delegates from around the world to hear a stellar line-up of presenters in three streams: **Energy, Health and Sustainability**.

Catley-Carlson has been working tirelessly for two decades on water related problems around the world. She is actively involved in organizations that apply science and knowledge to national and international problems in freshwater governance, health, agriculture, environmental protection, international development and development finance. At ABIC 2010, the title of her presentation is "Staying Healthy in an Unhealthy World: The Water Dimension."

Beginning her career as a diplomat, Catley-Carlson has been Deputy Minister of Health in Canada. Currently, she is chair of the Board of the Crop Diversity Trust, the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Water and the Foresight Advisory Committee for Group Suez Environment. She is a patron of the Global Water Partnership, and a member of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board, the Rosenberg Forum and of the Council of Advisors of the World Food Prize and serves on the Boards of the IMWI (the International Center for Water Resource Management); the IFDC (Fertilizer Management) and IIED - the International Institute for Environment and Development. She has been chair of the ICARDA and CABI Boards and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, vice chair of the IDRC Board and a commissioner of water for the 21st Century and a Board Member of the Biblioteca Alexandrina. She was president of the Canadian International Development Agency 1983-89; deputy executive director of UNICEF in New York 1981-1983; president of the Population Council in New York 1993-98; and deputy minister of the Department of Health and Welfare of Canada 1989-92. Catley-Carlson has ten honorary degrees and is an officer of the Order of Canada.

For more about Catley-Carlson and other confirmed speakers please visit the ABIC 2010 website: **www.abic.ca/abic2010**

For more information about ABIC 2010, please contact:

Brenda Scott
Senior Event Planner
Ag-West Bio Inc.

Tel: 306-668-2650
Email: abic2010@agwest.sk.ca

ABIC background

In 1996, Ag-West Bio created the first major international conference devoted to science and business development in agbiotech. In 1996 the first Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference (ABIC) in Saskatoon hosted 700 delegates from 29 countries. Since then, the conference has traveled the world: It has been hosted in Germany, Australia, Ireland Thailand, returning to Canada. ABIC 2010 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan marks 10 conferences. The ABIC 2010 planning committee comprises the top biotech experts from Saskatchewan's life science cluster. A tradeshow, an international poster competition and a public forum are included in this premier conference.

Ag-West Bio Inc. is a leading catalyst for industry growth in Saskatchewan's bioeconomy. Ag-West provides seed capital, regulatory support, industry information and aids strategic alliances. Ag-West Bio is a member-based organization representing agricultural biotechnology, bioproducts and bioprocesses, and the natural health products and functional food sectors.