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## Staf Van den Bergh

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Born 1949, economist, working in the banking sector and was a part time lecturer in finance at the University of Limburg. Breeder of old breeds of Belgian sheep and poultry. Joined the Belgian "Vereniging voor het Behoud van Zeldzame Huisdierrassen - V.B.Z.H." (Organisation for the Safeguard of rare breeds) some 15 years ago and became a member of the board in 1993. Has since then played an active role in the development of the organisation. Membership of V.B.Z.H. has increased substantially, the quarterly publication "De ARK" has become a reference at home and V.B.Z.H. has been recognised by both the Federal and the Regional Belgian Governments as the representative organisation with regard to the old breeds. He has set up and acted as president of a working group on old Belgian breeds of sheep and goats, which resulted in V.B.Z.H. being recognised as an official breeding organisation for old breeds of sheep and entrusted with the organisation of the flock book. Recently V.B.Z.H. changed its denomination into "Stichting Levend Erfgoed - Fondation Patrimoine Vivant" (Living Inheritance Foundation). *V.B.Z.H.* as now *The Stichting* plays an active role in the Rural Development Program that has been set up by the Flemish Ministry of Agriculture in application of the EU Directive 1257/99.

He has been the representative of V.B.Z.H. Stichting Levend Erfgoed - Fondation Patrimoine Vivant at the SAVE-meetings since 1997. For SAVE he is active in a volunteer position as permanent representative with the European Commission in Brussels. The Board of Directors elected him as chairman of SAVE Foundation for the term 2003-2005.