October 1, 2013

Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn  
President  
The World Food Prize Foundation  
666 Grand Ave, Ste 1700  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Ambassador Quinn:

We are writing to commend you and the World Food Prize Foundation on the theme of this year’s World Food Prize, “The Next Borlaug Century: Biotechnology, Sustainability and Climate Volatility.” The World Food Prize Foundation’s unwavering support of science and its application to agriculture will have a profound impact on global food security in the years ahead.

This year, in recognizing three pioneers of modern agricultural biotechnology, Marc Van Montagu, Mary-Dell Chilton and Robert Fraley, the Foundation affirms the determinations made around the world by prominent scientists and organizations, including the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the American Medical Association and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, that biotechnology is a safe and critical tool of modern agriculture.

Feeding a world population of nine billion people by 2050 in the face of increasingly severe weather and environmental conditions simply cannot be done without the full benefit of modern science and biotechnology. The genetically modified seeds that are being released today produce higher yields while using less water and fewer inputs, thus promoting sustainability by placing fewer burdens on the environment. These seeds are critical tools in meeting the challenges of global food security and climate volatility.

Thank you very much for entering this important discussion.

Sincerely,
AACC International
Agricultural Retailers Association
Alabama A&M University
Alliance to Feed the Future
American Coalition for Ethanol
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Seed Trade Association
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Plant Biologists
American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists
American Soybean Association
American Sugarbeet Growers Association
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Beet Sugar Development Foundation
Biotechnology Industry Organization
Certified Crop Advisor Program
Colorado Association of Wheat Growers
Congressional Hunger Center
Cooperative Extension
Corn Refiners Association
Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching
Council for Biotechnology Information
CropLife America
CropLife International
Crop Science Society of America
Delaware State University
Global Harvest Initiative
Grocery Manufacturers Association  
Growth Energy  
Idaho Grain Producers Association  
International Formula Council  
International Food Information Council  
International Food Information Council Foundation  
Iowa State University  
John Innes Centre  
Kansas Association of Wheat Growers  
Kansas State University  
Langston University  
Lincoln University  
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe  
Michigan State University  
Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers  
Montana Grain Growers Association  
National Agricultural Aviation Association  
National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Barley Growers Association  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Farmers Union  
National FFA Organization  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Pork Producers Council
National Potato Council  
National Renderers Association  
National Sorghum Producers  
North American Export Grain Association  
North American Millers’ Association  
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University  
North Carolina Biotechnology Center  
North Carolina State University  
North Dakota State University  
Oregon State University  
Purdue University  
Renewable Fuels Association  
Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation  
Soil Science Society of America  
South Dakota State University  
Sun Grant Association  
Tennessee State University  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Wheat Producers Association  
The American Phytopathological Society  
The Ohio State University  
Tuskegee University  
United Fresh Produce Association  
University of California, Davis  
University of Connecticut College of Agriculture & Natural Resources  
University of Delaware College of Agriculture & Natural Resources  
University of Georgia  
University of Illinois  
University of Kentucky
University of Maine – Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station

University of Maryland
University of Missouri
University of Nebraska
USA Rice Federation
U.S. Beet Sugar Association
U.S. Canola Association
U.S. Dry Bean Council
U.S. Grains Council
U.S. Wheat Associates
Virginia Tech

Washington State University College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences
Western Growers