



Dr. Kenneth (Ken) M. Baker was most recently Chairman of the Board of the World Agricultural Forum (WAF) and Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Board. The WAF was a non-for-profit institution for scientific, educational and charitable purposes established in the United States<sup>1</sup>.

Dr. Baker has had long and extensive global Corporate General Management responsibilities in Monsanto, Pharmacia and Pfizer corporations involved in the chemical, agricultural, pharmaceutical and related industries in Europe and the United States overseeing functions including Corporate Planning, Venture Capital Operations, New Business Development, Manufacturing, Government and Public Affairs, Science and Technology and Technical Service Operations and Marketing. Over many years, Dr. Baker has also established a wide experience and reputation in setting up and managing conferences and events around the world in India, Europe, South America and the United States.

Dr. Baker, born 1944, attended Ellerslie Primary School in Auckland and Penrose High School (now One Tree Hill College) Auckland where he was appointed a Prefect and received a number of academic and sporting awards. He then went on to study Science at the University of Auckland where in 1965, he completed the qualification for a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc). He commenced study and research in organic chemistry at the University of Auckland where in 1966 he obtained a Master of Science degree (M.Sc) with 1st Class Hons and then went on to carry out doctoral research in organic and physical chemistry when in 1968 he was conferred a Ph.D degree in Chemistry from the University of Auckland in the minimum time allowed to complete a doctorate. At Auckland University he also independently published several scientific papers. During his period at Auckland University he was also President of the University Canoe Club taking the society on many river and harbour trips.

On completion of his doctorate, Dr. Baker left for the University of Cambridge (U.K.) where he was appointed M. A. (Cantab.) and Member of Emanuel College. Dr. Baker is also a graduate of the Advanced Business Management Programme of INSEAD, the European Business School at Fontainebleau, France.

At Cambridge, Baker carried out research in chemistry from 1968 to 1970 while holding an ICI Post-Doctoral fellowship and a New Zealand Universities Post-Doctoral Fellowship. He was also offered a Fellowship of the Great Exhibition of 1851 which however, could not be financially cumulated with his

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<sup>1</sup> The WAF and its operations were superseded by the growth of modern information and conferencing technology, and the lessening importance of agriculture policy-making in Western societies.

other fellowships. At Cambridge, his mentor was the Head of the Chemistry Department, Professor Lord Todd (Nobel Prize 1952) and his supervisor was Dr. Dudley H. Williams with whom he carried out research in mass spectroscopy and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. Dr. Baker also undertook duties as an undergraduate tutor in organic chemistry at his College and was also appointed as a University of Cambridge Demonstrator (Laboratory Teacher) in Chemistry. At Cambridge he interacted frequently with the researchers at the Medical Research Laboratory in Cambridge learning from the several Nobel Prize winners Francis Crick, Sydney Brenner and Fred Sanger who carried out research there. In 1971, Dr. Baker left to take up a post at the pharmaceuticals company Syntex in Palo Alto, California, and subsequently in 1972 was appointed Wellcome Research Fellow at the Mario Negri Institute for pharmacological research in Milan, Italy.

Dr. Baker has in the past been asked to use his management expertise to both Chair and to serve on many advisory bodies to the European Commission and has given expert evidence to many government enquiries in Europe. He was instrumental in the founding of several industry trade and representative bodies in the European Union. The most notable of these are SAGB (Senior Advisory Group Biotechnology), EuropaBio, EUFIC (the European Food Information Council) and the Food and Agriculture Committee of the EU Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Baker interacts frequently with industry leaders in the agriculture sector and with government leaders and institutions around the world and is frequently involved in negotiations on various aspects of agricultural policy and representation with government bodies, industry and international organisations.

He has also developed an expert knowledge of the functioning of the European Commission, the European Council and the European Parliament, and the United States Government and is a familiar with Government circles in Brussels and the European Union Member States. He has contributed often to the public debate on the role of business, economics and modern science and technology especially in agriculture and economics through presentations and speeches to European and International Meetings.

Dr. Baker is fluent in English, French, Italian and Dutch and has notions of the German language.

His private outside interests include studying and writing on the History of New Zealand. Dr. Baker's ancestors were some of the earliest European settlers in New Zealand dating from 1827. Dr. Baker besides having mainly Irish and Italian roots is also according to family papers, a descendant of the Maori Chief Tekoupero or Te Kopero. He has a deep personal interest in travelling to understand the world's many cultures and history and appreciates good wine and food and collecting antiques.

Dr. Baker has a long record in providing financial support for philanthropic initiatives across his many personal interests. He is a Member and supporter of the New Zealand Pilgrimage Trust, a keen supporter of the Hokianga Historical Society in the Far North of New Zealand and numerous other organisations. Dr. Baker and has published many books and articles on a wide range of subjects which besides those of a professional policy and technical nature include subjects as diverse as New Zealander Prisoners of War in Belgium during WW1, the role of the Hokianga in the First World War, the development of the Forestry Industry in New Zealand as well as many academic papers.

Dr. Baker resides in Brussels, Belgium and Lake Como, Italy and makes frequent visits to New Zealand.

Some external links:

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=3&objectid=10781508](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=10781508)

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