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## **NDFU President attends United Nations Climate Change Conference**

North Dakota Farmers Union President Robert Carlson is among many international leaders discussing solutions for the global community at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen from Dec. 7-18. Carlson is representing the International Federation of Ag Producers.

Approximately 15,000 leaders from 192 countries are anticipated at the event, representing governments, the business community and civil society. International leaders are focusing on finding solutions to the problems resulting from global climate change.

“Many earnest leaders are gathered at the conference to listen to ideas on how to curb the effects of climate change,” Carlson said. “While the agriculture contingency seems to be rather small at the event, many nations see the need to recognize agriculture’s role in negating the effects of climate change.”

The first week of the conference is considered Ag Week. Carlson spoke at the plenary session of Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technology Advice (SBSTA), urging the development of standards for agriculture mitigation of greenhouse gases. Carlson stressed the importance of including various agricultural practices in sequestering greenhouse gases, such as no-till farming, planting grass and trees, manure management, placement of nitrogen fertilizers and the development of biofuels, which can all contribute as unique players and are a relatively inexpensive and quick way to reduce greenhouse emissions.

Carlson will also give presentations Dec. 11 and 12. On Dec. 12, he is presenting with Sue Carlson, National Farmers Union Foundation board member. Robert Carlson is working at the conference to ensure that agriculture has a seat at the table in terms of agriculture offsets being accepted internationally. Carlson is presenting again the following week on Dec. 15.

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