

Preface

A quick perusal of scientific and economic literature reveals a plethora of studies dealing with various topics related to food security. Surprisingly, however, there is a dearth of literature analysing and elaborating on the international policy and regulatory challenges that arise in attempting to ensure long-term global food security. The aim of this book is to fill, at least in some small part, that lacuna.

This book owes its genesis to one person, Mr James Ingram AO, former Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme. In 2005, Mr Ingram established the Ingram Fund for Law and Development in the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, to promote the study, teaching and dissemination of international law and to foster the understanding of the impact of international law on the interests of developing countries. A significant activity of the Fund is the Biennial Ingram Colloquium on International Law and Development, which was established to provide an interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas and to sharpen debate and enhance research on current issues of international law and development, having special regard to the concerns of developing countries.

This book builds on papers that were presented at the 3rd Biennial Ingram Colloquium, which was held at the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales in December 2010. While previous *colloquia* have focused on development issues relating to the Asia Pacific region, in 2010 the topic chosen was Food Security. After the Colloquium, speakers were invited to revise their papers for submission as chapters in this book and a number of other contributions having a policy or governance focus were specifically commissioned from authors in various disciplines. The book is structured around five themes all having a central focus on policy and regulatory issues. Part I provides an introductory overview of the challenges identified by the authors. In Part II policy frameworks relating to access to food and food insecurity are examined. The chapters in Part III examine the theme of sustainability and food security while the theme of Part IV is food, trade and investment. The chapters in Part V conclude the book with an examination of the theme of food governance.

We are deeply indebted to Mr Ingram for his generous gift to the UNSW Law Faculty, which has made both the Colloquium and this book possible. However, this project would not have been possible without the contributions of our many authors who have engaged so assiduously with the issues and from whom we have learned so much about the challenge of food security. We are, of course, also grateful to our colleagues at the University of New South Wales who assisted in various ways with the planning and running of the Colloquium. In addition to her support at UNSW, the Faculty of Law at Lund University has provided Rosemary with an immensely enriching environment in which to work on the manuscript during her sojourn there as Conjoint Professor of International Environmental Law, while Nicole's personal thanks go to her partner Trevor for his patience and ongoing support. Finally, we would like to thank Ben Booth at Edward Elgar for his recognition of the importance of the topic and for his support during the course of this book's realization.

Rosemary Rayfuse
Nicole Weisfelt