Cairns Group Farm Leaders Disappointed at New US Agricultural Subsidies

July 27th, 2018

The Cairns Group Farm Leaders are deeply concerned by the United States (US) Administration's announcement that the US Government will provide US\$12 billion to support US farmers impacted by tariffs imposed on US agricultural exports. These new subsidies will further distort global agricultural markets and hurt agricultural producers that receive little to no government support. Instead of additional subsidies, Cairns Group Farm Leaders call on the US Administration to follow the advice of US farm organisations to restore market access for US agricultural goods and to end the trade war that has triggered the retaliatory tariffs that now negatively impact on American agriculture.

This spiraling trade war resolves nothing and hurts farmers and consumers alike. It is the Cairns Group Farm Leaders' vision to create a world with an equitable and enforceable rules-based trading system in agriculture. We want to create the opportunity for our farmers to benefit from a sustainable agriculture sector and to contribute to the socio-economic development of our countries.

Signed by:

Australia: Fiona Simson, President, National Farmers' Federation Argentina: Daniel G. Pelegrina, President, Sociedad Rural Argentina Brasil: Pedro de Camargo Neto, Vice President, Sociedada Rural Brasileira Canada: Claire Citeau, Executive Director, Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance Chile: Ricardo Ariztía de Castro, President, Sociedad Nacional de Agricultura de Chile Colombia: Alejandro Velez Goyenche, Vice President, Sociedad de Agricultores de Colombia New Zealand: Katie Milne, President, Federated Farmers of New Zealand Uruguay: Dr Pablo Zerbino Vanrell, President, Asociación Rural del Uruguay Philippines: Raul Montemayor, National Manager, Federation of Free Farmers South Africa: John Purchase (Ph.D), Chief Executive, Agricultural Business Chamber About the Cairns Group Farm Leaders

The Cairns Group Farm Leaders, were established in 1998 by the Australian National Farmers' Federation (NFF). CGFL is made up of farm organisations from Cairns Group countries, a coalition of agricultural exporting countries. Together, the Group represents

farmers that grow and produce more than one third of the world's agricultural exports. Their vision to create a world with an equitable and enforceable rules-based trading system in agriculture.

More on the Cairns Group Farm Leaders can be found <u>here</u>.