

United States
Department of
Agriculture

March 4, 2002 EOD-106

Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services

Farm Service Agency

Kansas City Commodity Office P.O. Box 419205 Kansas City, Missouri 64141-6205

NOTICE TO THE TRADE

USDA/USAID Export Food Aid Conference IV April 23-25, 2002 Westin Crown Center Hotel Kansas City, Missouri

You are cordially invited to the fourth USDA/USAID-sponsored Export Food Aid Conference, "Together We Can End World Hunger." The enclosed brochure contains information you will need to plan your attendance. We encourage on-line registration at www.fsa.usda.gov/daco/default.htm, or tear off and mail the registration form contained in the brochure along with your registration fee payment. The proposed conference agenda can also be viewed from the above web site.

I strongly encourage you to stay for the full three days of the conference. "Food Aid From A to Z" (an often requested comprehensive overview of food aid processes) promises to be informative and educational and is currently scheduled to run into the afternoon of the 25^{th} .

Following the conference on Friday, April 26, the Kansas City Commodity Office welcomes your visit to our offices for an informal "open house" if you wish to wrap up any unfinished business with your USDA representatives or meet with other partners in the export food aid family. A map and directions will be provided at the conference. You will need a picture I.D. to enter our building.

Please be aware that two other annual conferences traditionally held for Private Voluntary Organization audiences have been merged into this year's Export Food Aid Conference. Those conferences were sponsored by the Foreign Agricultural Service and held in Washington, D. C.; and, sponsored by the Kansas City Commodity Office's Contract Reconciliation Division and held in Kansas City, Missouri. Because of this merger, we expect the number of conference participants to increase significantly and space is limited, so please make plans to attend as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you there.

/s/ George W. Aldaya Director

Enclosure