SUSTAINABLE FARMING AND FOOD IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

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STATEMENT FROM SIR DON CURRY – FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE FARMING AND FOOD STRATEGY

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Sir Don said:

“I welcome the opportunity to continue the task of driving forward the delivery of the Sustainable Farming and Food Strategy.

We have achieved a lot in the last three years, laying the foundations on which to build a new future for farming and food. The next three years will be crucial as the farming and food industry adjusts to the changes and starts to make the most of the opportunities that are now on offer - improving returns from the market and the production of public goods.

When the Strategy was launched three years ago, Defra recognised the enormous challenge and had the courage to appoint an independent Implementation Group to help drive it forward. I would like to commend Defra for their commitment to partnership working and their willingness to be challenged. It has been an innovative approach and one that I am confident will result in significant progress being made over the next three years.

The changes are really challenging for many businesses, but a sustainable future for our farming and food sector is so important that we all need to work together (Government and stakeholders) to resolve difficulties and identify solutions – I do believe we can.”