



PRESS RELEASE

FRANCK RIBOUD AND MUHAMMAD YUNUS, FOUNDERS OF GRAMEEN DANONE FOODS, TO RECEIVE 2010 PASTEUR FOUNDATION AWARD AT ANNUAL GALA DINNER IN MAY

New York, NY. April 27, 2010. At its gala on Monday, May 17, 2010, the Pasteur Foundation will present its prestigious annual award to Chairman and CEO of Danone Franck Riboud and to Nobel Peace Laureate and microfinance pioneer Professor Muhammad Yunus, Managing Director of Grameen Bank.

The event will be held at Gotham Hall under the patronage of French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner, French Ambassador Pierre Vimont and French Consul General Philippe Lalliot.

François Sarkozy, MD, Managing Director of AEC Partners and Gustavo Valle, CEO of The Dannon Company are Dinner Chairmen.

Each year, inspired both by the current work conducted in biomedical research at the 120-year-old Institut Pasteur and by Louis Pasteur's continuing legacy, the Pasteur Foundation recognizes individuals who have made outstanding efforts to improve public health worldwide. The 2010 Pasteur Foundation Award is, among other things, an acclamation of the commitment of Franck Riboud and Muhammad Yunus to their remarkable joint venture, the social business Grameen Danone Foods.

The collaboration between Danone and the Grameen began with the meeting of Franck Riboud, Danone CEO, and Muhammed Yunus in 2005. They rapidly found common ground with a shared belief that business pursuing social goals from a sound, lasting base can be an effective way to combat poverty and malnutrition in the world's poorest countries. In 2006, Grameen and Danone set up Grameen Danone Foods, a joint venture based in Bangladesh, which started producing yogurt at a small plant near Bogra in early 2007. Grameen Danone Foods offers a model for local communities, encouraging them to progress by creating a business that is economically viable – an essential condition for its replication elsewhere.

Mr. Riboud and Professor Yunus join a distinguished group of recipients of the Pasteur Foundation Award, which includes Bill Clinton (2005), Richard Holbrooke (2008) and Nelson Mandela (2008).

About the Pasteur Foundation

The Pasteur Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, works to raise funds to support the world-renowned Institut Pasteur in Paris, France, whose mission is to improve public health by contributing to the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases. The proceeds of its annual gala are used to further the foundation's mission, which includes a series of programs to bring American scientists – from undergraduates to senior researchers– to carry out research in the Institut Pasteur's laboratories.

For information about the Pasteur Foundation, please visit www.pasteurfoundation.org or contact Caitlin Hawke, Executive Director, Pasteur Foundation, 420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 1654, New York, New York 10170. Tel: 212.599.2050.

For information about purchasing Pasteur Gala tickets, please contact gala@pasteurfoundation.org or call 212.675.9474 x13. Tickets are \$1,000 and \$1,500; gala tickets and tables are partially tax deductible. Donations are fully tax deductible.

About Franck Riboud

Franck Riboud serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Danone, a position he has held since 1996. Mr. Riboud joined Danone (then known as BSN) in 1980 and has held several positions, including General Manager of Evian in 1990 and General Manager of Corporate Business Development in 1992. In 1994, BSN became Danone; shortly thereafter, Franck Riboud was named Executive Vice President, and Chairman and CEO two years later. Today, Danone is a Fortune 500 company and one of the most successful healthy food companies in the world. Its mission is to bring health through food to as many people as possible. Danone, with 160 plants and around 80,000 employees, has a presence in all five continents and over 120 countries. In 2009, Danone recorded € 15 billion in sales. Danone enjoys leading positions on healthy food in four businesses: fresh dairy products (n°1 worldwide), water (n° 2 on the packaged water market), baby nutrition (n°2 worldwide) and medical nutrition. Listed on Euronext Paris, Danone is also ranked among the main indices of social responsibility: Dow Jones Sustainability Index Stoxx and World, ASPI Eurozone and Ethibel Sustainability index.

For information about Danone or Grameen Danone, please contact: Michael Neuwirth at The Dannon Company, (914) 872-8708 and mediainquiries@dannon.com.

About Professor Muhammad Yunus

Professor. Muhammad Yunus, founder and Managing Director of Grameen Bank and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, has been instrumental in lifting people worldwide out of poverty with the pioneering use of microcredit - supporting income generating activities by lending small amounts without collateral to the poor. Dr. Yunus has founded several other companies in Bangladesh to abate poverty and aid development, including mobile phone services, energy, education and health care. More recently, he has been promoting the idea of social business, a non-loss, non-dividend company with a social objective, as the missing link in capitalism. Grameen Danone Foods has been one of the most important businesses running through Social Business Principle in Bangladesh. Professor Yunus strongly believes that social business must not have profit maximization as a priority, and all profits earned by Grameen Danone are reinvested into the venture for further expansion and amelioration.

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