

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Contact: Sandy Mays
Wolf, DiMatteo + Associates
phone (540) 864-5107
fax (540) 864-5161
info@organicspecialists.com

ADOPTION OF ORGANIC FARMING IS TOP PRIORITY FOR NEW IFOAM PRESIDENT

NEW CASTLE, VA (July 2, 2008) – “Organic principles and practices improve world food systems and help mitigate climate change”, said IFOAM’s new World Board President, Katherine DiMatteo. DiMatteo, senior associate at Wolf, DiMatteo + Associates and former executive director of the Organic Trade Association (OTA) was elected President of the World Board of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) at IFOAM’s General Assembly held last week in Vignola, Italy.

“I am pleased and honored to have been elected to the IFOAM Board and to serve as President,” says Katherine DiMatteo. “I will do my best to promote our mission of leading, uniting and assisting the organic movement in its full diversity. I look forward to working with the very skilled individuals elected to the IFOAM World Board and to helping IFOAM’s Executive Director Angela Caudle de Freitas grow the organization. My top priorities are for IFOAM to become a strong advocate for organic agriculture at all levels, to foster harmonization, equivalence and equitable trade, and to facilitate discussions on the future of organic.”

DiMatteo will head the ten-member IFOAM World Board for the next three years. Other members are from Australia, India, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Peru, the Philippines, Switzerland, and Uganda, spanning five continents. Roberto Ugas of Peru and Urs Niggli of Switzerland were named Vice-Presidents and with DiMatteo will comprise the IFOAM executive committee.

“The organic community is facing substantial challenges and even bigger opportunities to help solve critical global environmental problems and deliver better, healthier food and fibre systems. Katherine is held in high esteem worldwide in the organic, environmental, and agricultural communities and has the experience and skills to bring people together in this effort. Everyone at Wolf DiMatteo is pleased that Katherine will be heading the Board and that we can support this effort,” Bill Wolf, President of Wolf DiMatteo + Associates commented, in response to news of the election results.

###

IFOAM is the worldwide umbrella organization for the organic movement, uniting more than 750 member organizations in 108 countries. IFOAM, through its General Assembly, helps guard organic credibility and integrity worldwide. www.ifoam.org

Wolf, DiMatteo + Associates’ mission is to deliver the strategic expertise to help organic, socially and environmentally responsible products and projects reach their full potential and flourish. www.organicspecialists.com

The Organic Trade Association (OTA) is the membership-based business association for organic agriculture and products in North America. Its more than 1,700 members include growers, shippers, processors, certifiers, farmers’ associations, distributors, importers, exporters, consultants, retailers and others. OTA’s mission is to promote and protect the growth of organic trade to benefit the environment, farmers, the public and the economy. www.ota.com