

## **Speaker Profiles**

### **Professor Jules Pretty**

Professor Pretty is head of the Centre for Environment and Society at the University of Essex, with particular research interest in sustainable and ecological agriculture, and the development of sustainable patterns of living for the long term. He has served on numerous UK government committees on environment, ecology, agricultural reform and sustainable development, including through the Department for International Development (DfID). Prof Pretty is chief editor of the *New International Journal for Agricultural Sustainability* and author of the books *The Earth Only Endures* (2007) and *Agri-Culture* (2002).

### **Mairead McGuinness, MEP**

Fine Gael MEP for Ireland East Mairead McGuinness serves on the European Parliament's Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, and on the Budgets and Petitions Committees. Elected in June 2004, she is very active on agriculture and rural development, global development policy, the environment and food safety and security. Mairead is a member of Inter-Party Groups on Disability and on Children's Rights. Prior to becoming an MEP, she was a well-known journalist, broadcaster and commentator. She is a Patron of Bóthar, an Irish NGO specialising in livestock aid and micro-farming assistance to developing countries.

### **Prince Kapondamgaga**

Prince Kapondamgaga, whose professional background is in crop science, is Executive Director of the Farmers Union of Malawi, an umbrella body catering for both large and small-scale farmers, and has previously worked with the National Smallholder Farm Association of Malawi. In his role with the Union, he plays an active role on committees and taskforces related to land use, conservation agriculture, diversifying farm incomes, bio-fuels and development of the agri-food sector. Prince has previously worked on livelihoods programmes with both World Vision Malawi and Concern Universal.