

## MEDIA RELEASE

Embargo: 9am 13 December 2021

**Media are welcome to attend.** Interviews can be prearranged for Mon, 13 or Tues, 14 December. All media releases will be available [here](#) and the full program is [online](#).

### TRADE, BIOSECURITY AND TECHNOLOGY: Opportunities for Agricultural Evolution and Growth

Global agriculture is facing many dynamic trends and emerging issues that present both great challenges and incredible opportunities for evolution and growth. Australia can play a pivotal role and the private sector must embrace Corporate Social Responsibility to work with developing nations too.

This key message will form the heart of the address by Rob Kaan, Managing Director for Australia, New Zealand, Japan & Korea Corteva Agriscience on 14 December to the 2021 Crawford Fund annual conference, titled *Food & Nutrition Security – The Biosecurity, Health, Trade Nexus*.

"There is a myriad of drivers that require consideration, proactive investment and decisive action to ensure agriculture's success in the long term. Food security; consumer influence; biosecurity; labour shortage; water utilization; climate change; deforestation; people talent; sustainability; trust in science, business and technology, and smooth trade flow are just a short list of these," said Mr Kaan.

"The urgency and importance of these trends differ by country and many trends and issues connect and converge. Developed countries, like Australia, can play a pivotal role in evolving quickly with these trends and leveraging our experience and learnings appropriately to developing nations. As importantly, the private sector must embrace Corporate Social Responsibility to play their role too."

Mr Kaan will focus on three key areas in his keynote address - trade, biosecurity and technology.

"The smooth trade flow of agricultural produce is essential to the development of all nations and in meeting global food security challenges. Influences on trade flow are diverse, ranging from political drivers, industry direction, regulatory structures, and food chain stakeholders. Collaboration and transparency between key stakeholders is essential in managing future emerging trends that will impact trade flow."

"Biosecurity issues continue to impact agriculture production. Recent examples such as Fall Army Worm across Asia and the industry response to this serves as a good case study to assess the importance of multi-stakeholder, cross-country collaboration for rapid response to these issues."

"Technology investment, development and acceptance are essential in agriculture to address current issues and capture future opportunities from within the sector. Technology partnerships with a clear alignment of objectives and a transparent regulatory framework is essential to attract required investment," he said.

Other speakers at the event include:

- **Dr Agnes Kalibata**, UN Secretary General's Special Envoy to the 2021 Food Systems Summit
- **Su McCluskey**, Special Representative for Australian Agriculture
- **Professor Prabhu Pingali**, Founding Director, Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition
- **Dr Rob Horsch**, Advisor, Global Commission on Adaptation at World Resources Institute
- **Professor Andrew Robinson**, Managing Director, CEBRA, The University of Melbourne
- **Nicola Hinder**, First Assistant Secretary, Exports and Veterinary Services, DAWE

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