Tianjin Declaration

The 8th World Instant Noodle Summit was held in Tianjin, China. Instant noodle manufacturers and related companies from around the world gathered to discuss the theme of “Instant Noodles for Better Life,” and reaffirmed the mission of instant noodles.

Instant noodles have always played an important role in times of crisis. Here in China, after the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake and the 2010 Qinghai Earthquake, the World Instant Noodles Association (WINA), with the cooperation of its member companies, extended aid with large amounts of instant noodles. In other countries, instant noodles demonstrated its power in the wake of the catastrophes brought on by last year’s Tohoku earthquake in Japan, the flood in Thailand, and the typhoon in the Philippines. To the victims of disaster, regardless of nationality, a hot bowl of instant noodles affords a sense of relief. This is what sets instant noodles apart from other emergency foods that just fill the stomach, it is the unique value of instant noodles. Thus, we have resolved to further our aid through instant noodles, and to this effect we have decided to instantly inject 500,000 US dollars to the WINA Disaster Relief Fund and call for the donation from Governors and member companies.

The role of instant noodles is not limited to times of crises. Last year, the world population surpassed 7 billion. It is predicted that this population will reach 10 billion by 2050. With warning cries for an impending food crisis, the annual consumption of instant noodles has reached 98.2 billion units, and instant noodles are expected to fulfill a very important role. This is because instant noodles is a food that fulfills all 5 criteria: tasty and nutritious, convenient, safe and hygienic, storable for long-term, and reasonably priced.

Particularly with regard to food safety, we the instant noodle industry have strived our utmost. We are determined to maintain this stance. We recognize that fair competition between companies is imperative in that it increases the choices available to the consumer. At the same time, we affirm that, in order to protect the consumer, information regarding food safety and environmental protection should be regarded as a non-competitive sector, and should be actively shared among members of the industry using WINA as a base. Of recent, there have been numerous incidents threatening our food safety. We will not relent in our efforts to eliminate dangerous materials. However, we issue caution against trends that seek recall or destroy all products on the market even when the levels are such that no effect on the human body can be seen. The human body has tolerable intake levels, and to make judgments using a standard of just positive or negative lacks reason. Not only this, it may even lead to a waste of resources and deterioration of the global environment. We ask that the media and consumers base their actions on standards which have scientific basis, such as Tolerable Daily Intake.

We pledge to continue to further the cause of food safety. Based on our belief that serving quality goods means serving the society, we declare here from Tianjin, China, the city of food, that we will continue to contribute to society through instant noodles.

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Wei IngChou, Director General
World Instant Noodles Association (WINA)