



Ministerial Summit | 24 June | 2011 | Rome | Italy

Summary Report: Ministerial Summit

OVERVIEW

The inaugural Ministerial Summit of the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases took place on Friday 24 June 2011 in Rome, Italy.

The Summit was an opportunity to bring together Ministers and other representatives from Alliance countries to formally launch the Alliance’s working phase. This was marked by the signing of the Alliance Charter, along with presentations from the Chairs of the Alliance’s Research and Cross-Cutting Groups, and statements from individual countries. The event was hosted by New Zealand.

This report is a summary of Summit participation and proceedings.



Heads of Delegations at the Alliance Ministerial Summit

PARTICIPANTS

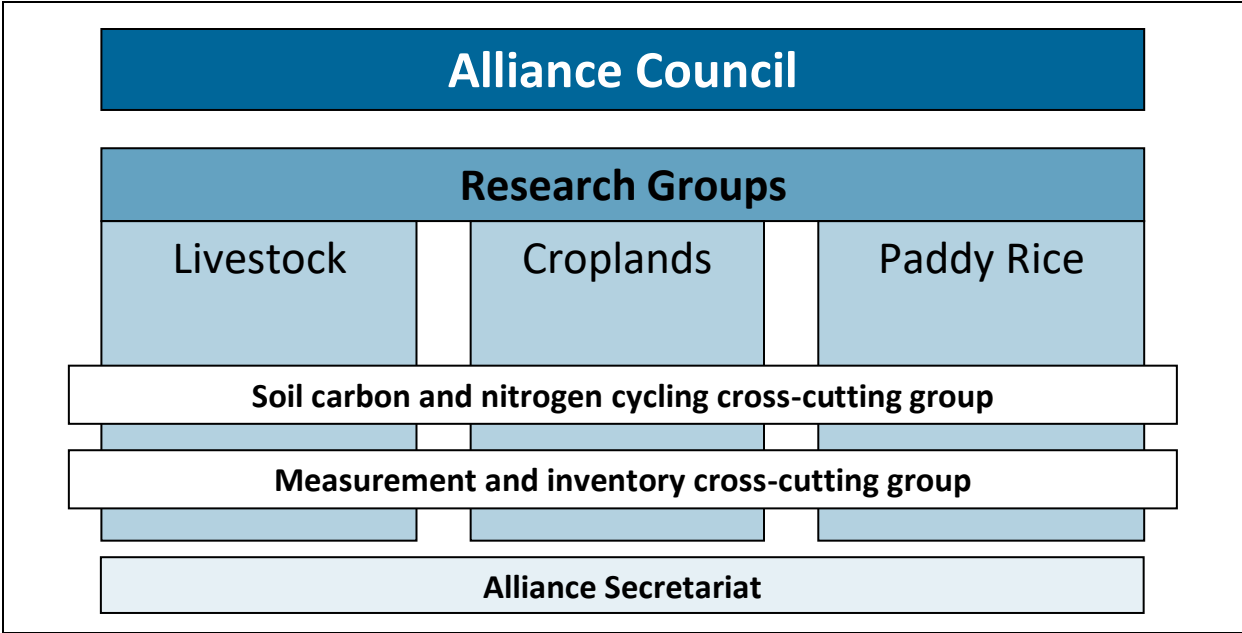
Thirty three countries were represented at the Summit: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Republic of Korea,

Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, UK, USA, Uruguay and Vietnam. Over 130 people attended the event; a list of participants is contained in Appendix One.

SUMMIT PROCEEDINGS

OPENING REMARKS

The Summit was opened by Hon Tim Groser, New Zealand’s Minister for Trade and for International Climate Change Negotiations, who welcomed delegates to the inaugural event. Minister Groser noted how far the Alliance had come since the concept was launched in Copenhagen in December 2009. He outlined the Alliance’s structure (refer diagram below), before handing over to Canada’s Agriculture Minister, the Hon Gerry Ritz, to introduce the Alliance’s Charter (Canada had chaired the governance working group that had developed the Charter over the past twelve months).



Structure of the Global Research Alliance

PRESENTATIONS

Minister Ritz presented the Charter to the Summit, noting its design as simple and flexible, enabling in nature rather than prescriptive. The Charter acknowledges the frontline role of farmers in addressing the challenges of food security and climate change, and strives to deliver outcomes in this regard. It sets up a framework for country membership and a structure for partners to participate in the Alliance’s work. Minister Ritz applauded the contributions of all countries for helping bring the Charter into being quickly and efficiently. A copy of the Charter is provided separately.

Representatives from the countries chairing the Research and Cross-Cutting Groups presented a high-level summary of their work to date and their plans for the future. A copy of this presentation is provided separately.

COUNTRY STATEMENTS

Countries were invited to make statements about their involvement in the Alliance. The individual and collective effort of countries to get the Alliance to this point was recognised around the table.

Ministers and representatives noted that what has been achieved to date was impressive. They were clear that the momentum and the spirit of cooperation that has been built in the past 18 months must be nurtured and grown in the coming months and years to ensure that the Alliance continues to be a success.

Countries recognised agriculture's core role in responding to food security, yet its vulnerability to climate change impacts. The Alliance was seen as central to the solutions, helping agriculture face these global challenges through building critical mass in science, technology and knowledge. The Alliance was described as a voluntary network for change – a way for countries to share their experiences and learn from each other. It was noted that the international economic climate means that countries must be smarter and more efficient with their research investments, partnering with others where possible to pool expertise, scale up effort and leverage greater resources. The Alliance provides a framework to help facilitate this. Countries encouraged the Alliance to reach out to new members and to partners outside of governments.

As part of his statement on behalf of New Zealand, Hon David Carter, Minister of Agriculture, announced the New Zealand Government's intention to establish an international research fund totalling NZ\$25 million to support research on mitigating agricultural greenhouse gas emissions from pastoral livestock farming.

CHARTER SIGNING CEREMONY



Delegates then adjourned for the Charter signing ceremony. Of the 33 countries attending the Summit, 31 signed the Charter: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, and Vietnam. Charter signatories are indicated in the participants list in Appendix One.

Russia and Thailand also attended the Summit but for constitutional reasons, were unable to sign the Charter at the time.

There were four Alliance countries that were unable to attend the Summit: Ghana, India, Pakistan and South Africa. The Secretariat will follow up regarding their membership.

Hon Dr Suswono Asyraf, Minister of Agriculture, signs the Charter on behalf of Indonesia

For more information on the Alliance, please visit www.globalresearchalliance.org

APPENDIX 1: Summit Attendees

Please note that signatories to the Charter are shown in shaded text.

Country	Name	Position	Organization
Argentina	Lorenzo Basso	Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries	
	Dr Maximiliano Moreno	Director of Multilateral Negotiations	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries
	Dr Alejandro Silva	Chief of Cabinet of the Secretary	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries
	Julia Hoppstock	Official in Multilateral Negotiations Direction	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	Gaston Maria Funes	Minister Counsellor	Embassy of Argentina
	Paula Fredes	Translator	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries
Australia	Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM, MP	Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	
	Mark Sjolander	Chief of Staff	Office of The Hon Dr Mike Kelly, AM, MP
	Jo Evans	Executive Manager	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
	Travis Power	Minister-Counsellor (Agriculture)	Embassy of Australia
	Madeleine Baldwin	Manager, Multilateral Policy	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
	David Ritchie		Embassy of Australia
Brazil	Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias	Secretary of Environment	
	Ciro Russo	Deputy Head, Division for Environmental Policy & Sustainable Development	Ministry of External Relations
	Antonio Otavio Sa Ricarte		Ministry of External Relations
Canada	Hon Gerry Ritz	Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food	
	John Knubley	Deputy Minister	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
	Jamshed Merchant	Assistant Deputy Minister	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
	Steve Tierney	Assistant Deputy Minister	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
	Robert Patzer	Director, International Partnerships and Policy	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
	Marco Valicenti	Trade Commissioner	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
	Meagan Murdoch	Minister's Office, Director of Communication	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
	Angel Garcia	Engagement Officer	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
	Tyler McCann	Minister's Office, Policy Advisor	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Chile	Sr. Alvaro Cruzat	Vice Minister	Ministry of Agriculture
	Federico Errazuriz	Chief of Cabinet of the Vice Minister	Ministry of Agriculture

	Rodrigo Guzman		Embassy of Chile
	Dr Eugenio Gonzalez Aguilo		CIREN
China	Dun Niu	Vice Minister	Ministry of Agriculture
	Bo Li	Director	Ministry of Agriculture
	Xu Han	Director	Ministry of Agriculture
	Prof Hongmin Dong	Deputy Director General	Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
	Feng Liu	Section Chief	National Development and Reform Commission
	Handi Guo	Counselor	Permanent Representation of China to FAO
	Baocheng Xie	Third Secretary	Permanent Representation of China to FAO
Colombia	Hon Juan Camilo Restrepo Salazar	Minister of Agriculture	
	Lina Tami	Vice Minister's Advisor	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
	Nestor Hernandez Iglesias	Consultant	Ministry of Agriculture
Costa Rica	Giovanna Valverde	Advisory	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
	Greta Predella		Embassy of Costa Rica
Denmark	Søren Skafte	Minister Counsellor	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries
Finland	Riikka Laatu	Permanent Representative	Embassy of Finland
France	Eric Giry	Chef du service de la stratégie agroalimentaire et du développement durable	MAAPRAT
	Alain Derevier	Councillor for Research	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	Dr Jean-François Soussana	Scientific Director for Environment	INRA
Germany	Clemens Neumann	Director General	BMELV
	Barbara Kosak	Deputy Head	BMELV
Indonesia	Hon Dr Suswono Asyraf	Minister of Agriculture	
	Dr Haryono	Director General	Indonesian Agency for Agriculture Research and Development
	Dr Muhamad Sabran	Head of Collaboration and Public Relation Division	Indonesian Agency for Agriculture Research and Development
	Dr Tahlim Sudaryanto	Assistant to the Minister for International Affairs	Ministry of Agriculture
	Dr Bayu Krisnamurti	Vice Minister	Ministry of Agriculture
	Dr Handewi Salim	Director	ICASEPS
	Dr Alwi Shihab	Expert Staff for Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare	
	Yuri Thamrin	Ambassador	Embassy of Indonesia, London
	Triyogo Jatmiko	Staff	Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ireland	Richard Howell	Senior Inspector & Head of Research Division	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food
Italy	Dr Roberto Rosso	Parliamentary Secretary	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies
	Dr Adriano Rasi Caldogno	Head of Department	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies
	Dr Giovanni Umberto De Vito	Diplomatic Counsellor	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies
	Dr Marina Montedoro	Head of Research and Experimentation Office	Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies
Japan	Michiko Matsuda	Research Councillor	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Akihiko Uchikawa	Director	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Yoshiro Nishimura	Section Chief	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Dr Kazuyuki Yagi	Research Coordinator	National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences
	Yurie Fujihara	Interpreter	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Malaysia	H.E. Dato' Mohd Hashim Abdullah	Secretary-General	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
	Datuk Dr. Abd. Shukor Abd. Rahman	Director-General	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
	Dato' Sulaiman Md. Zain	Director-General	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
	Shariffah Norhana Syed Mustaffa	Chargé d'affaires a.i.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	Muhammad Salimi Sajari	Under Secretary	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
	Azman Mohd Saad	Agricultural Attache	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
	Azhar Mohd Isa	Assistant Agricultural Attache	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
	Zetty Noor Akmar Abdul Majid	Assistant Secretary	Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry
Mexico	Francisco Mayorga Castañeda	Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries & Food	
	Kenneth Smith Ramos	General Coordinator of International Affairs	Ministry of Agriculture
	H.E. Jorge Chen Charpentier	Ambassador	Embassy of Mexico
Netherlands	Dr Hans Hoogeveen	Director-General	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation
	Kim van Seeters	Senior Policy Officer	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation
	Dr Martin Scholten	Director Animal Sciences Group	Wageningen UR
	Mario Leeflang	Policy Officer, UN and International Financial Institutions Department	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
New Zealand	Hon David Carter	Minister of Agriculture	
	Hon Tim Groser	Minister Responsible for International Climate Change Negotiations	
	Wayne McNee	Director General	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
	Paul Stocks	Deputy Director General	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

	H.E. Trevor Matheson	Ambassador	New Zealand Embassy
	Renee Heal	Private Secretary	Office of the Hon Tim Groser
	Thomas Pryor	Ministerial Advisor	Office of the Hon David Carter
	Andrea Beadle	Policy Officer	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
	Cathie McGregor	Deputy Head of Mission	New Zealand Embassy
Norway	Ola Heggem	State Secretary	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
	Jan Henrik Martinsen	Senior Adviser	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Peru	H.E. Cesar Castillo	Ambassador	Embassy of Peru
	Manuel Alvarez		Permanent Representative to the FAO
Philippines	Dr Segfredo Serrano	Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, Project Development, Research & Regulation	Department of Agriculture
	Lupino Lazaro	Chief, International Relations Division	Department of Agriculture
Republic of Korea	Kim Jae Soo	Vice-Minister	Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Kim Jong Chul	Director	Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Park Soo Jin	Agricultural Attache	Embassy of Republic of Korea
	Park Jong Min	Deputy Director	Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Lee Hyun Moo	Assistant Director	Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Hyeonmi Lee	Assistant Director	Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Yongsam Kim	General Director of International Cooperation	Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
	Baek Seon Ha	Interpreter	Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Russia	Denis Anatolievch Trefilov	Director of the Department of International cooperation	Ministry of Agriculture
	Artem Belov	Adviser of the Minister of Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture
	Alexey Nikolaevich Gospodarev	Deputy Director of the Department of International Cooperation	Ministry of Agriculture
	Sergey Sapozhnikov		Per,anent Representative to the FAO
Spain	Hon Rosa Aguilar	Minister of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs	Minister of Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs
	Omar Del Río	Service Chief	Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs
	Alfonso Pino Maeso	Head of Unit of International Relationship and Community Affairs	Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs
	Antonio Fernández	Head of Unit of Support and Coordination	Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs

	Ricardo Dominguez	Cabinet Director	Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs
	Inmaculada Carretero	Communication Director	Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs
Sweden	Tomas Dahlman	Head of Secretariat for EU-Coordination and International Affairs	Ministry for Rural Affairs
Switzerland	Dominique Kohli	Vice-Director	Federal Office for Agriculture
	Jacqueline Birrer	Assistant Project Manager	Permanent Representation of Switzerland to FAO, IFAD and WFP
Thailand	Jirapa Inthisang	Economist	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
	Arunee Krittayanawat	Senior Plan and Policy Analyst	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
United Kingdom	H.E. Christopher Prentice	British Ambassador to Italy	Foreign & Commonwealth Office
	Dr Sue Popple	Deputy Director, Farming and Food Science	Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs
United States	H.E. Ertharin Cousin	Ambassador	United States Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome
	Dr Steven Shafer	Deputy Administrator, Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems	Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service
	Mark Manis	Senior Policy Advisor	US Department of Agriculture
Uruguay	Walter Oyhantcabal	Director of the Agriculture and Climate Change Unit	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
	H.E. Gustavo Alvarez	Ambassador	Embassy of Uruguay
	Carlos Bentancour	Minister Counsellor	Embassy of Uruguay
Vietnam	Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu	Vice Minister	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam
	Luong The Phiet	Director-General	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam
	Trieu Van Hung	Director-General	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam
	Doan Manh Cuong	Programme Officer	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development