

LUNCHEON ADDRESS

Speaker: Akinwumi Adesina
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Introduction

Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn

President - World Food Prize Foundation

So if you've been here at all, you know everything's an anniversary – 30th Anniversary, 10th Anniversary of the Hunger Summit, 5th Anniversary of the Borlaug Field Award – so why should the soy luncheon be any different? Today is the 10th anniversary of our soy luncheon, and we are so grateful for ten years to have had the United Soybean Board, and Jared Hagert is here. Thank you.

The Iowa Soybean Association. Where are they? Where's Kirk? Okay. The Soyfoods Council – there's Linda over there; and the World Initiative for Soy and Human Health there. So let's give them a round of applause for their sponsorship. I tell people, you know, when I first saw, oh, we're having soy lunch – that's not going to taste good. But if they're going to sponsor it, I'll grimace and eat it. And then we got together and Linda got us together with the chefs from the Marriott and started planning the dishes, and it was so delicious and good for you – right? – keeping with the, this is food being our medicine, again even at lunch. So thank you so much, and we hope that you'll enjoy the meal that Mashal and I and Linda have taste tested several times, to be sure.

President Joyce Banda is here – Madam President, thank you so much. Let's welcome President Banda. And, you know, President Banda's wonderful, close relationship with the Community for Zero Hunger and my pal, Nabeeha Kazi down here, and so I want to direct your attention to the wonderful things that they are doing. She's one of the children of the Green Revolution, who grew up at CIMMYT (running around stealing pears). Anyway, and you're having a side event while you're here, and we're so pleased about that.

I want to note also John Ruan and Janis Ruan are here, the Ruan family – thank you again so much. There wouldn't be any lunch today or any World Food Prize except for the Ruan family and their stepping in. And our World Food Prize laureates are here at the head table, so, laureates, tonight is the investiture, so I hope you're all excited – Maria, Jan, Robert, Howdy. Let's have a round of applause to welcome our World Food Prize laureates.

Now, I'm going to skip over Dr. Adesina, because I'm going to talk about him a little bit later. But we have here with us 400 high school students and teachers from 30 U.S. states and territories and seven countries – Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, China, Canada, India and Tunisia. They're here with their teachers for the Global Youth Institute, and this year marks 22 years of the Global Youth Institute. So when I came, it was about 20 students, and they filled up two tables at lunch. But since then, over 10,000 students have gone through our Global Youth

Institute. We also have about 50 of our Borlaug-Ruan interns who are here. There's over 270 of them now who go and spend eight weeks at International Research Centers while still in high school. And then we have Wallace Carver fellows. We've had over 151 of them who are here. So all the youth institute students, stand up so we can see you. Where are you? Nobody here? Come on. Okay, you can sit down. All the teachers, stand up. Where are the teachers?

So I have a present for you that you're going to get later this afternoon. Roger Thurow has been here all week talking about the issues of hunger, malnutrition, undernutrition, overnutrition, hidden hunger that he's detailed in his brilliant book, *The First Thousand Days*. And, Roger, where are you? He may already be out selling books in the hallway. Oh, there he is over here. You know, he's been sweeping across the state. He was in Iowa City yesterday. He was at the Hunger Summit on Monday. So, thanks to Howdy Bouis and HarvestPlus, they have provided the funding so that every student and every teacher is going to have a copy of your book, Roger. And then I bought an extra 85 as well, so if you're not at the top of *The New York Times* bestseller list, I don't know what.

And now after lunch, for those of you who aren't getting one but want one, he's going to be outside in the hall. They're selling books, and he'll sign them, and they do take credit cards.

So now I want to turn to a little bit more somber but at the same time happy subject. For any of you who know the World Food Prize and you were here last year, you know that our dear friend, David Lambert passed away after being at the Laureate Award Ceremony, on World Food Day. He was an incredible personal friend to me, a passionate advocate on behalf of all hungry people around the world.

And David is missed terribly, but his good friend, Manjit Misra, and the Iowa State University Seed Science Center have created a scholarship in David's memory. It's called the David Lambert Hunger Fighter Memorial Scholarship – couldn't be a more appropriate name – and his two sons, Walker and Taylor, are here. Walker and Taylor, where are you? Ah, here they are over here. Stand up. I'm so glad you could be here. We loved your dad. He was our dearest friend, and we had such respect and admiration. Dr. Misra has created this scholarship, and we are going to right now honor and recognize the two recipients. So Katelyn Fritz and Michelle Friedmann have been chosen. Come on up here. Manjit, can you make your way up here just for a second? Congratulations on this. This will be an annual event at the World Food Prize, and together between the World Food Prize and Iowa State, we will be honoring your dad, our great friend, hunger-fighting hero, David Lambert. Katelyn is a former Borlaug-Ruan intern, and Michelle, who has been doing things just like a Borlaug-Ruan intern, congratulations to you. And you see, 70% of the students in our program are young women.

My great friend Josette Sheeran has just come here and joined us. Josette was Under-Secretary of State. We used to collaborate together, and when she came here and spoke in 2006 and gave a terrific address, same time Bob Gates did, two weeks later, Gates was Secretary of Defense; three weeks later, Josette was the Executive Director of the World Food Programme in Rome. And I wrote to them both and said, "You know it was your gig at the World Food Prize that got you your appointments – Right?"

So we have a wonderful friend in the Farming First organization. They are our media partner. Farming First – if you don't know about them, it's a global coalition made up of farmers, scientists, engineers, agribusiness associations, NGOs, all who advocate for the advancement of sustainable agricultural development worldwide through creative engagement campaigns,

advocacy. This is the second consecutive year they've been here. You want to sign up and get their daily digest of what's going on. There's so much happening, I can't keep up with it – I've got to get the digest. And you can get it at FarmingFirst.org. They've put together a little video, so, while food is being served and you're eating, we'll get started and let you see the video. It's about "Climate-Smart Agriculture in Action," and it's been shown all over but particularly all over Africa. So enjoy your lunch, enjoy the video. I'll be back with our main speaker in a few minutes.

– LUNCHEON –

So we're going to get started in just a few minutes. Finish up your dessert, your chocolate cake and chipotle raspberry tofu sauce, sliced kiwi, orange and raspberry. Let's join me in expressing our appreciation to the Marriott staff – the room's so packed, I don't know how they make their way around everybody – and also to the Soyfoods Council, all our soy sponsors, for coming up with the dishes. They were terrific. Be sure and look at your menu. Let's give them a round of applause.

Also want to encourage you to look on your table, and here is our list of sponsors. Please pick some of the sponsors that are here, and it would mean a lot to me if they saw you looking at this and look at it and nod approvingly. Come on, help me out now.

Kirk Leeds, before, I neglected that you have some special guests here from China, so maybe I could ask all of them to just stand up so we can give you a World Food Prize welcome – the Chinese delegation, stand up. Some of them from Hebei, which is Iowa's sister state, and some of the students. Where are the students from Hebei who are here – in the room, or did they go out for lunch somewhere? All right, there they are.

So I want to now introduce to you someone who's very, very special to me, and I met him about six years ago. I was at the AGRA forum in Ghana. I was going there to present our Borlaug Medallion to Kofi Annan. And I was sitting in the breakfast room in the hotel all alone, and this gentleman was sitting on the other side of the room. And he was very kind and thoughtful and saw me there, and we got together, and we talked over breakfast. And it was one of those conversations where, after about five or six sentences into it, you know that you want to pay absolute attention to every word that's being said because the person saying it is so insightful, so experienced with such broad ideas. And I watched.

At the time he was a vice president of AGRA, was so good at what he did about sharing his ideas and publicizing them that he received the Borlaug CAST Communication Award here. We had him come and then speak in his capacity when he became Minister of Agriculture of Nigeria, and he was sensational at that, spoke at our breakfast in the morning. And then as I watched Nigeria just become so incredibly vital and so many things happening in the agricultural area, and then he was up for the Forbes Man of the Year in Africa. And he was against all these business guys and investment people. And I thought, well, probably somebody who's in agriculture, I don't know what chance he'll have, too bad. And then he won! And deservedly so, because he's the most dynamic leader, in my view, on the continent.

And then when his name was up for consideration to be President of the African Development Bank, I took every occasion I could to tell everybody I could find in Washington and in the U.S. Government about how important it would be to have somebody who was from agriculture in that position, because after all, that's the issue for Africa for the next 30 years.

So this morning when World Bank President Jim Yong Kim was speaking and mentioned he had just been, President Kim, just reelected for a second term, I mentioned that in 2016 our speaker had been elected to his first term as head of the African Development Bank. All the issues and all the problems, all the crises we heard that are possible yesterday – when they happen, we will have the best chance of dealing with them, because we will have Jim Yong Kim at the World Bank, and we will have His Excellency Akinwumi Adesina, my dear friend Akin heading the African Development Bank and providing the vital African and global leadership.

So please join me in welcoming His Excellency Akinwumi Adesina. And when he's done speaking, he has very graciously agreed to answer some questions. So out here in the sea of humanity someplace, there are microphones; and I'll come back up, and we'll find people with questions.

Over to you.

H.E. Akinwumi A. Adesina

President, African Development Bank Group

Thank you very much, Ambassador. Your Excellency, President Banda, former President of Malawi, Professor Swaminathan, Ambassador Quinn, the Borlaug family, John and Janis Ruan – it's good to see you; the World Food Prize laureates, all of you who are here, and the new ones of course; the Soybean Council – thank you for a very great lunch – I think it's a very healthy lunch. But also the future leaders of agriculture and all the young folks that are here. Wherever you are, can you just wave so I can see you? Because the future belongs to you in agriculture, so please give it up to them.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen, I'm delighted to be here with you today. It's such a great honor for Ambassador Quinn, the President of the World Food Prize Foundation to have invited me here as the keynote speaker today. You know, every time that you see him, I don't know how he does it – he moves around all the time. I am convinced that he's got renewable energy inside of his body, because I don't know how he does it. But I must tell you something, that in a world where it's very difficult to find faithful people, in a world where it's very difficult to find people that are loyal to actually promoting the legacy of others, I think to have somebody like him is just incredible, with the passion, the commitment that he brings to this. Please give it up to him – he's a good man.

And of course Professor Swaminathan, the board and staff of the World Food Prize Foundation, for all the great work you all do, congratulations to you all as you celebrate your 30th anniversary of the World Food Prize. I applaud and congratulate the World Food Prize winners for 2016, for their transforming work on developing biofortified crops. My most recent interaction with the esteemed was two years ago when Howarth Bouis and his team at HarvestPlus organized its second Global Forum on Biofortification in Kigali, Rwanda. I was, just like now, also the keynote speaker there. I was at the time the Minister of Agriculture from Nigeria, and I remember Professor Swaminathan was there with us in Kigali. I was the Minister of Agriculture in Nigeria then. I had helped to massively push the large-scale cultivation of biofortified crops.

So impressed was I with the potential of this work, that I said to Howarth and his team, "You deserve the World Food Prize." So you can imagine how thrilled I was when Howarth and his

colleagues, Maria Andrade, Jan Low, my dear sister, Robert Mwanga, were named as winners of the World Food Prize 2016. Congratulations.

Today I speak to you, as Ambassador Quinn said, as President of the African Development Bank, the first president with an agricultural background to be president of a multilateral development bank in the world. Just think about that. So agriculture is obviously a major priority for me. Well, if it wasn't, what else would I be doing, right?

It was great to have my friend Jim Kim speak this morning, and I was so thrilled to listen to him. You've got a medical doctor, at the head of the World Bank, you've got somebody from agriculture leading the African Development Bank --woah -- what else do you need to solve the problem of food and nutrition?

I wish my mentor, Dr. Norman Borlaug, was here to hear how refreshing that is. After all, it was him who told me ten years ago, and quote exactly what he said to me, "Go and score goals for agriculture in Africa and the coast." On that memory of a winter morning, as we walked together on the streets of New York on my way to Rockefeller where I worked at the time -- and I know that I've got some of the..., former president of Rockefeller Foundation here, Gordon Conway and Judith Rodin and all the board members -- I would have told him, "Yes, sir, the work has started and I now oversee the resources to get it done."

Ladies and gentlemen, like everyone in this room, every time the World Food Prize is given, it reminds me of Dr. Norman Borlaug. He was the man who fed the world and started the World Food Prize. It also reminds me of John Ruan Senior, the man who saved the World Food Prize. They are no longer here with us today. They have gone to a better place in heaven, but they left the world a better place. We love and miss them both.

As I think about the nice meal we're having this afternoon, I think of the need to make the world much better, especially for millions who lack access to food. That is why focusing on agriculture and raising agricultural productivity as a principal source of food is critical. Your choice of the theme of this year's World Food Prize, *Food as Medicine*, is so important in informing a better understanding of the intricate linkages that are in food and medicine.

Which is more important -- food or medicine? Well, it reminds me of my own experience. My father, like many of his time, wanted me so desperately to be a medical doctor like Jim Kim. At the age of 14 I had passed my high school exams like all the high schoolers here today and sat for the examination for the university. My father always filled my forms, and his first choice was medicine. The second choice was veterinary medicine, and the third choice was dentistry. One way or the other, I will become a doctor. Well, every time I took the exams, two years in a row, universities will admit me for agriculture but not medicine.

Now, my father, who grew up as a poor farmer, never wanted me near agriculture at all -- left me no choice after two years of the same result, he gave up and said, "God must want you in agriculture." I went on to get my PhD in agricultural economics from Purdue University. Oh, boy, I'm so proud of Purdue University, and I want to say that today we have Dean Jay Akridge and Gebisa Ejeta from Purdue University and all the Boilermakers, I feel at home as well. Sometimes we used to be the guys here, you know.

Well, the day I graduated, I sent my father a letter, and I said, "Dear Dad, I'm a doctor now. You can leave me alone." Well, years after, our first son graduated in the United States as a

medical doctor. My father, who was 90 years old at the time, attended the graduation. Now, during the event he turned, and he said, "Doctor." I thought he meant me, so I said, "Yes, Dad." He said, "No, I mean your son, the real doctor." We laughed, and I told my dad, "Well, Dad, even medical doctors will tell you, 'Take your medicine three times a day, but only after food.' So agriculture is more important than medicine."

Well, I must say I now agree with Hippocrates, the father of modern medicine, who said, *May thy food be thy medicine and thy medicine thy food*. These linkages all came back to my memory vividly again when I recently visited Madagascar, now as President of the African Development Bank. I visited one of the irrigated areas funded by the bank. Seeing so many children and their mothers, I beckoned to the kids to come closer. I noticed a very small boy among them. I was so sure he cannot be more than a five-year-old. His name is Antonio. To my shock, Antonio said he was 13 years old. We all look at each other, frozen by shock and dismay. Well, the problem of Antonio is stunting from malnutrition. He said to me he would like to be a medical doctor one day. Africa and our world is full of many Antonios who suffer from hidden hunger and malnutrition.

To eat well is expensive. Poor households, even when they have access to food, tend to eat a lot more of starchy foods. This can help to reduce hunger but does not necessarily lead to improved nutrition. The focus, therefore, should not just be on filling the stomach. The focus should be on filling the body with the right type of food and nutrients needed for a balanced and healthy living.

Take the case in many parts of Asia, the Green Revolution was simply amazing. It raised caloric intake for millions of poor households. However, that's not all the gains and the benefits. Malnutrition in many places persisted. The same is true in Africa. Production of staple foods such as tubers and maize and millet and sorghum that Gebisa worked so hard on, with his Striga-resistant sorghum, has risen significantly because of all that research. Yet, malnutrition persists.

Africa today accounts for 20 of the 24 countries with stunting rates of over 40%. Furthermore, 20 of the 34 countries that collectively account for 90% of the world's stunting are in Africa. About 58 million kids in Africa under the age of five years are too short for their age, which means they're stunted; 40 million weigh too little for their height, which means they are wasted; and 10 million of them are overweight, obese.

Today, millions of kids go blind due to lack of vitamin A. They will not be able to attend school, like all the high schoolers you see here today, and have a productive life, all because of a basic, basic nutrient like vitamin A. Similarly, millions of mothers die during birth from complications due to lack of vitamin A and iron deficiency. Now, why should a mother die just for bringing a beautiful life to our world? And why must a child's future in that world be mortgaged for lack of basic nutrients for a healthy life? These things should not be.

These are very disturbing numbers, and they are numbers that we must change. No child should ever go hungry, and no child should ever lose future economic opportunities or die early because of lack of nutritious food. We must do all possible for the children from conception to their second birthday, the first one thousand days – and Roger Thurow's great book told us a lot about that – and beyond. We must support better nutrition for their mothers. A healthy mother who is economically empowered will nourish her children.

Malnutrition, ladies and gentleman, impacts the economy. UNICEF has estimated the annual cost of all malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa is \$25 billion U.S. dollars. Africa and Asia lose 11% of their GDP every year due to poor nutrition. The evidence is clear – boosting nutrition boosts the economy. We must change how we look at the problem of malnutrition.

The greatest contributor to economic growth is not physical infrastructure but brainpower, what I refer to as “gray matter infrastructure.” While it’s obvious that the road or port can add to improved trade and economic growth, it is often not recognized that stunting shrinks the size of the brain (and you heard it from my friend, Jim Kim, this morning) and therefore compromises current and future economic growth of nations. Stunted children today leads to stunted economies tomorrow. It is that simple.

Therefore, we must really form the debate around nutrition, from one seen as a social development issue to one that shapes a part of economic growth and development. We must now invest in developing gray matter infrastructure for Africa by investing in better nutrition for its children, who are the future of the continent. [applause] Thank you.

Access to food in the right quantity and quality is a basic human right. There is absolutely no justification at all that Africa, which has 65% of all the uncultivated arable land left in the world, is unable to feed itself, spending \$35 billion a year on food imports – an amount that’s projected to rise to \$110 billion by 2030 if the current trend continues. Africa can feed itself, and Africa must feed itself.

That is why at the African Development Bank, we accept feeding Africa as one of our high five priorities. Working with government and partners, our goal is to help Africa to achieve food self-sufficiency – not in 30 years, not in 40 years (because I wouldn't be around then), but certainly within 10 years I’m sure we can do it. That’s why, when I became President of the bank, I announced that we will invest \$24 billion in boosting agriculture, food and nutrition in Africa over the next ten years. [applause] Thank you.

We know the technologies exist to transform African agriculture, but they remain for the most part on the shelves. We must always remember what Norman Borlaug said, and I quote him again, *Take it to the farmer.*

To achieve this, the African Development Bank and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, CGIAR – and many of its DGs are here today – have developed what we call Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation, or TAAT, simply. It’s a new initiative to scale up appropriate agricultural technologies from the CGIAR and the national systems all across Africa. The bank and its partners, which would include the World Bank, plan to invest \$800 million in pushing TAAT.

We will promote greater diversity in the production system, our focus should be on food systems, not just food production. The key is to improve the capacity or the food value chain from the field to the table to produce and deliver healthy and nutritious food.

Poverty is one of the main causes of malnutrition. Caught in poverty traps, many poor households spend most of their income on basic staples, leaving very little, if at all anything, to even our basic nutritious diets. One of the cheapest ways to provide them with nutritious food is through food fortification. Greater effort will be placed on boosting access to micronutrients for healthy living. Food fortification, especially adding iodine to salt, staple foods and cooking

oil, is a cost-effective way to get basic nutrients to households. Biofortification will be strongly promoted.

The remarkable success of HarvestPlus in developing and disseminating biofortified crops is highly commendable. Orange fleshed sweet potato, iron-fortified beans, golden rice with high levels of beta-Carotene, and yellow cassava, high in beta-Carotene – all have good potential in addressing micronutrient deficiency. As I listened to the talk by the panel today, I saw the great work that is also being done on biofortified sorghum, and that's a great work as well.

These are not just for poor households. They should be promoted for the whole system, for all of us. This will require addressing demand-side constraints and promoting policies that encourage the private sector to incorporate these nutritious crops in processed food.

As we raise agricultural productivity – We will pay good attention to post-harvest losses, which are estimated at \$310 billion in developing countries. Over 60% of this is caused at production and purchasing stages. Food losses alone a year in Africa is well enough to feed 300 million people – that's way above the 250 million people today that are malnourished.

So to achieve improved nutrition, we must reduce food systems' losses all across the chain from the farm, storage, transport, processing and marketing. But we must also address the huge problem of aflatoxin contamination of food, a major source of food insecurity and malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa. The FAO estimates that a quarter of the world food crops are affected by aflatoxins each year. Solving this problem requires a multi-sectoral approach linking agriculture, health and food safety.

Now, I know significant progress has been made by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in this, in the development of what is called AflaSafe. And with AflaSafe, you are actually able to reduce that loss almost by a hundred percent. The African Development Bank would support African countries to scale up efforts to solve our aflatoxin problems, as well as expand private sector investment in AflaSafe manufacturing companies. We need to complement all of this with better food and nutrition policies, as well as better levels of financing for nutrition.

Ladies and gentleman. The level of finance needed to address malnutrition is huge. It's estimated at \$7 billion a year for the next ten years. Now, that doesn't scare me at all, because I believe that it can be done. To do so, I call for the establishment of Nutrition Social Impact Bonds. They will allow countries to raise money to support investments in better nutrition today. The bonds will generate greater social wealth in the future through better health and education outcomes, a more productive workforce with higher income and tax revenues. Nutrition Social Impact Bonds will allow nations to build smart economic futures for themselves.

We must also equally push harder for political accountability on malnutrition and stunting. That's why I have called for an African Nutrition Accountability Index, which will rank countries based on their progress on malnutrition and stunting. To push for this, we have now established what is called the African Leaders for Nutrition, which will include sitting African presidents, chairperson of the African Union, which is Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Dr. Graça Machel – wife of former South African President Mandela – , former president of Ghana and World Food Prize winner here, President Kufuor, the U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Bill

Gates, Aliko Dangote, Jamie Cooper, the Director-General of FAO Graziano da Silva, and myself.

I have just asked Ambassador Quinn, president of the World Food Prize Foundation, to join us, and I am very, very delighted he has accepted – and help me to thank him for that. We will carry this message from the World Food Prize on nutrition to Africa. We will be launching at least formally at the African Union Summit in January of 2017.

The imperative is to support children and their mothers. I firmly believe that we will see greater success in malnutrition and stunting when we provide greater economic empowerment for women. To do this, the African Development Bank has launched what we call the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa, otherwise called AFAWA. But before I go on AFAWA, I must tell you why I launched AFAWA.

I was on a plane in 1995 flying from Lagos to Abidjan. You remember at that time we have this computer – it's compact, the one that you carry and it looks like a suitcase. And I carried it on the plane, and that's all I had. And I try to sit down. I sat down and I try to put it up in the locker over my head, you know, compartment. We have all these market women, you know, they come, they wrap all these wrappers around themselves because they don't want to pay taxes and things like that, you know, because it's the way we get around these things. And I was struggling to put it there, and the hostess came to me and said, "Do you need help, sir?" I said, "Yes. I'm trying to get my computer..." (I was so proud of it) "...into this compartment." She looked at me and said, "Sir, how many times do you fly this aircraft?" I said, "It depends on where my work takes me." She said, "Take a good look at this woman here. They fly this plane every single day. This aircraft is their aircraft. We're gonna take your computer down into the hold, and please make space for the women to put up their baskets."

So I knew from that time that you had to do great things for women. And that's why we are going to be mobilizing \$3 billion in this effort towards women entrepreneurs who do small businesses including women farmers who produce most of the food in Africa. [applause] Thank you.

It is time we did big things for women in Africa. Of course, you have President Banda here, fantastic president of Malawi, a woman leader. To be a female president in Africa is not easy. And Madam President, when you were there, you did such a great job. We're very proud of you.

With higher incomes, women, mothers will better feed their children, send them to school and of course, why not, support better lives as well for their husbands. When we get the issues of women right, we will get nutrition right. When we get the issues of women right, we will finally get agriculture in Africa right.

As we celebrate the World Food Prize winners this year for their great work on nutritious foods, let us remember Antonio. Let us do all we can to transform agriculture and create new hope and opportunities for millions of kids to experience the pain of agriculture for a living. Let us help ensure we eliminate malnutrition and stunting and build gray matter infrastructure for our world.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, let me introduce you on that screen to Antonio. Here before you is Antonio with me and this photo we took together in Madagascar. I sure hope he becomes a

medical doctor to fulfill his dream. How wonderful will it be to invite Antonio to this place, this same podium in the future to speak about food and medicine. And of course, Ambassador Quinn, it would be great to have my brother, Jim Kim, with me at that time to work and speak. Thank you very much, and God bless you.

Ambassador Quinn

That was wonderful, that was wonderful. Do you still want to do any questions or...

Thank you again, Mr. President, for inspiring. Let's have another round of applause for President Adesina. I told you he's a man of vision and of action, and this is so exciting. And, Mr. President, I want to suggest that the World Food Prize would be a good place to come back even every year, bring President Kim, and it ought to be the place where we take stock about all these initiatives. So we're sort of the Switzerland of Africa.

Thank you, everybody. We're getting close to time to start the afternoon session, so I have a couple of announcements. First of all, Roger Thurow is hopefully outside with his books, ready to do transactions and sign them for you, so remember that. I've got to be downstairs to greet President Ameenah Gurib-Fakim when she arrives, so Dr. Per Pinstруп-Andersen, the 2001 laureate, has agreed to step in and preside over the sessions this afternoon. And, finally, all students and teachers from the Global Youth Institute, stay where you are, stay seated, let everybody else go out first, and then you'll be appropriately guided there.

Thank you again. Thanks to the Soy organization's great soy lunch.