

PEOPLE'S FOOD SOVEREIGNTY
SOBERANÍA ALIMENTARIA DE LOS PUEBLOS
SOUVERAINÉTÉ ALIMENTAIRE DES PEUPLES
SOVRANITÀ ALIMENTARE DEI POPOLI



Uno no vende la tierra
por la cual camina su pueblo

Tashunka Witko, 1840-1877

FINAL REPORT
MAY, 2010

PEOPLE'S
FOOD
SOVEREIGNTY
FORUM

CIVIL SOCIETIES ORGANIZATIONS [CSO] FORUM

13 - 17 NOVEMBER 2009, ROME





PEOPLE'S FOOD SOVEREIGNTY NOW!

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSO) FORUM PARALLEL TO
WORLD SUMMIT ON FOOD SECURITY 2009
13TH–17TH NOVEMBRE ROMA

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General presentation of the CSO Forum

« Food sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems. It puts those who produce, distribute and consume food at the heart of food systems and policies rather than the demands of markets and corporations. It defends the interests and inclusion of the next generation. It offers a strategy to resist and dismantle the current corporate trade and food regime, and directions for food, farming, pastoral and fisheries systems determined by local producers. Food sovereignty prioritises local and national economies and markets and empowers peasant and family farmer-driven agriculture, artisanal-fishing, pastoralist-led grazing, and food production, distribution and consumption based on environmental, social and economic sustainability. Food sovereignty promotes transparent trade that guarantees just income to all peoples and the rights of consumers to control their food and nutrition. It ensures that the rights to use and manage our lands, territories, waters, seeds, livestock and biodiversity are in the hands of those of us who produce food. Food sovereignty implies new social relations free of oppression and inequality between men and women, peoples, racial groups, social classes and generations. »

Nyeleni declaration Mali, February 2007

What were the objectives of the Forum?

The CSO Forum on People's Food Sovereignty (the CSO Forum) aimed to bring together representatives from peasant and small-scale family-farmers organizations, rural women, artisanal fisherfolk, indigenous people, rural youth, pastoralists, landless people, the urban poor and NGOs, to develop joint analyses and strategies to overcome the tragic situation of hunger in the world. Their aim was to make the voices of those most affected by the food crisis heard by the governments that gathered in Rome for the World Summit on Food Security. For the first time in history, the growing numbers of the hungry has surpassed the one billion mark. Considering this alarming situation, the FAO Council decided to hold a World Summit on Food Security, November 16th to 18th in order to keep the challenge of food insecurity on top of the international agenda.

The Forum sought to strengthen the commitment of governments and UN agencies to the eradication of hunger and malnutrition, the realization of the right to food and the people's food sovereignty agenda by sharing the analyses of the most affected communities with policy-makers. It also worked to strengthen alliances among different constituencies of food producers, and foster dialogue on the causes of world hunger and the food crisis, as well as further developing common agendas for action to eradicate hunger. The Forum took place in Rome, from the 13th to the 17th of November 2009.

The moment is particularly important for civil society and thus requires their major mobilization to change mainstream agricultural and food policies and effectively address the root causes of hunger and poverty in the current situation of multiple crises (the climate, economic, financial and food crises). Facilitating the participation of these organisations in the World Summit on Food Security was key, as the change that is needed can only be affected through the active participation of the organisations and social movements of the food producers themselves, as well as the NGOs/CSOs that support them.



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How was the Forum organized?

As soon as the summit was announced, social movements, NGOs and other CSOs opened a dialogue with FAO to organize a parallel Forum of Civil Society. This dialogue got off to a shaky start which unfortunately had an adverse impact on the entire process (these have been detailed in FAO's post-Forum evaluation by the Forum's Steering Committee). The basic cause for this was that while there was a consensus among CSOs that the process should recognise the principles of self-organization and autonomy of civil society, the FAO contradicted its commitment since 2001 to these principles by announcing in summer 2009 that it would organize the CSO forum itself. It even proposed IFAD, another inter-governmental organization, to be part of the organizing committee. This was completely unacceptable for organizations from the civil-society, who sent a letter to FAO rejecting this proposal and expressing their will, if FAO was not to change its mind, to organize a counter-forum. IFAD played a positive role in this dispute, maintaining that as an inter-governmental organisation, it could not take part in a process to organise a forum *for* civil society because respect for the autonomy of civil society implies that they should organise their own fora. Considering strong opposition from various actors, FAO decided to withdraw its proposal.

In order to organize a Forum genuinely representative of the voices of the most affected, an International Steering Committee (ISC) composed of different constituencies and balanced in terms of regions and gender was set up. The ISC was composed of representatives of the two main global farmers' organizations, three regional farmers' organizations, the two global fisherfolk organisations, and organisations of the following constituencies : pastoralists, Indigenous Peoples, agricultural and food workers, environmentalists, agro-ecological networks, the urban poor, youth, human rights defenders, international non-governmental organizations, the ad-hoc group of international non-governmental organizations in formal status with FAO, the secretariat of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty, and the Italian Platform for Food Sovereignty acting as the national host committee (the complete list of ISC members is included in the annex).

A secretariat was formed with the strong support of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty to organize the logistics of the Forum, facilitate and assist the ISC in all its work, and to lead negotiations with FAO.

Program and methodology

Besides the International Steering Committee, a methodology group was established composed of a small number of people with experience in these issues from social movements and NGO/CSOs, to prepare background documents on the four themes that had been identified by the ISC:

- Who decides about food and agriculture?
- Who controls food producing resources?
- How is the food produced?
- Who needs access to food?

These background papers, as well as the overall program of the Forum, were proposed by the methodology group and approved by the ISC. The program for the assemblies of women, youth and indigenous peoples were developed by those put in charge of those assemblies by the ISC. (Please find the thematic background papers as well as the programs in the annex.)



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Program and structure of the Forum

The program was a combination of assemblies (women, youth, indigenous peoples and alliances), thematic working groups, meetings of regional groups, plenaries, and side events. Each of the assemblies issued its own declaration or statement. In addition, the pastoralists and fisherfolk organised their own meetings and issued their own statements. It was made clear during the first plenary that the final declaration of the Forum would be based only on the outcomes of the 4 thematic working groups. The draft declaration was presented and after some changes by consensus, approved during the final plenary. It was presented by a delegation of social movements and read by them during the plenary of the World Food Summit.

The program of the Forum was based on two main parallel processes: the caucuses and the working groups.

First, it was recognized the need for particularly marginalized sectors of the society to be given special attention and time for them to be able to take an active part in the discussions, prepare their interventions in the working groups and review the draft declaration to make sure that their interests were well represented in it. On this purpose, three caucuses – Women, Youth and Indigenous peoples – were created. They met first on the 14th of November afternoon, then again on the 15th November morning and finally on the 16th of November late afternoon.

Second, the working groups were set up to be the main space for building joint analyses and strategies and reaching an agreement on a final declaration. There were four working groups:

- Who decides about food and agriculture?
- Who controls food producing resources?
- How is food produced?
- Who has/needs access to food?

Each working group produced a summary of the current situation for their issues, a proposed plan of joint actions, and one or two paragraphs for a final declaration. They met on the 15th November afternoon and on the 16th November.

Participants

In order to guarantee a strong and balanced representation of different constituencies and regions in the Forum, the International Steering Committee had agreed upon the following quotas for choosing delegates. According to these quotas, a decentralized process coordinated among the regions and the constituencies prepared a list of candidates. The ISC chose the final participants based on this list.

Quotas:

→According to Gender: Women : 60% / Men : 40%

→According to regions: South East Asia & Pacific : 20% / South Asia : 15% / Africa : 25% / Americas : 20% / Europe : 10% / WESCANA : 10%

→According to Constituencies: Farmers : 15% / Indigenous Peoples : 15% / Fisherfolk : 15% / Youth : 15% / Women : 15% / Agricultural workers : 10% / Pastoralists : 5% / Urban poor : 5% / NGOs : 5%



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The Forum ultimately was able to convene 642 participants from 93 countries and representing 450 organisations of peasant and family farmers, small scale fisher folk, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, youth, women, the urban poor, agricultural workers, local and international NGOs, and other social actors.

Among them, 337 were women and 305 men, 208 were delegates and 277 observers.

Delegates came from the following constituencies:

Peasants and farmers: 59

Indigenous People: 27

Women: 28

Fisherfolk: 15

Rural youth: 35

Pastoralists: 9

Urban poor: 8

Consumers: 1

Environmentalists: 1

Migrant Workers: 1

NGO: 21

Researchers: 2

Interpreters and interpretation technology

The Forum was only made possible thanks to the great involvement of a particularly dedicated team of volunteers, among which the interpreters and the team in charge of the interpretation technology were key. Indeed, in order for the participants of the Forum to be able to communicate in three languages (English, Spanish and French), 27 voluntary but often professional interpreters from Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Germany and Switzerland joined the Forum. The interpretation technology was partly organized by a private company and partly by a self-managed collective for activist interpretation, COATI.

Volunteer staff

Besides the interpreters, 20 volunteers helped to deal with all the practicalities of such a big event. Most of them came through their involvement with two Italian NGOs who were active in the organisation of the Forum: FOCSIV and Centro Internazionale CROCEVIA, and there were even some volunteers coming from Spain. They took charge of the accreditation of participants, information distribution, the distribution of lunch, the distribution of and help with the interpretation head-sets, etc.

Practicalities

The Forum took place in Citta dell'Altra Economia (CAE; ex-Mattatoio), a venue particularly suited for this event as it brings together several people's initiatives in Rome to develop a fair and sustainable economy. All food served to the participants was organic and produced in Italy by food producers who are members of AIAB, the Italian Association for Organic Agriculture.



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13/11/09 Plenary with Olivier de Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

The day before the opening of the Forum, the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier de Schutter, had been invited to share his views on the global governance of food and agriculture with the participants of the Forum. To begin the discussions, Flavio Valente (FIAN), the chair of this session, put four questions to him.

What do you see as next step for government commitments?

De Schutter explained that the reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) was a good step towards achieving a coordinated approach between governments, UN food-related organizations, Bretton Woods institutions and CSOs, to tackle hunger in the world. However, there are still discussions over who exactly will have the leading role in food governance. How, for example, will the CFS coordinate with the High-Level Task-Force established by the UN Secretary General? Another key issue is the role of the World Bank: in the current framework, funding will be channelled through the World Bank. However, it is still not clear who will decide where the money goes and how this will be monitored. The Special Rapporteur advised CSOs to pay very particular attention to these issues and to participate actively in the next CFS sessions (see position of the Special Rapporteur on CFS reform in annex).

There is also the question over the impact of the World Trade Organization on the food crisis and food governance. De Schutter sent a letter to Pascal Lamy, the Director-General of the WTO, to express his concern that the Doha Round would be re-launched without first having analysed the consequences of trade liberalization throughout the 1990s.

How do you see your role in terms of food governance?

The Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food is an independent expert appointed by the Human Rights Council to examine and report back on the realization of the right to food. He promotes the adoption of measures at the national, regional and international levels for the realization of the right of everyone to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger. He reports both to the UN General Assembly and to the Human Rights Council on the fulfilment of his mandate.

De Schutter considers that he has a role to play in alerting international institutions and national governments about policies which can or cannot work to tackle hunger. For example, he wrote a report on the WTO in Spring 2009 that he presented both to the Human Rights Council and to the WTO assembly to alert them that the "Doha round will not prevent another food crisis".

He stated that meeting with social organizations and with affected communities was an important part of his task, as food producers and people affected by hunger are often the ones that know better how to deal with food crises.



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What positions does he share with social movements? How can they work together?

De Schutter explained that he saw the relations with social organizations as fundamental, yet the respective roles are different. He thinks that positive changes will be possible only through the mobilizations and commitment of social organizations. He sees his role as bringing forward the concerns and proposals of movements and CSOs to the many institutions to which he has a privileged access. He also needs as much as possible the information and experience that CSOs have gained through their work therefore he looks forward to even more interaction in the coming months.

What new topics are relevant for his work in the coming years?

The Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food expressed a concern over the rapid privatization of food producing resources, such as land grabbing and the privatization of coastal areas and/or of the right to fish. For this reason, he plans to write the following reports: on the Role of agribusiness companies (March 2010), on access to land (November 2010) and on women and children's nutrition (March 2011).

For further information, please also see in Annex the Statement of Olivier de Shutter to the World Summit on Food Security on 18th November 2009 (The Role of the Right to Food in Achieving Sustainable Global Food Security).

All information on the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food and his reports can be found on the following website: www.srfood.org



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Opening plenary

At the opening plenary, Sergio Marelli, the President of FOCSIV, welcomed the participants on behalf of the entire ISC. Then both the Mayor of Rome, Gianni Alemanno, and the Director General of FAO, Jacques Diouf, addressed the delegates about the importance of civil society's role in finding ways out of the food crisis. Next, four delegates to the Forum, representing some of the most marginalised constituencies, explained what, from their point of view, was at stake during this Forum. To conclude this first session, Antonio Onorati reviewed the long path of the food sovereignty movement from 1996 until now.

Gianni Alemanno, Mayor of Rome

The Mayor of Rome first welcomed the participants of the Forum to Rome. He stressed that through its situation, at the border between the North and the South, between developed and developing countries, Rome feels very close to the terrible drama of hunger. He expressed the necessity to look at human beings regardless of their origins, and to defend their right to life and to food.

Alemanno recalled that he had been the Minister of Agriculture of Italy. Often during FAO summits, he remembered that objectives would be laid out, political commitment would be promised by the governments, but unfortunately, after so many years, hunger has not only not been defeated, but a growing number of people are hungry. Children are particularly suffering from hunger. Alemanno pointed out that this crisis is the result of a choice of a model of development.

This is the reason why, he stressed, this Forum is so important: civil society should be given more space in the dialogue with institutions and governments if hunger is to be overcome. He argued that governments too often take decisions influenced by lobbies, industry, and that particularly in developing countries, the voices of farmers are not heard. Industrialisation has forced people to leave their land. For this reason, it is time to give voice to farmers, to civil society organizations, to the legitimate representatives of the food producers, in order to bring balance to the choices facing governments. The governments should listen to farmers, because they know how to strengthen agriculture.

Alemanno underlined that the reform of the CFS would give more power to civil society. FAO has been criticized unfairly for being too bureaucratic. But he testified that under Diouf, FAO has given more space to the weakest. This, he hoped, would be strengthened by the reformed CFS.

According to the Mayor of Rome, within the negotiations of WTO, agriculture was just considered as another paragraph, below that of industry. Yet, he believes that agriculture should not be treated as just another trade chapter. There has been a clash with Northern and Southern farmers and this has been wrong. Aid directed towards multi-functional agriculture should support farmers, particularly those in the poorest countries. Alemanno refused to accept that agriculture be abandoned. He believed that support for agriculture should take place in the context of an open and free market, but that agriculture has its own function, and that food not a commodity. He



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expressed his scepticism towards GMOs and patents which expropriate seeds from farm communities.

As we approach the Climate Summit in Copenhagen, the strong connection between food and climate issues has to be reaffirmed, he stated. Climate-friendly food production should be promoted.

For this reason, he believed that strong commitments had to be taken by developed countries in order to implement the right decisions and to use existing resources well for the benefit of farmers. The implementation of the Right to food will be key.

The Mayor of Rome concluded by stating that governments will commit if civil society organizations give them this message. He said that the dramatic situation of hunger has helped us to understand how globalization works: it works for the profit of TNCs. Now, he said, we have to make sure that globalization serves the people.

Jacques Diouf, Director-General, FAO

Sergio Marelli welcomed Jacques Diouf, the Director-General of FAO. Diouf came to the Forum as he was starting a 24-hour hunger-strike in solidarity with hungry people worldwide and to demand more attention for the Food Summit.

Diouf first highlighted the importance of the Summit given that world hunger has been worsening over the last two years. One billion people are hungry, a sixth of the world population. This is not acceptable. For this reason, FAO has decided to create an opportunity for different partners in the world to address this problem. Thanks to this initiative, heads of states and government representatives from more than 180 countries are coming to Rome. This is the third Summit on Food Security, after 1996 and 2002. The Director-General of FAO recognized that summits don't solve all problems, but at least they create a space for governments to discuss and to try to reach commitments. Moreover the Summit is necessary to draw the attention of the world to this shocking situation. He underlined that while billions of dollars were gathered in a few weeks to get out of the financial crisis, we have not succeeded in gathering only 44 million dollars a year from overseas development institutions to allow all human beings to eat.

Diouf reminded the delegates that most of the world's hungry were those who produced food. Farmers in developing countries suffer because of the mechanisms of trade. But farmers in developed countries also demonstrate in the streets, they throw milk in the fields to protest against their loss of revenue. The current food system puts farmers in developing and developed countries in conflict. Diouf stated that we need to support all farmers in the world, because we have to feed the one billion hungry today, but also to increase production to feed nine billion people in 2020. He said that technology does a lot, but it will not help without farmers.

The Director-General of FAO regretted that real problems are not being addressed. The budget of FAO is only half a dollar a year for each hungry person – so FAO cannot do much. It provides data, statistics, but for really tackling the problem of hunger, it would need 44 billion dollars every year.

Moreover trade unfairness should be stopped. FAO is not against support, but in favour of the right kind of support: for poor farmers, not for wealthy intermediaries. He said that farmers,



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NGOs, CSOs, have the duty of solidarity to change the system. Thanks to current technologies, the income of farmers should be at least at the level of other workers.

Diouf told delegates that FAO had conducted all the necessary studies to provide the basis for a political decision to ensure the right to food. Three hundred of the best experts in the world looked at it in the last months and they found out that we can feed the world, but we have to take the right decisions and to implement the decisions that we make.

In 1996, at the first Summit on Food Security since 1944, governments agreed on the objective of cutting by half the number of hungry by 2015. But today, experts predict that this objective could only be reached by 2150. FAO produced a document on how to achieve this goal but, complained Diouf, FAO's voice was not heard and the number of hungry people has now risen from 840 million to one billion.

Commodities from developing countries should access developed markets. Trade is not fair, he stated, but we should also have the courage to say that the problem also lies with developing countries themselves. They are responsible for ensuring their own economic development. Only 5% of their national budgets on average is spent on agriculture.

"You NGOs, CSOs, farmers organizations, you can do something about it, because this is first a political problem. We are trying to get a declaration, we are trying to bring in the private sector, but it is not enough. We need the attention of people around the world beyond governments to make food security a political priority."

Diouf thanked participants of the Forum for what they are doing and called on them to take action that will draw attention on this unacceptable situation.

Sherry Pictou (Canada) - World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP):

Sherry Pictou is a fisherwoman from an Indigenous community in Canada. She reaffirmed the importance of the Nyeleni Forum for Food Sovereignty in Mali in 2007 which brought together farmers, indigenous peoples and fisherfolk among others. Since then many people have been supportive of food sovereignty and they have tried to take this issue to FAO. She saw some improvement in the way FAO and its Committee on Fisheries deal with the issues and thinks that now is a good time for promoting food sovereignty. However, she regretted the fact that in Northern countries – such as her country, Canada – the rights of Indigenous Peoples and fisherfolk are not respected. The food summit's draft declaration carries the assumption that people in developed countries are fine, while she noted that Indigenous Peoples and fisherfolk in Northern countries are suffering a lot. She stressed that globalization knows no frontiers and that the marginalized communities of developed countries needed support too to overcome exploitation.

Chennaiah Poguri (India) - National Agricultural Workers Forum/Coalition of Agricultural Workers International (CAWI)

Chennaiah is a farmer and member of the Asian Farmers Association as well as the Coalition of Agricultural Workers International. He pointed to the failure of the 1996 World Food Summit which



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promised to halve the number of hungry people by 2015. Every year 40 million people are added to the number of the hungry and agricultural communities and workers are the most affected. The WTO Agreement on Agriculture has worsened the situation: small farmers do not depend on exportation but on local markets. Besides this, he emphasized that great quantities of agricultural land are taken away from farmers to the benefit of the industry. He condemned trade treaties through which peoples' resources are being stolen. FAO is partly responsible for this crisis, he said, yet no other UN body could address food producers and for this reason he believed that FAO was needed and should be protected.

Hortense Kinkodila-Tombo (Republic of Congo) - Concertation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes et des producteurs agricoles (CNOP-Congo)

Hortense Kinkodila-Tombo presented an analysis of the current situation. In 2008, she said, everyone was talking about the food crisis, but following the financial crisis it seems to have been forgotten. Yet, for the people the crisis is still there. The dismantling of public policies has made it difficult for communities to produce food. Small farmers feed most of the people in the world, they produce most of the food, but instead of strengthening them, everything has been tried to chase them off their land, through forcing markets open, decreasing public support, land grabbing, etc. The crisis occurred because of the lack of interest of our governments in supporting small-scale farmers and fisherfolk. So now farmers ask governments to support and to protect small scale food producers. Small-scale food producers feed more than 75% of the world population. They are able to overcome the food crisis if they are supported and have access to agricultural resources. In the context of climate change, she stressed that the solutions does not lie in techno-fixes but in sustainable food production.

Saul Vicente, International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), Mexico

Vicente began by stressing that the right to food is a basic human right and the voluntary guidelines on the right to food were approved by FAO in 2004. CSOs shared these initiatives. Yet CSOs decided to meet in this forum for food sovereignty because they were concerned about the rising number of hungry people in the world, now 1 billion of which 80% are food producers. Indigenous Peoples are among the most affected by the crisis and their rights are not properly recognized. This crisis is the result of 30 years of agriculture for export, of monoculture, of liberalization of trade, of the dismantling of market protection, of rising oil prices and of land grabbing. We are faced with a crisis of the model of food production. Therefore we must change the paradigm of food production towards one centred around small scale food producers. Unfortunately, few governments are listening to civil society or supporting food sovereignty. Will FAO and the governments change this model of development? Will the developed countries commit to implementing the right to food? Will CSOs be listened to and be able to participate? There is some hope, but there are concerns too that the only proposed solutions are more free markets, more liberalization and more GMOs. It is time to build a new model of development.



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After a break, the session continued in plenary. Antonio Onorati, the International Focal Point of IPC and president of Centro Internazionale CROCEVIA, related the long path of the food sovereignty movement from 1996 until now.

Antonio Onorati, International Focal Point of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC), People's movement for food sovereignty from 1996 to now

Onorati first explained that social organizations don't meet just because there are official summits, but because there are people and people's movements that want to communicate and to get organized. Nevertheless, summits such as the World Summit on Food Security provide spaces where social organizations can be more visible and recognized. We need to be present during such summits, he said, in order for people's voice to get heard by governments.

Since 1996, we have started a caravan, peoples coming from different directions embarked on a joint journey. From November 11th -17th 1996, our first CSO Forum parallel to the World Food Summit was held in an former train station in Rome, with more than 1000 delegates. Already back in 1996, as we were facing market liberalization, our message was « Profits for a few or food for all? ». We were demanding a strengthening of people's capacity, support for local food systems and immediate and genuine agrarian reform. We were refusing the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a few transnational companies. At this forum our demand for food sovereignty was born.

In 2002 the IPC organised the second global forum parallel to the World Food Summit: *five years later* « Food Sovereignty, a right for all ». The statement that we issued expressed our dissatisfaction towards the Summit declaration and our lack of trust that governments could devise adequate responses to hunger. It expressed the fact that civil society was able to propose alternative solutions, to build up proposals for food policies that would effectively deal with the rural crisis for the general interest.

Just before the opening of the Forum, a demonstration was held in Rome which gathered more than 25,000 people and was a great success after the trauma caused by Genoa mobilizations in 2001. "It was a very strong moment, as for once our mobilization was not only to oppose the proposals of governments, but to propose our own alternatives". These mobilizations also took place in the run up to WTO summit in Cancun in 2003 and social movements stated then that they were determined to build social awareness to make the WTO summit in Cancun fail. Finally, Cancun proved to be a failure thanks particularly to the commitment of small-scale food producers.

In 2006, FAO organised the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD) took place in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Over the preceding 30 years, governments had failed to address the important issue of access to land. The parallel CSO conference, *Land, Territory and Dignity*, called for a genuine agrarian reform based on food sovereignty. Social organizations took an important step forward in introducing the concept of « territory ». The CSO conference also represented a great progress in our capacity to create a dialogue between the most invisible, the most marginalized, and governments.

ICARRD was organized in a much more open way than usual, particularly thanks to the commitment of the hosting country, Brazil. There was a debate on equal-footing between



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representatives of social organizations and governments and a mutual recognition of each others role. The methodology of organising ICARRD with the participation of CSOs became a model for how CSOs want to work with international institutions. As a result, more than 80 governments agreed – despite strong opposition from the European Union and the United States – that access to land was a key element in fighting hunger and that this was a right for those cultivating land.

In June 2008, FAO reacted to the food crisis by calling for a conference on the food crisis and climate change. This conference took place in a moment of great tension regarding the global governance of food and agriculture. Civil society was completely excluded from the preparatory process of the summit, but was strong enough to finally reach an agreement that CSOs would present their declaration at the official conference. Moreover, the press requested more than 300 interviews of CSO leaders, demonstrating that our proposals were taken seriously at the international level.

To conclude, for the last 13 years, we have asked not only for a change in food policies, but also in how those policies and decisions are made. Governments cannot decide alone about food production, they have to discuss with those who produce food and with those who are the most affected by hunger. Our caravan succeeded in getting recognition for the fact that small-scale food producers are able to propose solutions for the problems that affect them. They elaborate responses often in a better way than governments. This is why governments need to listen better to social organizations.

“We face a lot of repression in our struggle for food sovereignty, as the example of Fraggio Resito, an Italian peasant leader killed by the mafia in 1948 reminds us, or Lee Kyung-hae who died in Cancun in 2003”. Finally, Onorati recalled the words of the indigenous leader, Tashunka Witko «One does not sell the earth upon which the people walk » : ultimately, the land belongs to no one and only those who protect the land have the right to work it, to pass it on to future generations. This is what food sovereignty means.



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Plenary on reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

The second session of the plenary was about the reform of the Committee on World Food Security. Sofia Monsalve (FIAN), the Chair of the session, introduced her Excellency the Permanent representative of Argentina in FAO, Maria del Carmen Squeff and his Excellency the Permanent representative of the Philippines, Noel De Luna. As Chair of the CFS during that time, Squeff played an important role in the reform process which was concluded in October 2009. The current Chair is De Luna. For social organizations, the reform of the CFS has presented an important opportunity which has sparked greater debate over the global governance around food and agriculture. Both representatives were asked to give their analysis of the main achievements, opportunities and limitations provided by the new CFS.

Maria del Carmen Squeff, Permanent representative of Argentina in FAO

Squeff introduced her presentation by saying that the challenge of this century was to build a new democracy. Hunger is increasing worldwide. The new citizenship should not be only for middle-class citizens, but also for the great part of the population who is suffering from poverty.

The reform of the CFS recognizes local efforts to provide new solutions. The reform process itself was highly participatory, with many contributions from CSOs. This shows commitment that the reform would be a deep one. The result has been the following “pillars” that will improve the performance of the CFS:

- Within the new CFS, more sectors are recognised in the fight against hunger: governments, but also international institutions and CSOs. This provides much richer experiences as the basis for searching for efficient solutions. Squeff reminded the CSOs at the Forum that it was now time for them develop a mechanism to facilitate CSO participation in the CFS.
- Incorporation of other international institutions: there is a high specialisation among the international agencies, but the reality is complex. The new CFS aims to break the sectoralization among the agencies and develop complementarity between institutions.
- Development of actions: over many years, the CFS was lacking the effectiveness to tackle the causes of hunger. Communities must receive support to get the means to produce their food. For this, CSOs at the local level are key and their diversity is positive.

The idea of the reformed CFS is to promote coordination between national policies and to evaluate policies. This reform is characterized by flexibility. There is no magical program against hunger, but all responses must be incorporated, in collaboration with CSOs.

Finally, Squeff recognized that the CFS had so far failed to do things well and that things needed to change. The money has not been put in the right place. The response now can not come only from one actor, but from all of them in their diversity.

Sofia Monsalve: «We now need a lot of coordination for a Global Plan of Action and follow-up. The Permanent Representative of the Philippines is the current Chair of the CFS and he will play a key role in the second phase of the reform.»



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Noel De Luna, Permanent Representative of the Philippines in FAO

De Luna first recalled that the CFS was born in 1974 together with IFAD following the commodity crisis. Today, the food crisis justifies a new CFS. Yet, even more people are hungry today, despite the increasing number of institutions and the greater activity of CSOs. Till now the work of the CFS was to meet once a year and issue a report that nobody would read – then nothing would happen till the next meeting in the coming year.

Things are radically different now – there are many more meetings and also discussions on CSO participation. We will have a bureau of 12 persons, an Advisory Group with representatives from FAO, IFAD, and other institutions and a High-Level Panel of Experts, an ad-hoc network of food security and nutrition experts. The CFS will be a platform for debate.

Nevertheless, the future of CFS is still not very clear. What we have achieved so far is an agreement that the CFS will play a major role, he said, but nobody has a clear idea of what the CFS will do.

The CFS remains an institution of member states, but we now also have non-members who will be heard. I count on the support of social organizations and other CSOs in this process.



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Thematic working groups

Note : Background papers for each of the 4 thematic working groups were distributed to participants in English, French and Spanish, and are available in the annex of this report.

Working group 1: Who decides about food and agriculture policies?

Acronyms:

- CFA** - Comprehensive Framework For Action (High Level Task Force policy response to food crisis)
CFS - Committee for World Food Security
FAO - Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations
HLTF - High Level Task Force (UN, inter-agency task force convened by the Secretary-General to provide a UN system-wide coordinated response to the food crisis)

This report provides a summary of the discussions and outcomes of Working Group 1 whose purpose, according to the Discussion Paper "Who Decides About Food and Agriculture"¹, was to "try to understand the key issues related to the present situation of global governance of food and agriculture (including the role of FAO, the World Bank, etc)" and to "try to organise ourselves as civil society to participate strongly in the reformed Committee of World Food Security of FAO, which offers a significant opportunity for our participation not only at the global, but also at the regional and national levels."

Working Group 1 met in three busy and vibrant sessions over two days. It was well attended, and featured many contributions from a wide range of key constituencies and stakeholders speaking from all regions of the world. This report provides a brief summary of the discussions and some of the key points that were raised during each of the three sessions. It closes with a list of the Summary Outcomes which contain the responses of Working Group 1 to the purposes of its meeting as stated in the Discussion Paper and outlined above.

Session One (14:30 – 17:15 Sunday 15th Nov)

Session One focused on the general context and background. It began with a presentation by Flavio Valente of FIAN that highlighted the role of the food crisis of 2007/2008, which had the dramatic and unwanted effect of increasing the number of the world's hungry to one billion. This spurred a renewed attention to the food security agenda at a global level, reflected in the emergence of policy and governance responses from actors such as the G8 and the UN (including the launch of the High Level Task Force and its CFA, and the G8's L'Aquila Initiative which includes the Global Partnership for Food and Agriculture). These responses were, however, neither transparent nor inclusive, and led to concerns that the UN's role in food and agricultural policy-making and governance was being weakened. This concern provoked an attempt to reform the Committee for World Food Security in order to strengthen the role of multilateralism in food and agriculture and to defend the principle of one country-one vote. As Valente emphasised, it was

¹ This discussion paper provided an important input into the proceedings of WG1, particularly its sections on the contemporary context in food and agriculture, and on the Committee for World Food Security Contact Group process. It was made available to all Forum participants prior to their arrival via the Forum Web Site and distributed in hard copy at the Forum itself. It can be located at: http://peoplesforum2009.foodsovereignty.org/working_groups



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important to recognise the structural causes of the food crisis, arising from years of bad policy-making and lack of political commitment to food and agriculture.

Following Flavio's presentation the floor was opened to participants whose interventions echoed the context painted by Flavio and added other important dimensions of the contemporary context. These included, amongst others, the weakening of the FAO in relation to the WTO and the Bretton Woods institutions and the emergence of new actors such as private foundations. It was also suggested that the CFS reform process should be framed within an ongoing effort at securing good governance of food and agriculture at a global level stretching back 100 years since farmers first came together to establish the FAO.

Next, participants heard the testimony of a wide range of constituencies who shared with the group their experiences and needs as local actors engaged in local struggles. They spoke about their exclusion from political and policy space at local and national levels; the destructive and disruptive impacts of neoliberalism, which included the privatisation of natural resources and the liberalisation of their local agrifood systems; and their displacement from the land. From their position on the ground, many actors emphasised the importance of international support for their local struggles. Participants also stated the need for wider recognition of the positive dimensions of the food sovereignty agenda, including the important roles of smallholder producers and other constituencies, and of the need to identify them not just as victims but also as important actors. It was also stated that smallholder production is not just for the South, but is equally important in the North.

Session Two (09:00 – 11:30 Monday 16th Nov)

Session Two moved the attention of Working Group 1 more fully to the CFS (Committee on World Food Security). This time Nora McKeon (Terra Nuova) introduced the session with an overview of the ongoing CFS reform process, which had produced the text that defines crucial components of the renewed CFS such as its vision and role, composition, and procedures. Special mention was made by Nora of the commitment of the Chair - Maria Del Carmen Squeff - and Bureau of the CFS to creating an inclusive and participatory reform process that importantly included space for an unprecedented level of civil society participation alongside member states. Mention was also made of the success of civil society in bridging their diversity to create strong and collaborative working relationships in this process. Whilst careful to acknowledge the many challenges that lay ahead, McKeon was also clear that civil society should feel a sense of achievement regarding their participation within the Contact Group process (the group convened by the CFS Chair and Secretariat to work on the reform process, comprising civil society, member states, and international organisations) and the outcomes that this helped to secure.

Following this presentation, others closely involved in the Contact Group added their own reflections and perspectives on the dynamics of the process and the factors that contributed to its success, as well as sounding notes of caution regarding future challenges. These included the need to ensure that the renewed CFS becomes something more than a « talk shop », and for civil society to move quickly to organise the mechanism of its participation. The present lack of adequate funding for the CFS was also recognised. There was a wide spread consensus that the space offered by the reformed CFS only had value if it was a space where real social and political change at the local, national and regional levels could be promoted.



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Participants were invited by the Chair to reflect again on their local contexts, and particularly what a reformed Committee on World Food Security could and should offer them. Again, Working Group 1 heard a wide range of perspectives, drawn from local realities and struggles from many different parts of the world. There was a strong consensus that the only place where change could be meaningfully registered was at the local level, and this emphasised the importance of building strong links from the local “down” to the global.

In terms of specific proposals for the next stage of the CFS reform, there was a consensus that it was important to preserve continuity regarding CSO participation in the process, and that those actors that had been involved in the Contact Group so far should remain at their present level of engagement. The task of Working Group 1 was defined as generating some key principles that would enable those working more closely on the process to define the details of CSO participation within the reformed CFS. There was also a widespread view that social movements had to be at the heart of the spaces available to civil society in the CFS, and of the need for equal gender representation in these spaces was also strongly urged.

Session Three (14:00 – 16:00 Monday 16th Nov)

The final session of Working Group One met to consider the draft of Working Group One’s contribution to the Forum Declaration, and a list of the Summary Outcomes, both of which were drafted in the period between sessions two and three (included below). Following the recording of minor revisions proposed from the floor, and in the absence of substantive opposition, Working Group 1 was able to conclude its business ahead of schedule, having arrived at a broad consensus.

Summary Outcomes

1. We applaud the outcome of the negotiation on the reform of the Committee on World Food Security, to which we have made a very important contribution, and underline the need to defend this new space against all efforts to empty it of its political significance.
2. We demand States implement the commitments they have made within the document *Reform of the Committee of World Food Security (CFS:2009/2 Rev 1)*, all of which are necessary to create a strong CFS which can ensure accountability of food system actors; direct funding according to public priorities; ensure coordination at global, regional and national levels; provide a global forum for policy discussion; promote best practises; and develop a Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition.
3. For us the new CFS has to be about changing policies. It has to be a space in which we can advance our political agendas. The content that we bring to the CFS – the results of the thematic discussions that have taken place during the CSO Forum - is our greatest strength along with our capacity for mobilization around our proposals.
4. We express confidence in the civil society component of the Contact Group which has been on the front line of our negotiations on the CFS reform and ask it to carry forward our process of interaction with the CFS and its Bureau, based on the principles and proposals emerging from our discussions, and to keep us informed and involved.
5. We affirm that the governance of food and agriculture has to build from the local level



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down to the global. Efforts to open policy space for social movements and civil society at national, regional and global levels are mutually supportive and need to be linked. Strengthened networking, communication, exchanging good experiences and expressing solidarity with those who are experiencing oppression, building alliances at all levels among constituencies and sectoral approaches are fundamental elements of our strategy.

6. We affirm that priority space in the new CFS should be given to social movements being those most affected by food insecurity. Civil society engagement in the CFS has to be built in a perspective of solidarity, of presenting a common front while maintaining and valuing our diversity and pluralism.

7. We will adopt a phased approach in our engagement with the new CFS. After 2-3 years we will evaluate both the effectiveness of the CFS as a space for changing policies and the performance of civil society and social movements in relating to the CFS, and we will draw the necessary conclusions.

8. Resources are needed to make the CFS function as the global policy forum for food. None have been pledged thus far, despite all of the billions of dollars that the G8 governments intend to invest in solving the food crisis. We propose that a percentage of all trust funds established to channel resources to fight hunger be specifically destined to support the CFS, including civil society participation.

9. We assert that all funds made available for fighting hunger at a global level need to be managed under the CFS. We reject the proposal for the creation of a World Bank trust fund which is not an appropriate institution for this role, lacking in legitimacy and being neither transparent nor inclusive.

10. While engaging strongly in the new CFS, we need to devote just as much energy to fighting against those actors and interests which are seeking to undermine it. We will strongly contest the G8-supported "Global Agricultural and Food Security Program" which is proposed to be channelled through the World Bank and the incoherence of governments and institutions that are seeking to keep one foot in both of these incompatible initiatives. We will be vigilant regarding the engagement of the IFIs, the WTO, agribusiness and private foundations in the policy space of the new CFS.

Working Group One: Contribution to Forum Declaration

We, peasant and family farmers, small scale fisher folk, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, youth, women, the urban poor, agricultural workers, local and international NGOs, and other social actors, working for the realisation of food sovereignty for all, wish to declare our support for the renewed Committee on World Food Security, taking particular note of the commitment that Heads of State meeting within the context of the FAO Summit have shown to this important body in their Declaration. We wish to underline the fundamental importance of the renewed Committee on World Food Security as the foremost inclusive international policy body for food and agriculture within the UN system, and as an essential body where the knowledge and perspectives of those whose daily labours have fed humanity for generation after generation are not only heard, but also acted upon. We assert the centrality of the Right to Food as a principle to guide all elements of the Committee on World Food Security's work.



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We, the assembled social movements, people's orgs, NGOs and other civil society actors participating in the Civil Society Forum have played a fundamentally important role in the CFS reform process, opening up a critical space which we intend to fully occupy in a responsible and effective manner. In so doing we will ensure that the voices of the excluded continue to be heard at the heart of food and agricultural policy-making and governance, at all levels. However, whilst we value the work that has been done, and hold high expectations regarding the CFS's future achievements, we will be vigilantly monitoring its work to ensure that member states follow through on their commitment to create an effective mechanism that is strong in its powers of coordination at all levels; able to hold its members to account; and that can realise its commitment to develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition.

In this regard, we express concern that the CFS does not appear to be receiving the funding appropriate to the ambition of its work programme, and we urge member states to back their political commitment with financial resources. We are also concerned that there is much work to be done within the CFS to ensure that there is meaningful coherence between the different organs of the global food and agricultural institutional architecture, and we assert that the much desired objective of global food security and the abolition of hunger will remain always unobtainable whilst there is fragmentation and incoherence at this level. In this regard we are extremely concerned by the proposed World Bank Global Agriculture and Food Security Program whose governance mechanism appears undemocratic, un-transparent, and destined to lead to a replication of past mistakes. We also state that as long as institutions such as the WTO continue to privilege the interests of commercial actors over the globally marginalised and malnourished, hunger will continue to stalk the world.



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Working group 2: Who controls food producing resources?

This group met to discuss issues related to food producing resources, like land-grabbing, displacements of people for deforestation, large water projects (dams) and concentration of natural resources. Methodologically the discussion was divided in two sections, the first dedicated to problem analysis and the second to indicate solutions. The first part included four panellists' presentations and contributions from the floor.

Session 1 - Problem analysis

1- Land-grabbing: presentation by Renée Vellvé, Grain, based in the Philippines².

Land-grabbing is an old problem, though in the current context reveals new specific issues, particularly the acquisition of farmland by corporations or governments, of areas of 1,000 hectares or more, on a contract basis of 30 to 90 years lease for producing food (wheat, maize, etc). Two rationales for these operations can be identified:

- a. Dependence of some rich countries on food imports, like Korea, Pakistan, Libya and others, evidenced by the food crisis. They gave a different meaning to the concept of 'food security', i.e. the *control* of the land for offshore food production. The number of such countries lies between 12-15.
- b. Private investors see farmland as a new sort of asset, so we have seen increased activity by them in Africa and South America.

Other highlights of the presentation:

- The facts reveal that we are not witnessing a North – South relation, but rather a poor country – rich country one.
- It is estimated that about 1,000 investment groups are targeting 50 countries, mainly in Africa and South America (Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, Bolivia).
- The World Bank is putting pressure on countries to achieve changes in national laws to facilitate purchasing of land by the private sector.
- Governments often mediate, but the deals are kept secret because of possible political problems, as many of the targeted countries are food insecure.

2- 'Watergrabbing': Dave Andrews, Food and Water Watch, Washington

Food and Water Watch works at national and international level, focusing on food, water and fisheries, i.e. to challenge corporate control in favour of communities, as "water is the blood of mother earth". So when we talk about land-grabbing, Andrews says, we should also talk about water-grabbing.

Mining has an impact on water for agriculture, as has virtual water. Lakes are disappearing, which are important for people who live off small scale agriculture. This is particularly dangerous when applying 'mountain top' mining, polluting water resources top down.

Internationally, Kofi Anan made a deal which gives the private sector access to all UN venues on water issues. FAO organized in Libya a private sector meeting to look at Africa for investment in water. In spite of this an alternative Water Forum took place last year on the Right to Water, with

² The full presentation can be viewed at <http://www.grain.org/o/?id=90>



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the result that 24 countries out of 60 did not get involved in the final declaration of the official water conference.

Food and Water Watch believes that the right to water is a human right, and that we need to keep positioning the Right to Water and the Right to Food in relation to Food Sovereignty and Water Sovereignty.

3- Biodiversity, Germán Bedoya, Coordinador Nacional Agrario, La Vía Campesina Colombia

Multinational corporations (MNCs) are threatening biodiversity and they are bringing us to death. There have been several attempts to destroy our biodiversity – such as the Green Revolution, which interfered with the culture of peasants and broke natural cycles. Today 80% of the seeds of the world are modified and in control of the Monsanto and Syngentas.

They have created conservation areas to preserved biodiversity, like in the Amazon. There the experts go to appropriate our knowledge and patent the seeds. They claim the intellectual property, whereas the indigenous people are the only legitimate owners.

Others actors, also suspicious, are the agencies for development cooperation, they go into the communities to take all the information and then they get jobs with the MNCs.

Finally the production of monocultures preoccupies us, because they are preferred for the production of agrofuels and put food production in danger. We are worried about this culture of making easy money.

4- Ralava Beboarimisa, Collectif pour la Défense des Terres Malgaches (TANY) Madagascar

In Madagascar the Daewoo agribusiness project was kept secret by the government: it involved a transaction of 1.3 million hectares of land, which equals half of the agricultural land of the country, and was to be used part for the production of maize and part for planting palm trees for oil extraction, for a period of 99 years.

Institutional changes play a role regarding land tenure. For instance, the land passes traditionally from generation to generation, but in the year 2000 a liberal system enters the country: the World Bank millennium challenge account concedes the property of the land to the peasants, making it possible for them to sell the land.

Another important aspect is the lack of awareness among the population. The people got to know about the Daewoo deal by the foreign press, first by the Financial Times and later by an article in Le Monde. Equally serious is the absence of civil and political liberties, making people afraid of reprisals.

However the population created the "Collective for the Defence of the Land" and managed to get 5,000 signatures on a petition for transparency, cancellation of the project, cancellation of the concessions, a public debate, and an accompanying mission. There was also a joint urgent action with FIAN and Via Campesina.

The actual situation is that Daewoo withdrew but did not cancel the project. They created a new



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organization called Malgache. We should also be attentive because Saudi Arabian investors were in the area to negotiate land contracts.

The short testimonies from the floor supported the emerging view that land-grabbing takes several forms and consists of a variety of mechanisms for the appropriation of natural resources. A recurrent issue in this session was the extensive use of land for agrofuels production, corporate farming, tourist areas, and the industrialization of aquaculture.

The actual means for land-grabbing can vary: it may happen through specific government policies, through the implementation of World Bank programmes, or as a result of the so-called Free Trade Agreements (FTA) and Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA). In conflict zones other methods are also used like the annexation of land, the creation of buffer zones or the use of land for military purposes. Violence is a common means used by governments and military or paramilitary forces, resulting in forced evictions of rural communities, and also in massacres of peasants and indigenous people. Finally, changes in the law make possible deals that favour big landowners and transnational corporations.

There was in this group a perception that governments are 'puppets' of the MNCs. Nevertheless, it is important to demand food sovereignty and hold governments accountable for not respecting international treaties. At the same time we must also strengthen our movements and resistance.

Session 2 - Strategies and actions

We need comprehensive agrarian and aquatic reforms with a territorial approach. The notion of territory, as Indigenous Peoples have developed it, encompasses nature as a living being and the way a particular community relates to it – e.g. its lands, forests, coastal areas, flora, fauna, inland and marine bodies - for constituting itself as community or people.

Genuine agrarian and aquatic reforms should uphold the individual and collective/community rights of access to and control over territories for all food producers, like Indigenous Peoples, pastoralists, peasants, agricultural workers, and fisherfolk. The human right to water particularly in its relation to food production should be enforced. All governance systems over natural resources must be human rights based. Strong accountability mechanisms to redress violations of these rights need to be in place.

Gender equity must be at the heart of genuine agrarian and aquatic reform. Reforms should guarantee women full equality of opportunities and rights to land and natural wealth, and redress historical and ongoing discrimination.

We demand from the States to play a strong role in policies of agrarian reform and food production. Deregulation must be reversed. States must implement effective public policies which guarantee community control over natural resources and strongly support us, small scale food providers, to use natural resources for food production. Gathered food is also an import source to feed some of our communities and therefore deserves specific protection.

Land-grabbing must stop. Closure of pastoralists routes and expropriation of lands, natural wealth and territories from local communities through economic concessions, big plantations, industrial agriculture and aquaculture, tourism and infrastructure projects and any other means must come to an end.



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Instead of promoting large-scale industrial agricultural investments, we urge our governments and the FAO to effectively implement structural policies like those implied in the Declaration of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD) and in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Stop all laws that promote corporate control over agriculture, fisheries and livestock. We reject intellectual property rights over living resources including seeds, plants, and animals. *De facto* biological monopolies –where the seed or breed is rendered sterile – must be banned. GM crops must be prohibited. All hazardous pesticides affecting the health of agricultural workers must also be banned.

We will keep the seeds in our hands. We will keep freely exchanging and saving our seeds and breeds. Our traditional knowledge as fisherfolk, livestock keepers and peasants is our pride and we will further develop it to be able to feed our communities in a sustainable way. Our songs and tales express our cosmivision and are important to maintain our spiritual relationship with our lands.

We commit ourselves to increase our level of organization and promote joint actions, articulations, exchanges, and solidarity to speak with a strong voice for defending our food sovereignty. We are convinced that only the power of organized peoples and mobilization can achieve the needed changes, thus our principal task is to inform, raise awareness, debate, organize and mobilize with the people.

Working group 3: How is food produced?

The aim of this working group was to hear testimonies and discuss how to move towards an ecological model of food provision that supports food sovereignty, providing sufficient healthy food in localised food systems while cooling the planet. It debated actions needed, at local through international levels, to achieve necessary changes in production, distribution and consumption. It countered the productionist agenda that supports corporations and the new Green Revolutions being forced on vulnerable communities.

The work was carried out in three sessions. About 150 people participated at some point. About half contributed through invited statements and responses as well as other contributions from the floor. The contributions were reasonably balanced in terms of gender, constituencies, caucuses, regions etc.

There was broad agreement on the analysis of the problem that was presented in the background paper (pasted below). There was also recognition of the helpful analysis contained in the CSO document 'Policies and Actions to Eradicate Hunger and Malnutrition' especially the sections on ecological food provision and climate change. While many interventions and testimonies deepened issues covered in the preparatory analysis and background paper, the main work focused on our proposals for strategies and actions.

PROBLEM – What are we fighting against?

Industrial crop and livestock production and intensive fisheries, and associated processing, global distribution and retailing, are damaging our food systems, people and



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planet in a multiplicity of ways; they are in the hands of unaccountable and remote corporations. This model of production and consumption is based on intensive energy use and the mining of nature, is highly dependent on external capital and inputs, and favours production of commodities and agrofuels rather than healthy food. It contributes most of the greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) released by agriculture, livestock production and fisheries, adding up to more than a quarter of global GHGs, the main cause of Climate Change. It has little resilience and cannot adapt.

It harms people and the planet, increasing:

- corporate control;
- global warming;
- hunger as well as unhealthy food consumption and 'diet convergence' ;
- monocultures and homogenous eating habits ;
- the distance between food provider and consumer;
- air, water and marine pollution;
- destruction of biodiversity, soils, rural livelihoods and communities;
- negative impacts of disasters on poor people;
- abuse of fundamental rights ; and,
- wars and conflicts.

This industrial model of production, harvesting and consumption is supported by public and private research institutions and promoted for so-called 'food security' that increases control by outsiders of localised food systems. It enables capital concentration and corporate control, facilitated by trade liberalisation, intellectual property rights systems and the neoliberal policies, agreements and institutions which support them such as the World Trade Organisation, regional and bilateral Free Trade Agreements, Codex Alimentarius, as well as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. It is behind the push for a new Green Revolution, as promoted by AGRA, CAADEP and other initiatives, and the dragging of small-scale food providers into the global market through enhancing 'Value Chains'. It is capital intensive and is protected by patents, commercial contracts, trade rules and technologies, especially GMOs, that facilitate corporations' capture and control of markets for inputs and products, further marginalizing food providers; the capture of [agro]ecosystems; and the overexploitation and degradation of these and other natural wealth. It is at the root of a dysfunctional food system, facilitating at the same time an increase in over-consumption with consequent negative impacts on health and increases in food waste, and it ignores the plight of the hungry. It limits peoples and policy control over public goods.

Responses to the food crises have been highly inadequate and have largely reinforced the corporate system instead of putting small scale producers and ecological food provision at the centre of the responses. In summary, it has negative impacts on food provision, the environment, people's health, culture, nutrition and food sovereignty and the human right to adequate food.

SOLUTION – What we will promote

We recognised that localised, ecological, diverse, low carbon and low external input methods of production, harvesting, fishing, pastoralism, processing and distribution are part of the solution. These maximise the contribution of ecosystems to the provision of food, increase agricultural biodiversity and improve resilience and adaptability of systems, especially in the face of climate change and other threats. They need to be recognized, supported and strengthened by public policies and practices. Given the wide range of activities in providing food – production,



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harvesting, gathering, processing etc – the terms 'food provision' and consequently the term small-scale 'food providers', first used in the reports from Nyeleni 2007:forum for food sovereignty, were adopted to describe our 'model of production' and by whom. Food providers need to be recognized as essential actors in defining our food provision and consumption systems.

Based on very broad experiences of existing alternatives in different regions and in various sectors, the working group agreed that we want a biodiverse, ecological model of food provision and consumption that develops localised food systems which:

- provide healthy food for people in both rural and urban areas in all regions, improving productivity per unit land and/or water
- prioritise and protect local markets in a framework of policies of market regulation and supply management
- ensure agricultural and fishery workers rights
- provide sustainable livelihoods for youth and future generations
- respect collective rights, rejecting patents and other controls over life forms
- reject GMOs including biofortified foods
- improve the environment, regenerate soils, improving nitrogen fixing and fertility, and maximise ecosystem functions
- prioritise use of locally adapted seed varieties, livestock breeds and fish species
- conserve water
- use less external inputs including agrochemicals
- shorten links between food providers and both rural and urban consumers
- increase livelihood security and incomes
- value local knowledge and skills and local innovations in participatory research systems and support its outreach and exchange
- reduce losses of food in all links in the food chain
- can adapt to climate change and cool the planet but rejecting the carbon market in this process
- reject domination of the food system by corporations
- reject industrial production of commodities – crops, livestock, fish, aquaculture products, agrofuels

Also, which will:

- reclaim the language of (healthy) food and regain control of nutrition and the need for more diverse diets
- strengthen urban food consumer and small-scale food provider movements
- use the findings of IAASTD to promote our proposals

OUR PROPOSALS

We reaffirm that our ecological food provision – embraced in the food sovereignty framework including the right to food – linking small-scale food providers with consumers actually feeds the large majority of people all over the world in both rural and urban areas (more than 70%). Our practices focus on food for people not profit for corporations. Our food production is healthy, diverse, localised and cools the planet. The women and men small-scale farmers/peasants,



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livestock keepers/pastoralists, fisher peoples provide us all with healthier food, while sustaining the environment. Our practices, food systems, health and livelihoods are threatened by the corporations that dominate industrial commodity production, trade and retailing, and the policies that support these interests, which provide little but aim to control more.

1. We commit to strengthen and promote our ecological model of food provision in the framework of food sovereignty. Our practices, because they prioritise feeding people locally, minimise waste and losses of food and do not create the damage caused by industrial production systems including crops, livestock, animal feed, agrofuels, fisheries and aquaculture. They are resilient and can adapt to and mitigate climate change. We insist, however, that food and agriculture be kept out of the carbon market. We will defend and develop our agricultural biodiversity (of all species including crops, livestock, fish and other aquatic organisms, pollinators, predators, soil micro-organisms etc) in the face of the aggressive commodification of nature, food and knowledge by corporations and that is also being facilitated by the 'new Green Revolutions'. We call for a global moratorium on GMOs. Our practices require supply management policies in order to secure availability of food and to guarantee decent wages and fair prices. This includes governments protecting and properly regulating domestic food markets. We call for new policy and legal frameworks to support our practices.

2. We call for a reframing of research, using participatory methods, that will support our ecological model of food provision. We are the innovators building on our knowledge and skills. We rehabilitate local seeds and livestock breeds and fish/aquatic species for a changing climate. We commit to promoting the findings of IAASTD (International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development). We call for accountability by researchers. We reject corporations' control of research and will not engage in forums that are dominated by them. We will promote our innovations through our media and outreach programmes for training, education and information dissemination.

3. We will strengthen our interconnecting rural - urban food webs. We will build alliances within a Complex Alimentarius - linking small-scale food providers, processors, scientists, institutions, consumers - to replace the reductionist approach of the Codex Alimentarius. We commit to shorten distances between food provider and consumer. We will strengthen urban food movements and advance urban and peri-urban agriculture. We will reclaim the language of food, emphasising nutrition and diversity in diets that exclude meat provided by industrial systems.



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Working group 4: Who needs access to food?

Report from the discussions

About 40 people took part to this working group chaired by Davinder Lamba.

The working group focused mainly on three topics:

- a-food sovereignty and city dwellers
- b-food sovereignty in the context of conflict and occupation
- c-emergency food aid

A background document prepared for the thematic working group formed the basis for discussion (see document in annex).

Food sovereignty and the right to the city

It was the first time that urban poor movements were participating into a forum on food sovereignty. They brought new issues and a new perspective on the food sovereignty discussion which might be key in the future. The new issues include:

- Rural exodus from an urban perspective. How migrations from rural areas are affecting cities.
- Urban and peri-urban farming, and the recognition that city dwellers also produce food.
- Linkages between consumers and producers and how city dwellers can support sustainable food production and take part in the movement for food sovereignty. The issue of food prices and a possible contradiction between food producers movements and city dwellers, including the need to discuss the concept of « fair prices »

It was acknowledged that food insecurity is today more than ever before a critical issue for city dwellers worldwide, particularly in the South. Over one third of urban people live in slums and lack employment and thus do not have the means to access adequate and good nutritious food. The number of the very poor in cities grows as rural people are pushed from their land and flock to urban areas looking for livelihoods. Urban and rural crisis are deeply connected. When food is available to poor urban people it is often of low quality and lacks essential nutrients. Poor diets are responsible for the increasing levels of micronutrient deficiency, often called the «hidden hunger» and health problems—diseases like diabetes and obesity.

It was reaffirmed that food provided to the cities should be based on local and national production, so that cities would not be so dependent on food imports and the instability of international markets. It was stressed that city dwellers themselves, particularly in the South, do produce food which plays a key role in ensuring their well-being. Several examples of successful urban farming experiences were given from Nairobi, Dakar and Bogota. They are often rural people who have migrated to the cities and use their skills to produce food in urban areas. However, local governments often prohibit these practices. This being said, the link with food producers from rural areas is key, as cities alone cannot provide all the food they need. The issue of transport facilities and good roads are important to enable small food producers to bring their products to the cities. Urban movements have a role to play in advancing the struggle for food sovereignty and in developing solidarity between disadvantaged city dwellers and food producers.

There are clear common issues that movements from both constituencies ought to address



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together, such as linking the right to housing and the right to land and creating a win-win situation between urban and rural people, where food producers are able to sell their products at a fair price on the urban markets while city dwellers can access fresh locally-produced food. Yet, there are also concerns that will require further discussion, like the issue of food prices. What is a fair price both for consumers and producers? How can good quality, agroecologically-produced food, be available also for urban poor? How to ensure that national governments and international bodies play their role to ensure that food produced domestically is accessible, available and affordable to consumers in the cities, particularly the disadvantaged people ?

Concrete proposals emerged from the discussions. For example, representatives of Habitat International Coalition (HIC) proposed the integration of the principles of food sovereignty and the right to the city . An opportune moment to make the first attempt could be the World Urban Forum 5 of UN Habitat, to be hosted by Brazil in Rio in March 2010. The theme of the Forum is « The Right to The City—Bridging the Urban Divide ». Civil servants from the Department of Food for Cities in FAO regretted that this issue was not a priority for most of the governments and exhorted the CSO participants to push both FAO and the member States in this direction.

Overall, urban movements expressed their wish to get more involved into the food sovereignty movement and specifically into IPC. The proposal for the inclusion of the urban constituency in the IPC was endorsed by the working group and the Habitat International Coalition offered to act as representative on a provisional basis, in order to maintain connectivity.

Food sovereignty in the context of conflict and occupation

An introduction was made on three prominent cases of occupation, Tibet, Palestine and Kurdistan. In these three cases, occupation has resulted in the destruction of villages, in the forced settlement of nomads and pastoralists, in the grabbing of agricultural land by the occupier, in the displacement of great numbers of people from rural areas to cities and in a severe situation of food insecurity among the population. People are not able to produce food anymore because they have been chased off their territory and cut off from their customary roots and practices. Knowledge is getting lost very quickly. Thus, in the discussion over food sovereignty, these populations are particularly deprived. Food is being used as a weapon of collective punishment for political ends.

Several participants from Palestine explained how Israeli occupation is destroying the capacity for Palestinian people to produce food. Land is being taken over by Israeli settlers and/or for industrial zones. The most fertile land has been confiscated, particularly since the wall has been built in 2002. Access to water is being severely restricted. Olive trees are being destroyed. People are forbidden to move and thus cannot access their fields. For these reasons, most of the food is now imported. Yet, people are trying to produce food in the cities as the way to ensure a minimal livelihood. They try to boycott food coming from Israel and to encourage people to buy Palestinian products.

It was stressed in the debate that followed that most conflicts were linked to attempts to control the resources of the occupied territories. Eviction of land is the most common result of occupation and conflicts, as is seen in Columbia where hundreds of people are displaced from the countryside every year to give space to big projects controlled by TNCs. In Kurdistan, the Turkish government is building hundreds of large dams to export electricity to cities and industrial zones more to the



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West. Local people don't benefit from this electricity and see their territories flooded with water.

It was stressed that the right to food is a fundamental right, particularly for people living under occupation and conflict. People don't only have the right to access nutritious food, but also to produce it. For doing so, access to productive resources such as water, land and seeds as well as to markets should be protected. The Geneva Convention should endorse and develop mechanisms for the right to food to be respected and to punish the using of food as a war instrument.

Food Sovereignty and emergency aid

In the introduction, it was stressed that people in the situation of emergency, created either by natural disaster or by conflicts, are often provided with food aid which is not adequate and which ends up at destroying their local food systems on a long-term basis.

Food aid is often a way to dump agricultural surpluses with the aim of changing consumption habits and of gaining markets. For example, GM food is recurrently given as food aid although people oppose it. Participants stressed that the food provided was often culturally inappropriate; the people receiving it were often not even able to cook it because they didn't know it. This is the result of a lack of participation by the victims of emergency situations in how the aid is provided. Emergency aid has a record of corruption cases where the so-called « aid » is misused for political and power games. There is often great discrimination in the distribution of food aid, with women, youth and children being excluded from it. This situation is of particular concern as with climate change, many participants argued, the number of emergency cases will multiply.

The participants agreed that good emergency aid should be based on long-term, local, self-determined and rights-based strategies. It should support local agriculture and provide good quality, culturally acceptable food. People – even in emergency situations – should be able to preserve their food sovereignty, that is their capacity to decide about their food, how and by whom it is produced. For doing so, the participation of affected people in deciding where the food comes from, how it is produced, how and who distributes it, is key.

There was a discussion in the group on the role NGOs could play to support local communities to rebuild capacity of participation in emergency situations. It was emphasised that the principles of food sovereignty and security ought to shape emergency food aid from the beginning.

Working group 4: Contribution to Forum Declaration

Who needs access to food?

Considering that all people have the right to food that is adequate, available, accessible, culturally-acceptable and nutritious, the people--urban and rural, consumers and producers, in the North and in the South--demand and expect to widely participate and have a voice in deciding food and agricultural policies. Governments must ensure that food sovereignty and the right to food are respected, protected, and fulfilled. We call particular attention to the violations of the rights of people living in cities, under armed conflict or occupation, and in emergency situations.

Food insecurity in cities is growing as people in rural areas are being evicted and displaced from their land. City dwellers, together with rural people, have the right and the responsibility to



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participate in deciding what, how and by whom food is produced and distributed. Urban and peri-urban food production or agriculture should be enabled and not inhibited by local and national authorities.

Governments have an obligation to ensure emergency aid does not undermine food sovereignty and human rights. Rich countries should provide adequate, stable funds to fulfil the right to food. All countries must adopt a rights-based approach, ensuring goals of participation, transparency, accountability, capacity development, and non-discrimination. Emergency aid should be procured as locally as possible to strengthen long-term food sovereignty and should not be used to pressure countries into accepting GMOs.

Food must never be used as a political weapon. People in armed conflict and under occupation are deprived of their right to food through forced displacement, confiscation and alien exploitation of property, land, and other productive resources, demographic manipulation and population transfers. The international community must urgently address these violations and ensure the accountability of responsible parties.



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Caucuses

Women caucus

Women declaration

We, women and members of the Women's Assembly on Food Sovereignty during the People's Forum on Food Sovereignty in Rome held November 14- 16, 2009, after intense discussions have seen the systematic oppression and exploitation of women through the processes of globalization and corporatization of agriculture intensified by patriarchy and traditional and cultural oppression. These have brought untold sufferings and indignities in the lives of women. They have lost control of land and productive resources, particularly seeds. They don't have access to education, health care, work in hazardous conditions and get low wages and face increasing hunger and malnutrition.

We participants of the Women's Assembly commit towards to:

1. Equality and equal representation in policy and decision making
2. Advance genuine agrarian, fisheries, pastoral reforms that ensures gender justice and rights of women to land including common property rights
3. Ensure and enforce women's rights over seeds as well as productive resources such as water and protecting and conserving women's knowledge on innovative and ecological approaches.
4. Protect the rights of women agricultural workers and their communities and ensure safe working conditions and fair wages
5. Stop the use of food as a political weapon
6. The impact of climate change on women food producers should be recognised and their contribution to enhance resilience should be valued
7. Strengthen women's organization, coalitions and networks

We call for gender justice and world peace.

Discussions on the four topics of the working groups by the French-speaking group.

We, women who gathered in Rome from the 13th to the 17th November 2009 in the Forum for food sovereignty, we see that women represent almost the majority of agricultural workers, but that their situation is clearly inferior and not secure as for concern the laws and the customs.

We consider that those who decide and control resources are WTO, WB, IMF and international institutions, and behind them those who nominate them and fund them: rich countries and transnational companies.

We consider that propaganda changes the ways of eating and strengthens the power of TNCs. We need to work for women's education because they manage people's food.

We consider that food is produced on small-scale farms by family members and mainly by women who most of the time are not recognized as workers nor as owners.

On big farms, women represent more than the three quarters of agricultural workers. They are



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exploited and paid less than men who are most of the time those who decide. Corporate-controlled food production is based on monocultures, GMOs, using chemical inputs which impact negatively on workers' and consumers' health.

Poor people, countries in war and countries occupied by foreign armies or under sanctions have no access to food.

Women produce food but they have difficulties accessing it.

The production of agrofuels makes it more difficult for people to access food.

Access to land and to basic food is difficult: these are weapons used to make people submit.

Access to resources (land, water, seas, pastures, energy, seeds) should be strengthened through education, training, security on land tenure and access to adapted financing.

We commit to create a network of representative women organizations from all types in all countries in order to ensure synergy and complementarity to strengthen women's capacity to take part in the making of policies and to improve the partnership with local authorities, governments and international institutions. This network should be represented both at the CFS and at FAO.

We commit to work in synergy with men and young people to struggle for food sovereignty.

We demand to FAO and IFAD the strengthening of capacity and of effective participation of rural women, peasant women and urban women in elaborating, implementing, following up and evaluating policies, strategies, programs and agricultural and rural development projects.

We demand that our states and governments do all they can to eradicate armed conflicts in order to allow women and communities to benefit from the resources for food security and sovereignty.

We recommend the creation of a quota for the participation of rural women's organizations in decision-making bodies.

We recommend the promotion of biodiversity, which is the best warrant for the balance of ecosystems and against climate change.

We recommend the promotion of organic agriculture which ensures good health.

We recommend, for the production of agrofuels, the use of non-eatable plants such as jatropha that can be cultivated with a minimum of resources and water.

We demand food sovereignty in order to be able to decide on what we produce and eat and to value our traditional knowledge.

We demand firmly that the use of food as a weapon against governments considered as « non-democratic » by rich countries be sanctioned as a crime against humanity.

Women united will never be defeated!!



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Discussions on the four topics of the working groups by the English-speaking group.

Themes 1 and 2:

Who decides about food and agriculture? Where are decisions taken?

Who controls food producing resources?

Issues:

1. Women produce food but do not have control over it
2. Big corporations are in control
3. No access to land and resources, farm inputs, land tenure
4. Neo-liberalism combined with occupation and building of industrialized zones for example in the wall (Palestine), instilling consumerism
5. Projects and investments of big corporations – a tool to split the people
6. Land grabbing
7. Displacement of people
8. Donors getting the resources of the people instead of assisting the people
9. Dowry in South India
10. Underdevelopment
11. High prices
12. Climate change- flooding and destruction of farm production
13. Where is the donor money?
14. Micro-credit finance- doubts as to whether this is beneficial or not
15. In areas of conflict- land speculation and loss of land of returning people
16. Grants becoming loans
17. Displacement of farmers due to flooding caused by dams

Experiences

1. Organic farming
2. Holding of study sessions and conferences
3. Getting together of those with land and simple farmers for better produce
4. In Iran, a campaign against food wastage at home and in the farms

Recommendations

1. We have to change the mindset of men
2. Good experiences on sustainable agriculture should be shared (with men also)
3. Assistance to the poor should be tackled in the agenda
4. We must talk about organization of agriculture
5. Fisheries- conditions, recognition and protection of rights should be tackled, conservation areas should be set-up
6. Need to form women's coalitions to fight splitting up of women
7. Use of different knowledge and skills to give women power and resources
8. There should be equal rights and equal partnerships especially in decision making and policy making, program development and implementation; gender balance at the planning level
9. Use of local and traditional varieties, seed banking
10. Promotion of practices and mechanisms that advance diversity
11. With climate change, the need for more equitable allocation of resources
12. Need to tackle the role of urban women- can we talk about urban agriculture?
13. Compensation for women who have lost their land



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14. FAO should also promote changes in governments like putting food sovereignty in their constitutions and laws
15. Monitoring of donor money to ensure that it reaches the grassroots and local communities
16. Campaign on WTO, IMF, World Bank
17. Gender agenda- information and analysis of what is happening at the local level
18. How to make structures operational and really make things happen; need for a longer view of food sovereignty
19. Land titles, land distribution and loan facilities for production
20. Use of UN Convention on Development etc to hold governments accountable
21. Guidelines governing subsidies extended to agriculture
22. Tackle energy aspect
23. Water management policies
24. Food aid
25. Strengthen network of consumers especially at the local community level
26. Keeping alive cultural identity and traditions of individual, community and local knowledge in harmony with nature and promote gender equality and food security

Themes 3 and 4

How is food produced?

Who has/needs access to Food?

Actions and Recommendations:

1. Implement Genuine Agrarian Reform- the whole struggle of land is becoming more intense like land grabbing, corporations buying and leasing of lands: need to document this on the ground- effects on women, how this has impacted on women, control of land and production resources of women.
2. Women should have rights and control of land; No to land banking. No to biofuels.
3. Implement **Genuine Fisheries Reform**- especially on the issue of intensive commercial fishing. Increase women's access to fish and fishing grounds and fishing equipment. Coastal areas policies should be reviewed.
4. Discussion and debates should continue like in the internet and directed on issues like the land problems, seeds etc. Sharing of positive and advanced experiences.
5. Set up national seed-banking systems and other sustainable production mechanisms that support bio-diversity and where women are able to participate in the management, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of such mechanisms. Collect information and document studies about seeds- like what are the advantages and disadvantages of such seed varieties?
6. Facilities like transportation from farm to market should be provided, help in marketing of rural products.
7. Women victims of HIV, widows etc. should be allowed to acquire land and their needs and that of their children looked into. They should be educated on the law to legally arm them in the struggle.
8. Given our different levels and conditions- undertake socio-impact assessments and take the evaluation results to the local, national and international level and discuss with governments to make pathways to the poor—like research studies.
9. Study of urban poor women.
10. Come-up with a common platform that we can all agree upon and submit as recommendations to FAO.



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11. Equality in decision-making, in program development and implementation. Equal representation in policy and decision making in addressing agriculture and food security.
12. Boycott parties that use food and hunger as a political tool to subjugate people and nations.
13. Campaign against International Finance Institutions like the WTO, WB and IMF to get out of food security and food sovereignty programmes and concerns.
14. Set-up community radios for sharing and information.
15. Allocation of resources should consider gender budgeting at all levels and in integrative manner- for example, land and water.
16. Additional support for mobile pastoralist women.
17. Eliminate highly hazardous pesticides.
18. Tackle importance of young people too as they are the future.
19. Genuine fisheries reform.

Discussion and conclusion:

1. Key issues: land, seeds, fisheries and fishing resources, pastoralism- (particularly the issue of collective and common property), plantation workers, youth.
2. Strengthening women's organizations and coalitions.
3. How to hold governments accountable;
4. Women need structures and budget etc.; women have rights- women are entitled to claim that.
5. Address climate change and the impact on women and food security
6. The issue of peace (like in Central Africa- in conflict) and the context of the global crises like the financial crisis to be able to connect to the larger picture.
7. FAO - to look after international provisions not beneficial to food security
8. To make full use of meetings and conferences and assert women's rights.
9. Tackle budget with gender perspective; financial mechanisms, especially climate change.

Youth Caucus

Final declaration of the Youth Caucus

Food Sovereignty now! Young people creating their future

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Introduction

Food Sovereignty is a legitimate cause involving sustainable improvement of social, economic and nutritional wellbeing of all individuals on earth by increasing access to quality food, production resources and making favourable food policies for all producers in the world. Young women and men from several Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) around the world gathered in Rome on November 14th - 17th 2009 during the CSO Forum held in parallel to the World Food Summit on Food Security 2009, to create our future by declaring our demand for food sovereignty and inclusive decision-making at all levels worldwide. This included discussions on the four central themes of the Forum: "Who decides about food policies?"; "Who controls food producing resources?"; "How is food produced?"; and "Who has/needs access to food?".

We recognised the development of agricultural production and trading in the past years and noted that neo-liberal policies without respect to nature and human beings brought the catastrophic situation of 1.02 Billion people. 75% of the hungry people are living in rural areas and peasant



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farmers are the victims of these policies.

We acknowledge the efforts made by different individuals, leaders, governments and Civil Society Organizations, to visualise food sovereignty in the world. However, much remains to be done as regards youth involvement in the fight for food sovereignty and food security at both national and international levels.

It was clearly noted that young people are always excluded from decision-making bodies and their views are not recognised during the formulation of food policies at all levels. This has not only made them victims of illusive and unrealistic food and agriculture policies influenced by Intergovernmental Organizations, International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Transnational Corporations (TNCs), but has denied young people the access to and control over land and other food producing resources.

The issue of a lack of agricultural education was raised in the discussions. The topic of agriculture has been dropped from many school curricula and where it exists, it is delivered using narrow formal education methods. We shared examples of non-formal agricultural education that contributes to capacity building in young people.

Recommendations:

- We, the young people, commit ourselves and we recommend that governments and institutions also commit to building awareness among the population about food security and sovereignty. Food sovereignty must be the basis of all policies, regimes and institutions which deal with and decide about agriculture and food production. All the governing mechanisms should ensure a participatory space for vulnerable groups and a democratic system in all decision-making processes that govern food and agriculture. An opportunity should be provided for young people to present their work plans to decision-making bodies so that their needs are taken into account.
- We recognise the progress made by reforming the FAO Committee on Food Security, as defined in the vision of the CFS reform as the international and intergovernmental platform which recognises the right to adequate food. However, we see the necessity to rename the Committee on Food Security of FAO to "Committee for Food Sovereignty" (CFS) as food security describes only a physical situation, such as eating three times a day and does not focus on how is food produced and by whom.
- We ask FAO to ensure the participation of young men and women in all three pillars of the CFS – Policy, Scientific and Financial; and the implementation of monitoring regulations through civil society-coordination mechanism. The new CFS would be empowered to develop, together with young people, a global strategic framework for attaining food sovereignty. We emphasise the importance of governments' commitments to the implementation of the framework and structure of CFS at national, continental and international levels. The CFS structure must ensure that the voices of young people are heard in order to define policies that create their future.
- While strongly supporting the creation of an Advisory Council, we the young people recommend the representation of youth in this Advisory Council as well as in the "participant" space. The High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) should be nominated in consultation with young people.
- We, the young women and men, believe that capacity building must be strengthened for young people in agriculture. We insist on the access to agricultural education in a formal and non-formal way from an early age. Capacity building training at all levels to address the



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needs of young people, and promoting engagement in sustainable production through agroecological, small-scale and family farming should be supplemented by resource support.

- We consider sustainable agriculture as the priority in order to feed people and thus we demand the access to and control over land and food resources that is often denied to young people. Young women and men demand the right to have our voices heard at the highest level of governments and international agencies. It is crucial that young women and men are mobilised to advocate on the issues that affect them.
- The genuine agrarian reform must recognise the socio-environmental function of land, sea, forests and natural resources in the context of food sovereignty. Food sovereignty implies policies of redistribution, equitable access and control over natural and productive resources (e.g. land, water, seeds, credit and appropriate technology etc.), by young people, women, indigenous people, peasants and other rural communities. Access to and control over land must be achieved through an implementation of the right to land with respect to hereditary inheritance and protection from land grabbing in rural areas.
- We denounce the land grabbing by transnational corporations and rich countries in poor countries that challenges peasants' access to land and threatens their right to food.
- Access to food is extremely important in conflict zones, military invaded and war areas, therefore we demand that our governments and all stakeholders address this issue as soon as possible to reduce the malnutrition, victims of disease and the deaths of women, men and children.
- We denounce the criminalisation of the peasant struggle and Civil Society Organization.
- Due to the exploitation and discrimination of neo-liberal policies young people are distracted from farming and compelled to abandon their profession, which causes the internal and external migration of the young women and men. In view of the sharp decline of interest in agriculture and the migration of young people to cities, we ask FAO to support the development of initiatives and programmes that motivate young women and men to remain in agriculture.
- We call for the Food Provision Periodical Review (FPPR) that will be a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation for each country.
- We recognised the aggravation of food insecurity in the world in 2007 and 2008, accompanied by social mobilizations throughout the world has changed the political situation and has led to a number of new initiatives at global level. We call for a better coordination of all UN institutions linked with food and agriculture as well as their policy coherence. We demand to have long-term sustainable policies for food provision in not only rural areas but also urban areas.
- The provision of good quality food is especially important for young people as they grow and develop. Therefore, we demand the access to good quality food, including increased access to organic and small-scale family farming products, for all people, especially young women and men. Therefore we promote environmentally friendly production which respects the dignity of human beings and meets the needs of local consumers.
- We denounce International Financial Institutions, and transnational corporations that promote the neo-liberal policies and agreements that facilitate the exploitation of peasants, women, indigenous, and young people.
- We demand the right to the unrestricted production of local seeds, adapted to our needs, including the protection of local seeds and support for the creation of seed banks by young



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people. We also recommend a moratorium on the production of agrofuels and GMOs; and support for sector diversification in livestock and crops.

- We ask the UN agencies to assist in developing an alliance between young people, UN agencies and agricultural organizations, as previously facilitated for climate change and biodiversity. Such an alliance would allow the exchange of traditional knowledge and new technologies, development of common initiatives and support for local, national, regional and international efforts.
- FAO should identify and secure financial support to undertake a pilot micro-financing programme to allow young people to start their own agricultural initiatives and develop local projects such as community gardens and seed banks.

Commitments by the young people of the Youth Caucus

- Social movements, including young women and men, in civil society need to be mobilised
- Young people must organise themselves in order to make common demands through a united approach
- Young people will raise awareness of the issues of the right to food and food sovereignty, and advocate on behalf of those affected
- Young people will share their experience of local level capacity building that uses non formal education methods
- Young people will create local seed banks and this action can be promoted through civil society networks

Indigenous People Caucus

Representatives of the Indigenous peoples from the regions of Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, North America, Africa and Northern Europe, gathered at the Global Forum for People's Food Sovereignty in Rome from the 13th to the 17th of November 2009.

Confirming our right to Food sovereignty, which is intrinsically linked to our historical, cultural and spiritual relations with our Mother Earth, our lands and Territories,

Assuming our right to communal self-determination, as enshrined in Article 1 of the International Covenant of Economic, Social, Cultural, Civil and Political Rights,

Ratifying our Rights, as established in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Concerned by the most recent reports issued by the FAO indicate that over a billion people in the world are going hungry, 80% of whom are food producers and the majority of which live on the territories of the Indigenous Populations,

We gathered at a Forum of Indigenous Peoples on Food Sovereignty and we agreed upon the following

DECLARATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

1.- The Indigenous Populations come from a wide range of areas, from the Amazon rainforest to the Arctic lands of the Sami population, from the Pacific Islands to the Himalayan mountains or our nomadic brothers and sisters in the lands of the Sahara. We have come here to sound the alarm on the serious consequences of the Global Food Crisis which our communities are suffering, to tell you that we are the most affected by hunger and malnutrition, which constitutes a violation



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of our Human Right to Food and free self-determination.

Remembering that the Global Summit on Sustainable Development stated "the vital role of Indigenous Peoples in sustainable development" and called upon the states and United Nations organisations to "Promote effective participation of the indigenous peoples and communities in decision-making processes and the implementation of policies relating to the use of traditional knowledge and biodiversity, amongst many other issues including agriculture, poverty and development."

2.- Aware that the States and their governments are supporting the major transnational companies to the detriment of the Indigenous Peoples' traditional food production, through the appropriation of our lands, territories and resources.

3.- We have decided to continue using our indigenous seeds and our traditional products, and to continue our struggle against the capitalist market of food production, as well as against genetically modified products, as they weaken and exterminate traditional seeds.

4.- Indigenous Peoples have the right to possess, control, protect and pass on the traditional knowledge of our lands, territories and resources which we have owned, used and lived on, respecting the relationship we have with Mother Earth and looking after the environment. In this regard we are the alternative model of sustainable food production and protection of biodiversity.

5.- Therefore, we the indigenous peoples reject farming practices that use chemical and non-organic substances and reject genetically modified seeds, also because their use aggravates global warming and climate change, affecting our Mother Earth. To this end, we demand that the FAO and all UN agencies also recognise the farming practices carried out by nomadic pastoralists.

6.- A number of UN bodies have adopted Resolutions and agreements which state the fundamental importance of participation by Indigenous Peoples and the fact that governments must collaborate to facilitate it. In the same vein, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the former Human Rights Commission, the World Health Organisation, the World Intellectual Property Rights Organisation, the Stockholm Convention, together with the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, amongst others, have created mechanisms which promote full and effective participation of the indigenous communities' representatives in their meetings. These mechanisms range from the financial support given by the Voluntary Fund in order to facilitate participation for indigenous and local community representatives in meetings, to logistical support, as well as allowing formal and informal groups to participate, thereby highlighting good practices for all the UN system.

7.- The Declaration for Indigenous Peoples' Rights, adopted by the General Assembly, in Article 41 and 42, states that the UN must establish ways of guaranteeing indigenous participation in matters that concern them.

Therefore:

8.- We call on the FAO to approve and adopt a Relation Policy with the Indigenous Peoples based on the progress made on the draft policy and on issues related to the recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Territorial Rights.

9.- In this regard the FAO and IFAD must create a Working Group for Indigenous Peoples in the CFS as well as in the specialised agencies and bodies of the FAO and IFAD.

10.- In this Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Food Sovereignty we have come together as the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus to make our voices heard, to foster communication, participation and monitoring with the FAO and other bodies related to Agriculture, Food and Food Sovereignty and



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Security through a *follow-up* committee whose member will be Saul Vicente, Saoudata Aboubacrine, Winder Bolinget, Ben Powless, Marlene..., Anaru Fraser and Ol-Johan Sikkù. .

11.- We the Indigenous Peoples reaffirm the alliances we have with Social Movements, Nomadic Pastoralists, Artisanal Fisherfolk, Peasants, Small-scale Producers, Universities which share solidarity with our cause, as well as Women and Youth.

12.- We will also promote strategic and respectful alliances between a range of social movements, Indigenous Peoples, rural populations and urban groups. .

13.- We call on the Indigenous Peoples of the world to put forward as part of Food Sovereignty the concept of LIVING WELL ("suma causa") which is practiced by the Original Peoples of the Andes and other peoples.

14.- We call on the states and on the governments to recognise the different visions of the cosmovisions which the Indigenous Peoples have, whilst respecting the autonomous status of the Indigenous Peoples and to adopt the concept of LIVING WELL in their national legislations.

15.- We, the Indigenous Peoples, demand the right to define what our diet is and what it means to us, as part of our cultural identity. Addressing the food issue implies addressing the water issue: the right to water and the protection and definition of our right to water. It also implies talking about our right to our territories and resources.

16.-In this vein, we urge the FAO and governments to develop policies for the decolonization of our lands, territories and natural resources as well as the re-education of the states and governments on the vision of the Indigenous Peoples.

17.- However, we will promote the establishment of local markets which benefit our people, in the face of the monopoly of big commercial corporations which hoard food products.

18.- We, the Indigenous Peoples reject the use of Intellectual property rights which contribute to the appropriation, monopoly and alienation of the genetic resources protected by indigenous knowledge.

19.- We, the Indigenous Peoples will continue to consume our traditional foods. Seeds are what we find along the way, wild animals are our siblings, our myths and our history are linked to the way we eat.

20.- Food is not just agriculture or what men and women produces, but it also includes wild plants and animals, and the relationship between these and Mother Earth. We, the Indigenous Peoples will continue to put our traditional methods of food producing in practice as an act of self-determination.

21.- We, the Indigenous Peoples, demand the right to enjoy what we produce and improve our livelihoods, as well as to continue to use our traditional ancient seeds.

22.- We, the Indigenous Peoples, and Indigenous women in particular, should have the right to participate in the definition of specific policies that affect our right to food. This includes the right to use methods like crop rotation; the recognition of nomadic pastoralism, traditional hunting and gathering; and warranting our systems of land and resource tenure.

"One does not sell the land that one's people walk upon"
Tashuhka Witko "Caballo Loco/Crazy Horse" 1840 – 1877



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Caucus on Alliances

Since the social resistance in Seattle ten years ago against the World Trade Organization, various social organizations started a process of building global social movements. Confronted with globalization, they succeeded in creating a new political space, to elaborate alternatives and to build global campaigns. This Forum follows up this work.

This Forum is an opportunity for us to reflect upon our ways of working together and to strengthen our alliances³. The goal of this working group meeting on alliances is to share our experiences on alliance building and to see how in the future we could strengthen social movements by identifying good working methods.

This report results from three working sessions with a lot of testimonies and a great diversity of inputs. It carries the conclusions of the working group.

The need to build alliances

Alliances are not a new phenomena. Many testimonies have underlined the diversity of the experiences of alliances at different levels: local, national, regional and global. They are based on a multiplicity of dynamics and take various forms. They are seen as a process of mutual learning, but all start from the need to ally because alone we are not able to weigh enough to change the balance of power. Alliances create the strength of numbers.

It is necessary, besides the defence of our specific interests – as peasants, fisherfolk, pastoralists, indigenous people, women or men, young people, people from the North or the South, producers or consumers, ... - to build a common vision representing the collective interest, the one of food sovereignty. These alliances are built on the long term perspective and go beyond the defence of specific or corporatist interests, they aim at influencing joint political processes.

They materialise by building social movements at the national and international levels and by joint work between different social actors. These alliances are a tool for movements and organisations that allow us to strengthen our struggles, to create political spaces, to influence political agendas, and to hold a debate in society to raise awareness among citizens and other social organisations.

Many testimonies showed that alliances do work in reaching common objectives. Many participants spoke about experiences where concrete changes have been reached, for example in strengthening social movements, linking up local issues with global issues, developing diverse strategies to influence politicians, being recognized as political actors, getting laws in favour of food sovereignty, etc.

Necessary connections for food sovereignty

When we speak about alliances, we deal with connections. Connecting people, organizations, creating relations, ...

1. Connecting to express solidarities (ex. with the Palestinians, with peasants kicked off their

³ The alliances mentioned here are those designed to strengthen social movements in the long-term around the common goal of food sovereignty. These alliances do not consist of casual partnerships or projects to implement specific collaboration with public authorities.



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land, ...)

2.Connecting organisations from different regions that share the same problems or goals (e.g. the national movement of social movements in India, the network of peasant and farmers organisations from Western Africa (ROPPA), international movement of pastoralists, ...) and connecting the South with the North (ex. campaign on trade between EU and ACP countries)

3.Connecting organisations of different sectors dealing with the same issue, like peasants, pastoralists, indigenous people, fisherfolk, women, youth, urban people, consumers, trade unions, ... by identifying what links us together (the committee for food sovereignty in Latin America and in Canada, Platform for Food Sovereignty in Europe, or against GMOs,

4.Connecting towards the outside to raise awareness and influence public opinion or in political bodies around shared issues.

Beyond the connections, alliances need to focus on shared goals. It is about changing policies, changing practices, changing behaviours. Our alliances are built upon the shared vision of food sovereignty and right to food. Yet, this shared vision should also be based on more concrete joint objectives of society changes or political changes (ex. liberalization of agricultural trade, GMOs, agrarian reform, ...) and of specific targets (WTO, agroindustry, industrial fisheries, ...).

Functioning with diversity

These alliances are based on a connection between organisations which represent a great diversity of actors who interact on the basis of the principle of equal footing and thus prevent any instrumentalization of one over another. They aim at transforming this diversity into strength. They assume a way of working jointly based on mutual recognition of our diversity and our complementarity. The way alliances work can be described as:

- 1.horizontal (no federation, no top down approach)
- 2.decentralised (multiplying responsibilities)
- 3.autonomous, allowing each participant to maintain its own identity
- 4.open and inclusive towards new sectors
- 5.ensuring the participation of youth and women
- 6.strengthening each other while defending common interests
- 7.exchanging information

Several participants insisted on the need to build long term alliances, maintaining continuity. Political processes are slow and complex. Counter-powers and developing alternatives also need a lot of time. Alliances should be built according to this long-term perspective, and also based on strategic choices. There are a lot of political opportunities and campaign proposals to influence short term agendas and they can weaken the common work. The positive side of diversity comes from the capacity to initiate new reflections and to launch new proposals. Yet we also have to understand and to respect our different ways of working (which are very different, for example, between NGOs and social movements) and to allow ourselves the necessary time to deepen the political debate, define jointly the objectives, identify our agendas and ways of action.

Alliances are built with a variety of organisations and movements which are complementary. Various examples show that this is done on a geographical base (ex. setting up of regional platform, alliances between organisations from the South and the North) and between sectors (ex. between social movements, environmental organisations and development NGOs) which because they are different can strengthen each other (ex. campaign on agrarian reform, campaign against



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GMOs). This complementarity means different roles and responsibilities: this should be expressed explicitly and mutually recognized. The alliance around EPA or on agrarian reform shows the differences between peasant organisations (political role, information on the issue) and NGOs (role of support on the analyse, facilitating access to institutions).

Improving our common work

Alliances are made by organisations with very different capacities. We should be careful to ensure the participation of the main components and regions and to take into account their possible weaknesses. Those who are the most affected by the policies should have a central role in alliances. They should be given the opportunity to gain the necessary capacities to assume this role (e.g. the current Forum has set up spaces for women, youth and indigenous peoples so that they can be strengthened to take part in the debates).

The regional strengthening is important too. For example Africa should be given the means to define by itself in an autonomous way its own priorities and to voice them in international debates. It should be able to create its own mechanisms of organisation based on its identity, without which access to funding would determine who can take part or not. We need to guarantee the participation of those who are not heard by creating a political space for them, which also strengthens the legitimacy of our struggles. It can also be useful to organize the meetings of our alliances in places of struggles, where there are urgent needs. These meetings then also represent a support and recognition of the struggles, they help in raising the political pressure. It is in these spaces that alliances should be tools of change.

Enlarging alliances can sometimes be useful. The participation of urban movements in this forum is definitely a positive step forward. Alliances are also developed with academics, trade unions or individuals from governmental institutions. Yet we must know how to enlarge our movement. Enlarging cannot be made at the expense of our political demands, on the contrary, it should strengthen our struggles.

In order to promote the building of alliances and the drafting of joint strategies and agendas, we want to strengthen alliances from the local level and to link them at the national and international levels. We should preserve the diversity and the horizontal way of working.

Linking up local and international struggles takes place through making our connections more visible (e.g. by developing means to communicate the decisions of this Forum to our villages, by sharing our experiences to facilitate mutual understanding and strengthening the commitment of each of us). Yet it is not always easy to translate our joint agendas from the global level to the national or local levels. We should think of mechanisms to make our links more visible and accurate at the local levels, we should learn from our successes and weaknesses. One of the big challenges is to overcome the obstacle of languages so that we can reach more people.

We have developed our analyses and our proposals and we have strengthened our capacity to influence the political debate. Our movement is becoming more credible. It is increasingly recognized by institutions, governments, medias and by public opinion. The participation of civil society in the Committee on World Food Security means that we need to organize in an autonomous manner. It implies new responsibilities towards each other. We insist on maintaining a decentralized leadership that facilitates renewing and delegation of responsibilities.



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Inclusiveness, transparency in decision-making and exchange of information, are some aspects which need to be taken care of.

A mechanism of facilitation

We need a mechanism of facilitation in order to meet, to build relations of confidence, to strengthen each other, to define joint strategies and agendas, to do political work, etc. The social forums have been important spaces of alliance building by facilitating exchanges on our struggles, common analyses, and the definition of joint strategies and agendas. The Nyeleni Forum on Food Sovereignty has been another important step, including on the methodology used to decide together. At the international level, these forums see a follow up in this present forum. These moments are important in building a large international alliance. At local or regional levels, these meetings can happen more often or be organized through more structured spaces.

The International Planning Committee (IPC) is recognized as an important mechanism of facilitation for alliances around food sovereignty. IPC is not a formal structure with a spoke-person, but a mechanism which facilitates the process of creating a political space while allowing different components to maintain their autonomy, to respect the complementarity and to emphasize what unites us – whatever may be the size of the components -, to improve our complementarity and to encourage a certain level of task sharing based on our different capacities. IPC takes it for granted that it lacks external visibility or that it is complicated for international institutions not to have a spoke-person from social movements. It understands that opportunities of political influence can be « spoiled » because we prioritize collective decision-making. We also accept our differences on some points, but we express that what unifies us is more important. The work of IPC is recognized as a necessary contribution to facilitate and strengthen alliances.

Our common work in this Forum, and on the basis of a stronger and broader alliances among ourselves, we assert the legitimacy and credibility of our proposals. We engage ourselves to take collectively our responsibilities in the mobilisations in our struggles and demands from the local to the international levels. We claim the control and the autonomy of our processes of organisation and alliances and we will further enhance our mutual accountability by valuing the wealth of our diversity and in the respect for our autonomies. We recognise the essential role of the IPC in the facilitation of the alliances processes.

Pastoralists Statement

Note: the pastoralists at the forum did not have their own caucus meeting, but they did self-organise some meetings which resulted in the joint statement, below.

Statement of the nomadic pastoral organizations present at the People's Forum for Food Sovereignty Rome November 17, 2009

We, pastoralists from across the world, call for recognition of the important role of Pastoralism as a sustainable way to use the natural resources in world. There is a growing body of scientific evidence showing that the pastoral people's use of natural resources is in harmony with nature,



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and promotes environmental integrity and conservation of both wild and domestic biodiversity. The main factors contributing towards the climate change are the anti-pastoral government policies and their support to handful of capitalist promoting industrialists.

Today pastoralists have become dependent on others for their livelihood. As a result of this pastoralists are losing their self esteem.

Many visible and hidden benefits that pastoralists bring to local, national and international levels can be revealed. We urge governments to realize the tremendous potential that Pastoralism holds as an adaptive strategy in harsh arid environments and bring out the pastoralists from cycle of poverty, conflict and environmental degradation. Governments should recognize the fact that Pastoralism is an asset to fight against poverty, hunger and climate change.

Our Strengths:

1. **Today** many scientists have started believing that traditional indigenous knowledge about nature and ecosystems is an indispensable part of the fight against hunger, climate change and loss of biodiversity.
2. **More** traditional interventions practiced by the pastoralists have crucial connections in strengthening people's resiliency in the face of increased stress on the climate.
3. The community still enjoys the **customary leadership** and customs and major decisions are taken keeping the entire community in loop. Our sense of Pastoralism is very strong. We are valued for our value for words given and our strength of character.
4. Intact Indigenous Traditional Knowledge of livestock and biodiversity .
5. The diverse and rich **livelihood options** we have kept alive in using our existing natural resources.

We demand our rights to be respected!

1. **PROVIDE** the necessary policy support to achieve our economic and social development in harmony with nature and strengthen the pastoral organizations at national, regional and international levels, including through the promotion of programmes to disseminate relevant knowledge on rights and policy among pastoral and other mobile communities;
2. **URGENTLY ADOPT** at the national level—with full participation of nomadic and other indigenous peoples— legal and instruments to protect the collective rights of mobile peoples, by ratifying the International Labor Organization Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and by developing national legislation in line with this declaration and other relevant international instruments;
3. **RECOGNIZE** and **RESPECT** our customary laws, customary institutions and leadership, and our common property rights and customary governance and use of natural resources that we have managed sustainably by using them seasonally or as buffer zones in times of climatic and other disasters and **REVERSE** policies and legislation that negatively affect mobile peoples, and **DEVELOP** adequate mechanisms of restitution, and compensation in case mobile communities have lost access to their customary resources, **PROMOTE** conditions and mechanisms for lasting peace and conflict resolution at all levels



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4. **RECOGNIZE, Respect** and **Restore** the crucial role of indigenous knowledge and the capacity of pastoralists and all other nomadic and trans-human communities to conserve biodiversity in full compatibility with pastoral livelihoods.
5. **EMPOWER** mobile communities in the management of existing protected areas and, **RECOGNIZE** their customary territories as community conserved areas (CCAs) when so demanded by the concerned mobile peoples and communities;
6. **RESPECT** Pastoralism and mobility as distinctive sources of cultural identity, integrity and rights for food sovereignty.
7. **DEVELOP** strategies and mechanisms to support pastoralists to reduce the impact of droughts and climatic change.
8. **ADOPT** measures to reverse negative environmental impacts of development schemes, and **SEEK** prior and informed consent before all private and public initiatives including mining, industrialization, national parks, that may affect the integrity of pastoral customary territories, resource management systems and nature;
9. **ENSURE** and **PROMOTE** control over local markets by the food producers. We also against patenting standardization and privatization of livestock product and cultural heritage. We are keepers of genetic resources since ancestral time.

We understand all of our demands to be in the framework of Food Sovereignty and we are proud to stand with all of you to fight for our right to FOOD SOVEREIGNTY NOW!



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Plenary with a representative of IFAD

The session was chaired by Maryam Rahmanian. She invited the representative of IFAD, Jean-Philippe Audinet, to make a brief introduction on the current situation and on what IFAD was expecting from the Forum. Then, she proposed that the delegates ask questions.

Audinet first expressed the regrets of the President of IFAD Kanayo F. Nwanze who was not able to attend the Forum and his support and attention for CSO participation in the debates around food security. He highlighted that the situation was worrying: we are failing to reach the goal to halve the proportion of people suffering from hunger by 2015. In 2000 when this goal was endorsed, many organisations were saying that this modest goal was a scandal, but even this we are not able to reach. So it's more than time to react and understand what is wrong.

The representative of IFAD recognized that he did not know if we could expect anything from the Summit itself. For this reason, he underlined that the proposals of the CSOs will be key. What IFAD hopes from the Forum is proposals, recommendations, particularly from food producers, with a sense of concreteness, ideas about what can be done now. This is also about a sense of unity, which has been lacking among governments for a long time.

The reform of the CFS is a positive news, particularly as there is a will to include CSOs.

Rahmanian thanked Audinet on behalf of the Forum for IFAD's support for the CSO Forum, both in terms of financial support and their backings of the principles of autonomy and self-organization of CSOs.

Questions

Question: 20 billion dollars have been promised from G20 countries to the World Bank. IFAD, which has been working in agriculture for a long time, is being ignored. What are the arrangements between IFAD and World Bank for the management of these funds?

Answer (Audinet): Money is not the only issue, but it is part of the solution. We welcome the commitment of the G20 and hope that it will be concretized. What is important is that these funds be used according to national country-level strategies and plans. It is possible to have a fund in the World Bank, without the World Bank necessarily managing it. The way of channelling funding is a technical question and World Bank has the experience. Another thing is to put conditionalities on the funds. IFAD manages three billion dollars. If we have more we'll try to use more, but our challenge is to use well what we have. We do not necessarily have the human resources to manage so much money, but neither does the World Bank alone.

Q: As Mr Audinet said, money is not the key, the key is political priority. Do you think that this money will support green revolution or peasant agriculture? Is it possible for IFAD to use criteria to allocate funds to support local food production?

A: IFAD is not putting political conditions on its funding. We are an institution with the mandate to support the rural poor in order to overcome poverty. Our funding goes to peasant agriculture but we are not in a position to impose conditions. Our resources are supposed to reach landless



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people, pastoralists, etc. and in most cases it is for subsistence farming and support for local and national markets.

On the green revolution and GMOs, there is a misunderstanding. There was no GMOs in the Green Revolution which took place mainly in Asia where there are small-scale farmers. It was based on a lot of fertilizers and an increase in productivity, which led to major environmental problems. So the Green Revolution can not be repeated. But there is a need for some kind of revolution in order to raise the productivity of small-scale agriculture. Financial assistance does not bring the solution, it depends on local conditions and on local people. The issue is whether these resources serve or don't serve poor rural people. These are internal issues of the countries. It depends on the capacity of the sectors to have sufficient influence at national level. It's not the role of international institutions to decide on these kind of priorities.

Q: Isn't it a good excuse to refer to the national level? It's like saying « it is your responsibility if you're poor ». The reality is that there is no space to raise the voices of the rural poor. The main problem is power and you are in a better position to influence them, to promote the voice of poor people. So isn't it also IFAD's mandate to help small producers to having their say?

A: Everywhere the solutions to hunger and poverty will be found if political and social processes are there. Finding the best solutions at local level requires that those who don't have the resources can influence the decision-making process more. It is key to empower rural people to be more part of decision-making processes, to support the collective organization of people. Collective capacity to push people to policy-making is a key point for IFAD. You are part of the solution because you can create change in the balance of power to influence decisions.

Q: How does IFAD consider the impacts of climate change?

A: IFAD is currently working on its strategy paper which will be published in 2010. We need to focus efforts and resources in adaptation. Poor rural people are the most exposed to climate change. But we also believe that small-scale farming is part of the solution for mitigation. Solutions like carbon-markets are not reaching poor countries and not reaching the poor. Environmental services should be acknowledged, measured and remunerated. What will happen in Copenhagen is crucial for the future of agriculture.

Q: What are the mechanisms to ensure transparency about how funding is distributed in countries and whether or not it reaches communities?

A: Transparency is a very important agenda in IFAD. Member countries have been wishing to focus on results and set up instruments to report on these results. IFAD has made great progress. An independent evaluation was held and this report is public on the website.

Q: What about agrofuels?

A: No, but. Agrofuels are not the solution to mitigation in agriculture, but many agrarian systems have been inventing sustainable production systems. Agroforestry in Africa is stocking more carbon than tree plantation. On agrofuels, the debate is too simplified. Peasant farmers use biofuels. The issue is rather the production model to produce energy. There are other ways than the industrial one which could fit into peasant farming systems. But this has to be seen case by



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case. The issue is who is controlling the production system and what model of production. But producing food has to be the priority in comparison with producing energy.

Q: How do you perceive the Global Partnership?

A: I don't know. The term « global partnership » came out from the food price crisis, when it became clear that what was there before was not working. But I am not sure that the people who proposed the Global Partnership had something very clear in mind. They said it should have scientific evidence based arguments, it should to be inclusive and allow different institutions to work together. The good news is that through the CFS reform there is a way. It is a UN body located in FAO with the strong participation of CSOs. There is a convergence to say that the CFS should be a central element of this Global Partnership. The way we use or misuse this instrument will be decisive. We have to work in a sense of concreteness and face our differences. The CFS may be the place to do it.



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Final plenary, 17 November 2009

On November 17, all participants of the Forum met in plenary to discuss and approve the final CSO statement and to listen to the different caucus statements (youth, women and indigenous peoples and the statement of the pastoralists). In the second half of the plenary, the Brazilian Minister of Rural Development, Guilherme Cassel, joined the Forum and was invited to give his views on the reformed CFS, food governance and to answer questions from the delegates. Finally, warm thanks was given to all those who made this Forum possible.

Before reading the draft declaration, the Chair (Maryam Rahmanian) clarified that the text was the result of the inputs of each of the 4 working groups, plus the caucus statements. It was the decision of the Steering Committee of the Forum that in this final session, only those comments from delegates⁴ that pointed to missing points from the working group results would be incorporated into the final declaration. No new topics or topics that did not have the support of the working groups would be included as the process for drafting the final declaration was made clear to all participants during the Forum's opening plenary. Comments were presented but also had to be given in writing to drafters. A large number of interventions were heard from the floor (from delegates only) and issues that had been raised in the working groups and did not meet the opposition of any other delegates were incorporated by the drafting committee (Nettie Wiebe and Sofia Monsalve). The text of the declaration that is included, below (and in annex), is the final version including all accepted comments during the final plenary.

CSO Statement

Based on the work of the working groups and with contributions of the caucuses, a draft statement was proposed to the plenary on the 17th November. Delegates (though not observers, according to the rules of the Forum) were able to comment on it, point out elements that had been stated in the working groups and that were missing in the declaration. The amendments which did not meet with any opposition were integrated to the text and the final declaration was read at the World Summit on Food Security on the 18th of November 2009, as follows:

Declaration from the Forum Food Sovereignty Now! Social Movements/NGOs/CSOs Parallel Event to the World Food Summit on Food Security (Rome, November 13-17, 2009)

"Uno no vende la tierra por la cual camina su pueblo"
Tashunka Witko

We, 642 persons coming from 93 countries and representing 450 organisations of peasant and family farmers, small scale fisher folk, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, youth, women, the urban people, agricultural workers, local and international NGOs, and other social actors, gathered in Rome from the 13 -17 of November, 2009 united in our determination to work for and demand food sovereignty in a moment in which the growing numbers of the hungry has surpassed the one billion mark. Food sovereignty is the real solution to the tragedy of hunger in our world.

⁴ Observers were allowed to participate in working group discussions at the discretion of the Chairs, but not in the final plenary to ratify the declaration.



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Food sovereignty entails transforming the current food system to ensure that those who produce food have equitable access to, and control over, land water, seeds, fisheries and agricultural biodiversity. All people have a right and responsibility to participate in deciding how food is produced and distributed. Governments must respect, protect and fulfil the right to food as the right to adequate, available, accessible, culturally acceptable and nutritious food.

Governments have obligations to provide emergency aid. But this must not undermine food sovereignty and human rights. Emergency aid should be procured as locally as possible and must not be used to pressure countries into accepting Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO). Food must never be used as a political weapon.

We call attention to the violations of rights of people, both urban and rural, living in areas under armed conflict or occupation and in emergency situations. The international community must urgently address violations of human rights like those related to forced displacement, confiscation and alien exploitation of property, land, and other productive resources, demographic manipulation and population transfers.

Who Decides?

We declare our support for the renewed Committee on World Food Security: We take particular note of the commitment of those Heads of State present at the FAO Summit have shown to this important body in their Declaration. We emphasize the fundamental importance of the renewed CFS as the foremost inclusive international policy body for food and agriculture within the UN system, and as an essential body where the knowledge and perspectives of those whose daily labours have fed humanity for generations are not only heard, but also acted upon. We assert the centrality of the Right to Food as a principle to guide all elements of the Committee on World Food Security's work.

We express concern that the CFS is not receiving the funding appropriate to the ambition of its work programme. We urge FAO member states to back their political commitment with financial resources. We also note that much work remains to be done within the CFS to ensure that there is coherence between the different organs of the global food and agricultural institutional architecture. In this regard, we are extremely concerned by the proposed World Bank Global Agriculture and Food Security programme whose governance mechanism appears undemocratic, un-transparent, and destined to lead to a replication of past mistakes. As long as institutions such as the WTO continue to privilege commercial interests over the globally marginalised and malnourished, hunger will continue to stalk the world.

Civil society has played a fundamentally important role in the CFS reform process, opening up a critical space which we intend to fully occupy in a responsible and effective manner. In so doing we will ensure that the voices of the excluded continue to be heard at the heart of food and agricultural policy-making and governance, at all levels. However, whilst we value the work that has been done, and hold high expectations regarding the CFS's future achievements, we will vigilantly monitor its work to ensure that member states follow through on their commitment to create an effective mechanism that is strong in its powers of coordination at all levels; able to hold its members to account; and start now to realise its commitment to develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition .



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Ecological Food Provision

We reaffirm that our ecological food provision actually feeds the large majority of people all over the world in both rural and urban areas (more than 75%). Our practices focus on food for people not profit for corporations. It is healthy, diverse, localised and cools the planet.

We commit to strengthen and promote our ecological model of food provision in the framework of food sovereignty that feeds all populations including those in marginal zones like small islands and coastal areas. Our practices, because they prioritise feeding people locally, minimise waste and losses of food and do not create the damage caused by industrial production systems. Peasant agriculture is resilient and can adapt to and mitigate climate change. We insist, however, that food and agriculture be kept out of carbon market. We will defend and develop our agricultural, fisheries and animal biodiversity in the face of the aggressive commodification of nature, food and knowledge that is being facilitated by the 'new Green Revolutions'. We call for a global moratorium on GMO. Governments must protect and properly regulate domestic food markets. Our practices require supply management policies in order to secure availability of food and to guarantee decent wages and fair prices. We are ready to discuss new legal frameworks to support our practices.

We call for a reframing of research, using participatory methods, that will support our ecological model of food provision. We are the innovators building on our knowledge and skills. We rehabilitate local seeds systems and livestock breeds and fish/aquatic species for a changing climate. We commit to promote the findings of IAASTD (International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development). We call for accountability by researchers. We reject corporations' control of research and will not engage in forums that are dominated by them. We will promote our innovations through our media and outreach programmes for capacity building, education and information dissemination.

We will strengthen our interconnecting rural - urban food webs. We will build alliances within a Complex Alimentarius - linking small-scale food providers, processors, scientists, institutions, consumers - to replace the reductionist approach of the Codex Alimentarius. We commit to shorten distances between food provider and consumer. We will strengthen urban food movements and advance urban and peri-urban agriculture. We will reclaim the language of food emphasising nutrition and diversity in diets that exclude meat provided from industrial systems.

Control over food producing resources

Land grabbing by transnational capital must stop. Landlessness and land grabbing have intensified in the wake of the global food crisis, deforestation, sequestering of water bodies, privatization of the sea inland waters and coastal zones. Land and water confiscation and isolation practiced by occupying forces must be stopped. Countries and companies are colluding in alarming land grabbing practices. In less than a year, over 40 million hectares of fertile land in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe have been usurped through these deals, displacing local food production for export interests.

Instead of promoting large-scale industrial agricultural investments, we urge our governments and the FAO to implement structural changes implied in the Declaration of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD) and in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) must play a critical role in ensuring the effective participation of social movements and civil



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society organizations

We demand comprehensive agrarian reforms which uphold the individual and collective/community rights of access to and control over territories. All States must implement effective public policies which guarantee community (those whose derives their livelihood) control over all natural resources. Strong accountability mechanisms to redress violations of these rights need to be in place. Gender equity and the youth interests must be at the heart of genuine agrarian and aquatic reforms. Reforms should guarantee women and youth full equality of opportunities and rights to land and natural wealth, and redress historical and ongoing discrimination.

Access to water is a human right. Water must remain in the “commons” and not be subject to market mechanisms of use and governance. Aquatic reforms should give legal recognition, protection and enforcement of the collective rights of small-scale fishing communities to access and use fishing grounds and maritime resources.

Closure of pastoralists routes and expropriation of lands, natural wealth and territories from local communities through economic concessions, big plantations, industrial agriculture and aquaculture, tourism and infrastructure projects and any other means must come to an end. Gathered food is also an important source to feed many of our communities and therefore deserves specific protection.

The rights to territory for indigenous peoples encompass nature as a living being essential to the identity and culture of particular communities or peoples. As guaranteed by Articles 41 and 42 of the UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples Rights, we call FAO to adopt a policy for Indigenous Peoples, to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Territorial Rights, and to ensure their participation in resource decisions. We urge FAO and IFAD to create a Working Group with Indigenous Peoples in the CFS.

We reject intellectual property rights over living resources including seeds, plants and animals. De facto biological monopolies –where the seed or breed is rendered sterile – must be banned. We will keep the seeds in our hands. We will keep freely exchanging and saving our seeds and breeds. We value our traditional knowledge as fishers, livestock keepers, Indigenous Peoples and peasants and we will further develop it to be able to feed our communities in a sustainable way. Our songs and tales express our cosmovision and are important to maintain our spiritual relationship with our lands.

Civil Society Commitments

We commit ourselves to increase our level of organization, build broad and strong alliances and promote joint actions, articulations, exchanges, and solidarity to speak with a strong voice for defending our food sovereignty. We are convinced that only the power of organized peoples and mobilization can achieve the needed changes, thus our principal task is to inform, raise awareness, debate, organize and mobilize people.

Women participants in the forum, noting the systematic oppression of women through the processes of globalization and corporatization of agriculture, fisheries and livestock, intensified by patriarchy, commit ourselves to achieving equality in representation and decision making bodies. We demand gender justice, peace and respect for the rights of women, including common property rights. Our rights over seeds, productive resources, our knowledge and our contributions



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to enhancing resilience must be respected, valued and protected. Women agricultural workers and their communities must be assured safe working conditions and fair wages.

Youth participants of the forum reaffirm that young people are key to the development and implementation of ecologically and socially sustainable agriculture policies. All decision making bodies must ensure the effective participation of young people. We insist on agricultural, fisheries and livestock education (formal and informal) from an early age, and the FAO and IFAD should provide adequate funds for capacity building training at all levels to address the needs of young people and rural women. Our commitment to food sovereignty includes a demand that the Committee on Food Security be transformed into the "Committee for Food Sovereignty" and a call for a moratorium on agrofuels.

We engage ourselves to collectively accept our responsibilities to mobilize from the local to the international levels in our struggles for food sovereignty. We claim the control and the autonomy of our processes of organisation and alliances and we will further enhance our mutual accountability by valuing the wealth of our diversity and in the respect for our autonomies. We recognise the essential role of the IPC in the facilitation of alliance building.

We demand Food Sovereignty now!



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Presentation and questions to Guilherme Cassel, Brazilian Minister of Rural Development.

The chair of the session, Mr Antonio Onorati, greeted the Minister and asked him two questions.

We now have a promising reformed CFS. Yet the governments from the G8 did not come to the World Summit on Food Security. How does the Brazilian government think it can develop the CFS?

Cassel first regretted that although these questions are very clear and precise, he is not able to give direct responses. He stressed the importance of the contributions from CSOs. He was on the round table on global governance at the Summit and there he said that we can never know what can come out from the future. The results of the actions taken so far against hunger are shameful for all international institutions and national governments. In the past the choice was to work only among governments and international institutions: CSOs were seen with mistrust, as a conflictive element. Several years have passed, and we have failed. Today it's not a coincidence that we are calling for a change. It is not possible to find efficient solutions without looking at the experience of social movements throughout the whole world. This change is very important. The last financial crisis has created real changes in global institutions. So it's important to move forward now, and the CSO Forum that is taking place is key. It is still not clear how we will include CSOs in the CFS process and it will certainly not be done immediately. Yet it is important that you keep building alternatives and concrete proposals to struggle against hunger in the world

In the Declaration of the World Food Summit, ICARRD is mentioned. This conference which took place in Brazil is seen by social organizations as a positive sign. How can we move forward and implement the results of this conference in favour of landless people and peasants?

Indeed, some references have been made to ICARRD in the summit. Now there is a consensus that we cannot deal with hunger if we don't increase productivity and production and that for this we need the democratization of access to land, agrarian reform and support for peasant family farming. ICARRD has been a success, also in terms of the participation of CSOs and your contributions to the debates. But the classical institutions have not yet been able to decide how the participation of social organizations can be implemented. In the declaration, it is written that we need to work on agrarian reform together with civil society. Now this is the first conference of FAO after the crisis and a lot of elements are more fragile than before. The bureaucracy of FAO will have to find ways to include CSOs.

In Brazil there are more and more references on how governments can work together with CSOs. This has proved to be successful as now 20 million people have been saved from hunger. This result has only been possible thanks to the coordinated work between the government and CSOs on agricultural policy, trade, agrarian reform, particularly with the friends from La Via Campesina, CONTAG and FETRAF. This path is being taken by more and more countries and is being integrated by international institutions.

We are living in an historical moment, it is a moment to move forward. Thanks for your vitality and your capacity to make proposals.



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Questions by delegates

Delegate from Angola: I give a lot of value to the position of Brazil in this Summit, but it is contradictory with what Brazilian TNCs do in my country, where they cause a lot of harm.

The Brazilian Minister answered that he would have to sit and see which company it is and in which sector. Brazil is a country with a lot of contradictions. So he does not have a response to this question now.

Delegate from Nepal: How do you deal with the water issue in agriculture?

Brazil is a very big country with localized problems. Nordeste is the region with serious problems of water. There has been a lot of discussion of project projects which generated a lot of social exclusion but helped in developing infrastructure. The government of Lula has decided on the construction of a small-scale system of water reserves for domestic consumption in regions where it rains a lot in very little, followed by a long drought. This is a cheap technology efficient to meet the needs of the people.

Fisherwoman delegate: Fisherfolk are victims of massive expropriation and are often forgotten by the politicians. How do you act to support fisherfolk in Brazil?

In the Brazilian case, we speak about invisible people, because fisherfolk are very poor people, who never benefit from public policies. Lula created a Ministry of Fisheries which has been trying to look at how they live, who is fishing, and create alternative trade systems. This is the beginning only, but we are committed to work with this sector which had always been neglected.

Delegate from India: Do you really think that FAO can really help to assist us to eradicate hunger or is it only talking?

Cassel said that he would not be pessimistic on the FAO Summit. He thinks that things are moving forward, but that what is decisive is that people understand that solutions won't come from there, but from national policies, together with civil society. More than ever, we have to include more people to offer more efficient results. We have to combine agrarian reform with politics to support family-farming. Yesterday, the Minister explained, I was in a meeting with African governments together with Lula and we said that the valorisation of peasant farming and agrarian reform is not only positive from a social perspective, but that it is also justified from an economic point of view. In Brazil, we have made a study which shows that peasant farming is more productive than corporate agriculture. We need to make this known. The choice to build rural zones together with the people is a rational choice for three main reasons:

-Food security: peasant agriculture produce more diversity, they produce what people eat. In Brazil, 70% of the food that people eat comes from sustainable family-farming.

-Environment : Farming practices of peasant agriculture are better.

-Energy : Agrofuel is an alternative to petrol.

These are three challenging agendas, and for each of them peasant agriculture is fundamental.

What makes a difference is how people are able to participate and increase the level of the debate.

Delegate from Iran, livestock herder: Over the last 3 years, we have seen that livestock herders in Iran have become bankrupt while meat imports from Brazil have increased greatly. Representatives of our government went to Brazil recently to buy or set up 25 large scale production units. There is a connection between the two things.

The Minister answered that he was not informed about this and that he would follow-up if more



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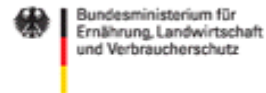
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information was provided.

Closing ceremony of the Forum

In order to close the Forum, all those who made the Forum possible were called to the scene: the Steering committee, the Methodology group, the staff who worked to organize the Forum, the funders of the Forum, the volunteer interpreters, the Italian Committee for Food Sovereignty whose support was fundamental to achieve the Forum and all volunteers that helped out for the logistics.

A special thanks was also given to the Funders of the forum:



Comune di Roma





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Communications and Media

Report from the media team

The media team was composed of four people, three of them volunteers. They worked closely together with the media officer of AIAB and of OXFAM. Besides this team, other organizations provided some support through their media officers, like FOCSIV, GRAIN, Terranuova, Sisto and Via Campesina. A webmaster also worked on the website of the event.

Considering the lack of interest by the media in the World Summit on Food Security, the coverage for the CSO Forum was quite good. We received attention from various television and radio stations and the national and international press.

1. We received visits from several journalists, not only during the Forum's opening (partly due to the participation of Diouf and the Mayor) but throughout the Forum.
2. The media action was attended by several TV stations and journalists, which stayed longer to interview the delegates. This was possible thanks to the extreme effort of the people who organized this event at the last minute and obtained permission to gather in front of FAO and the team of volunteers and delegates that decided to participate.
3. The Press conference held inside the FAO building was a real success too, more than 100 people attended it (it can be viewed online at <http://www.fao.org/wsfs/wsfs-multimedia/wsfs-webcasting/en/>). Even if the FAO Media room was quite empty - after the first day (November 16) the journalists who attended the Summit were very few - most of them came to the Forum Press Conference, and stayed longer just to interview the delegates (therefore it would be good next time to try to bring more delegates inside to be interviewed). Apart from the journalists, the press conference was attended by other NGOs, delegates accredited to the Summit and people working inside the FAO.

Here below are the web links to some of the coverage we received from Italian and international media:

Italian

TG3 Marcello Greco

<http://www.rai.tv/dl/RaiTV/programmi/media/ContentItem-0406230b-36b8-481b-9f72-27c02cf36795-tg3.html>

<http://it.reuters.com/article/topNews/idITMIE5AG0QD20091117>

http://www.agimondo.it/notiziario-ong/notizie/200911171819-cro-rt11250-fao_ong_e_contadini_diritto_al_cibo_e_unica_soluzione

http://www.agimondo.it/notiziario-ong/notizie/200911171647-cro-rt11207-fao_ong_per_combattere_fame_restituire_terre_ai_contadini



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<http://www.agimondo.it/notiziario-ong/notizie/200911171544-cro-rt11170-fao-ong-e-contadini-ok-riforma-agenzia-ma-rischio-stop-da-g8>

<http://www.agimondo.it/notiziario-ong/notizie/200911161701-cro-rt11294-fao-forum-parallelo-piu-diritti-ai-piccoli-produttori>

<http://www.carta.org/campagne/ambiente/18850>

http://www.radiocittaperta.it/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2655&Itemid=9

Tg3 Puntodonna,

<http://www.rai.tv/dl/RaiTV/programmi/media/ContentItem-f2dc1c1d-24ff-47c4-9a57-07c5d842a3fc-tg3.html?p=0>

MORE...

Review of la Fondazione Diritti Genetici

<http://www.fondazioneirittigenetici.org/fondazione/new/archivio.php?tipo=rassegna>

Spanish

http://www.elperiodico.com/default.asp?idpublicacio_PK=46&idioma=CAS&idnoticia_PK=662694&idseccio_PK=1006

<http://www.jornada.unam.mx/2009/11/17/index.php?section=politica&article=017a2pol>

<http://gustavoduch.wordpress.com/2009/11/17/contra-el-cansancio-la-voz-y-la-palabra-diario-de-navarra/>

http://www.galicia-hoxe.com/index_2.php?idMenu=153&idNoticia=487632

http://www.elpais.com/articulo/sociedad/Buenos/propositos/grandes/ausentes/cumbre/FAO/elpepusoc/20091116elpepusoc_3/Tes

http://www.elpais.com/articulo/sociedad/cumbre/hambre/reafirma/plan/incumplido/poner/dinero/elpepisoc/20091117elpepisoc_7/Tes

<http://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/2009/11/17/solidaridad/1258471052.html>

<http://alainet.org/active/34530>

<http://www.lavanguardia.es/blogs/roma.html>

<http://www.europapress.es/epsocial/noticia-ong-piden-acabar-apropiacion-tierras-paises-pobres-parte-inversores-extranjeros-20091117195422.html>

<http://diagonalperiodico.net/Roma-entre-dos-aguas.html>



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<http://blogs.publico.es/delconsejoeditorial/379/soberania-alimentaria-contra-el-hambre/>

English

November 11

<http://www.timeslive.co.za/news/world/article190619.ece>

November 16

<http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=49278>

November 17

http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/hungering_for_a_true_thanksgiving_20091117/

<http://www.foodweek.com.au/main-features-page.aspx?articleType=ArticleView&articleId=5731>

<http://english.alroya.com/node/18610>

<http://globalnation.inquirer.net/news/breakingnews/view/20091117-236806/Anti-Mindoro-mining-farmer-stages-hunger-strike-in-Rome>

http://www.thepeninsulaqatar.com/Display_news.asp?section=World_News&subsection=United+Kingdom+%26+Europe&month=November2009&file=World_News2009111793936.xml

<http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2009/11/17/world/AP-EU-UN-Food-Summit.html?scp=1&sq=rome%20fao%20parallel%20forum&st=cse>

(just 2 lines with Flavio Valente)

November 18

<http://www.fsrn.org/audio/un-food-summit-ends-rome-with-little-progress-made-fight-against-hunger/5776>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hbfo_oMTM70

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Only+crumbs+offered+food+summit/2238304/story.html>
(mentions 'parallel' summit and FoodFirst)

<http://www.france24.com/en/20091118-lack-top-leaders-ruined-un-hunger-summit-food-organisation-rome-agriculture-crisis> (mention La Via and the forum)

<http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=49317>

November 19

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-world/un-questions-worlds-hunger-commitment-20091119-imi.html>

Riz Khan Show, Africa Investment or Land Grab

<http://farmlandgrab.org/9084>



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<http://www.alainet.org/active/34527&lang=es> (via Campesina)

http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xb748e_forum-pour-la-souverainete-alimenta_news

<http://www.fao.org/audiocatalogue/index.jsp?lang=EN>

<http://www.carta.org/campagne/ambiente/18879>

November 20

http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2009/11/hungering_for_a_true_thanksgiv.html

November 25

<http://www.cpa.org.au/guardian/2009/1437/01-world-food-summit.html>

November 26

<http://www.ip-watch.org/weblog/2009/11/26/un-eyes-next-steps-on-food-security-biotech-pleased-with-summit-mention/>

FAO online multimedia pages

Video clips of interviews with Forum delegates who were attending the Summit:

<http://www.fao.org/wsfs/wsfs-multimedia/wsfs-video/en/>

CSO Forum press conference inside FAO:

<http://www.fao.org/wsfs/wsfs-multimedia/wsfs-webcasting/en/>

PEOPLE'S FOOD SOVEREIGNTY
SOBERANÍA ALIMENTARIA DE LOS PUEBLOS
SOUVERAINÉTÉ ALIMENTAIRE DES PEUPLES
SOVRANITÀ ALIMENTARE DEI POPOLI



Uno no vende la tierra
por la cual camina su pueblo

Tashunka Witko, 1840-1877

A N N E X E S

F I N A L R E P O R T

P E O P L E ' S

F O O D

S O V E R E I G N T Y

F O R U M

CIVIL SOCIETIES ORGANIZATIONS [CSO] FORUM

13 - 17 NOVEMBER 2009, ROME





PEOPLE'S FOOD SOVEREIGNTY NOW!
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSO) FORUM PARALLEL TO
WORLD SUMMIT ON FOOD SECURITY **2 0 0 9**
13TH–17TH NOVEMBRE **R O M A**

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Annex 1

Call for the Civil Society Forum on People's Food Sovereignty



Call to participate in the Social Movements/ NGOs/CSOs Parallel Forum to the World Summit on Food Security 2009

We the people demand: Food Sovereignty now!

Rome, 13-17 November 2009

"One does not sell the earth upon which the people walk"

Tashunka Witko - 1840 – 1877

Given that, for the first time in history, the growing numbers of the hungry has surpassed the one billion mark, the FAO Council has decided to hold a world summit on food security, November 16th to 18th in order to keep the challenge of food insecurity at the top of the international agenda.

The overall purpose of the Summit is to agree on key actions to tackle this crisis. In words of FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf "The silent hunger crisis – affecting one sixth of all of humanity – poses a serious risk for world peace and security. We urgently need to forge a broad consensus on the total and rapid eradication of hunger in the world." The key challenges of the Summit are identified as:

- To eradicate hunger from the earth. Not only to ensure sufficient food production to feed a world population that will grow by 50 percent and reach 9 billion by 2050, but also find ways to guarantee that everyone has access to the food they need for an active and healthy life.
- To put in place a more coherent and effective system of governance of food security at both national and international levels.
- To make sure developing countries have a fair chance of competing in world commodity markets and that agricultural support policies do not unfairly distort international trade.
- To find ways to ensure that farmers in both developed and developing countries can earn incomes comparable to those of secondary and tertiary sector workers in their respective countries.
- To mobilize substantial additional public and private sector investments in agriculture and rural infrastructure and ensure farmers' access to modern inputs to boost food production and productivity in the developing world, particularly in low-income and food-deficit countries.
- Considering that 30 or more countries are currently experiencing food emergencies, to agree more effective mechanisms for early reaction to food crises.
- To ensure that countries are prepared to adapt to climate change and mitigate negative effects.

In addition to the meeting of Heads of State and Government, parallel to the summit three special events will be organised by National Parliaments; the Private Sector; and thirdly by NGOs, CSOs and farmers' and other food producers' organizations.

Social Movements/ NGO/ CSO Parallel Forum

As soon as the summit was announced, social movements, NGOs and other CSOs started to dialogue with FAO to organize a parallel Forum of Civil Society which will include farmers, indigenous peoples, rural youth, women and other social organizations. The moment is particularly important for civil society and thus requires their major mobilization to change mainstream agricultural and food policies and effectively address the root causes of hunger and poverty in the current situation of multiple crises (climatic, economic, financial and food crises). This change can only be effected

through the active participation of the food producers' social movements and NGOs / CSOs representing the people most affected by hunger.

An International Steering Committee of the Forum (ISC) composed of different constituencies and balanced in terms of regions and gender was autonomously set up by the organizations interested in actively organizing this Forum. The ISC is made up of representatives of the two main global farmers' organizations, three regional farmers' organizations, the two main fisherfolk's global forums, pastoralists, Indigenous Peoples' organizations, agricultural and food workers, environmental organizations, agro-ecological networks, the urban poor, youth, human rights organizations, international non governmental organizations, the ad-hoc group of international non governmental organizations in formal status with FAO, the secretariat of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty, and the Italian Platform for Food Sovereignty acting as the national host committee¹.

Guiding principles of the Forum

- The planning of the Forum involves the full range of constituencies affected by hunger and food insecurity, including social movements and CSOs & NGOs, particularly those from developing countries, committed to the eradication of hunger and the realisation of the right to food and food sovereignty.
- Participation in the Forum itself also reflects these same constituencies
- Priority is given to voices from developing countries
- The Forum will respect pluralism as well as ensure a balance of gender, regions and constituencies
- Each constituency will have the opportunity to organise its own thematic discussions, whilst priority is given to rural youth, women, Indigenous Peoples and the thematic issues of "access to resources" and "models of production"
- A range of views are heard on how to address the problems of hunger, malnutrition and violations of the right to food.

Objectives of the Forum

- To facilitate the participation of women, small-scale food producers, farmers and peasants, Indigenous Peoples, artisanal fisherfolk, food and rural workers, youth, the urban poor, environmental organizations, human rights defenders, NGOs and other CSOs working for the realization of the right to food and food sovereignty and to ensure that their voices are heard in the World Summit on Food Security.
- To seek the commitment of governments and UN agencies to the eradication of hunger and malnutrition, the realization of the right to food and the people's food sovereignty agenda.
- To strengthen alliances, foster dialogue on the causes of world hunger and food crises, work towards a shared understanding of the changes and solutions required and an agenda for action.

1 "Food sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems. It puts those who produce, distribute and consume food at the heart of food systems and policies rather than the demands of markets and corporations. It defends the interests and inclusion of the next generation. It offers a strategy to resist and dismantle the current corporate trade and food regime, and directions for food, farming, pastoral and fisheries systems determined by local producers. Food sovereignty prioritises local and national economies and markets and empowers peasant and family farmer-driven agriculture, artisanal - fishing, pastoralist-led grazing, and food production, distribution and consumption based on environmental, social and economic sustainability. Food sovereignty promotes transparent trade that guarantees just income to all peoples and the rights of consumers to control their food and nutrition. It ensures that the rights to use and manage our lands, territories, waters, seeds, livestock and biodiversity are in the hands of those of us who produce food. Food sovereignty implies new social relations free of oppression and inequality between men and women, peoples, racial groups, social classes and generations" Nyéléni Declaration (Mali, February 2007).

Central Themes of the Forum

1. Who decides about food and agriculture? Where are decisions taken?

The global food crisis is also a crisis of governance of the food systems. Decision making about food and agricultural policies has been increasingly put beyond democratic control serving particularly the interests of corporations and economic elites, in both North and South. International Financial Institutions have unduly concentrated a lot of decision making power imposing policies which have undermined national and regional food sovereignty. Decades of deregulation along with corporate-driven food and agricultural policies have led to massive violations of the right to food. **This thematic bloc will discuss the need to change current rules and regimes governing food issues, how to allocate/use existing resources, working towards a new, human rights-based governance of food systems, both at the national and global levels (such as the reformed Committee on World Food Security).**

2. Who controls food producing resources?

The lion's share of food is produced by women, farm workers and by small-scale food producers. And yet they are dramatically losing access to, and control over, food producing resources such as land, water, seeds, livestock breeds, fishing grounds, etc. Anticipated profits from the agro-export business, the increase in agrofuels and rising food prices, have triggered a strong demand for land and water to expand monocultures and industrial agriculture. This development, together with other factors such as armed conflicts, extractive industries, tourism, industrial and infrastructure projects and accelerated urbanization have led to violent dispossession of rural communities and widespread land grabbing. It is taking place in a world with pre-existing skewed land repartition, often inherited from colonial times. **This thematic bloc will discuss how to defend ourselves from land grabbing and how to ensure that our rights to land and territory are respected in a gender equitable way.**

3. How is food produced?

The current models of industrial agriculture, fishing and livestock raising promoted by agribusiness corporations and many governments and by a number of international institutions are major contributors to climate change because of their dependence on fossil fuels and other chemicals that result in high emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs). They also lead to changes in land use, destruction of forests and watersheds, degradation of soils and depletion of water supply and fishing-grounds. Extreme climate variations and natural disasters associated with climate change are worsening, resulting in the loss of arable lands, changes in natural growing conditions, destruction of livelihoods and reduced availability of food. **This thematic bloc will discuss which models of agricultural, fishing and livestock production, along with related policies (e.g. investment) are the best options to cool down the planet and to reduce people's vulnerability to climatic variations; and how women, Indigenous Peoples, peasants, fisherfolk, pastoralists, rural and urban communities can contribute to solving the climate crisis and ensuring sustainable and culturally appropriate availability of food for all respecting the right to food framework.**

4. Who has/needs access to food?

With half of the global population now living in cities, the question of how to feed urban communities in a manner that is sustainable and that guarantees the right to adequate food is all the more pressing. While the needs of urban and rural populations are often treated as separate and even competing issues, the reality is that they are inextricably linked. The same forces that are driving peasants and Indigenous Peoples off the land are spurring rising rates of food insecurity and diet-related health pandemics in cities throughout the world. **This thematic bloc will deal with rural-urban linkages and how to guarantee access to food for all. Proposals on how to support peoples in zones of conflict and how to organize food aid under the principles of Food Sovereignty will be discussed. The issue of countries depending on food imports and with a limited endowment of natural resources will be examined and effective and sustainable ways to meet their food needs will be discussed.**

Methodology

Each working group will produce a summary of the current situation for their issues, a proposed plan of joint actions, and one or two paragraphs for a final declaration. Participants will work with a methodology based on active participation in workshops on the central themes supplemented by a few plenary sessions. Based on the conclusions of the working groups, a final declaration of the Forum will be drafted and then submitted to the Summit.

Date and venue

November 13th to 17th, 2009,

Città dell'Altra Economia (CAE- ex-Mattatoio) and Faculty of Architecture (Università Roma Tre), Rome.

The venue for the plenary (CAE) can accommodate max. 500 participants. Rooms for the working groups have also been booked in the Faculty of Architecture next to it.

Accommodation and local transport will be organized by the IPC secretariat only for delegates. Since there might not be sufficient rooms for everybody, priority might be given to participants from the South.

Simultaneous interpretation from and into Spanish, English and French will be provided by the fundamental contribution of a team of 26 volunteer professional interpreters and 6 technicians.

Funding

Some funding is being provided by the Mayor of Rome, IFAD, and the governments of Norway, Catalunya and Switzerland. Organizations are encouraged to seek further funding.

The aim of the Steering Committee is to cover the costs for participation (tickets, food and accommodation) of 300 delegates. The steering committee will decide which applicants will receive support from these funds based on the relevance of their work and experiences to the issues of the Forum and the possibilities open to them to find their own funds. All other participants will be expected to cover their own costs.

How to participate as a delegate

In order to guarantee a strong and balanced representation of different constituencies and regions in the Forum, the International Steering Committee agreed upon the following rules.

Quotas:

According to Gender:		According to regions:		According to Constituencies:	
Women:	60%	South East Asia & Pacific	20%	Farmers:	15%
Men:	40%	South Asia	15%	Indigenous Peoples:	15%
		Africa	25%	Fisherfolk:	15%
		Americas	20%	Youth:	15%
		Europe	10%	Women:	15%
		WESCANA	10%	Agricultural workers:	10%
				Pastoralists	5%
				Urban poor:	5%
				NGOs:	5%

According to these quotas, a decentralized process coordinated among the regions and the constituencies will prepare a list of candidates, indicating which delegates can fund their travel and stay and which delegates need funding. The Steering Committee of the Forum will finalise the list.

Other participants

Beyond these quotas, self-financed participants can participate in the Forum as observers. Due to space limitation in the Forum's venue, the total number of self-financed observers will be limited.

Self-financed observers should send their request to participate to the ISC at the contact given below.

Guests from different sectors (NGO, academic, journalists, etc.) and governmental officials will be invited to join the Forum for specific contributions.

For more information please contact
foodsoforum2009@gmail.com



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Annex 2

Programme of the Civil Society Forum on People's Food Sovereignty



PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 13 NOVEMBER

Venue: CAE and CAMPIDOGLIO

09:00-19:00	Accreditation for delegates and observers	Venue: CAE
16:00-18:00	Working session with UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food Prof. Olivier De Schutter (Chair: Flavio Valente)	Venue: CAE
19:00-20:00	Evening Forum - Indigenous peoples "Mistica"	Venue: Campidoglio

SATURDAY, 14 NOVEMBER

Venue: CAE

09:00-10:00	Accreditation for delegates and observers	
10:00-11:00	Opening Session Co-chairs: Sergio Marelli, Sherry Pictou Guest Speakers: Mayor of Rome, Gianni Alemanno (tbc); FAO Director General, Jacques Diouf (tbc); CSO speakers	Plenary Room
11:00-11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.45-12.05	Plenary session Co-chairs: Sofia Monsalve, George Fernandez "From the 1996 to the 2009 Forum: Our long journey", a presentation of global action of CSOs and social movements, Antonio Onorati (IPC International Focal Point)	Plenary Room
12:05-13.00	Plenary session "From national to global - A new institutional framework" - Maria del Carmen Squeff (tbc), Permanent Representative of Argentina in FAO and previous chair of CFS and Mr. Noel de Luna (tbc), Ambassador of the Philippines, current Chair of CFS	Plenary Room
12:20-13:00	Presentation of the Forum programme by the methodology working group and question and answer for clarification (Maryam Rahmanian)	Plenary Room
13:00-14:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:30-17:30	Meetings of 3 Caucuses Women, Indigenous Peoples,	4 working rooms

Youth and working group on Alliances

SUNDAY, 15 NOVEMBER

Venue: CAE

09:00-13:00	Meetings of Caucuses Women, Indigenous Peoples, Youth	4 working rooms
13:00-14:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:30-17:15	Meetings in 4 thematic working groups 1. Who decides about food policies? 2. Who controls food producing resources? 3. How is food produced? 4. Who has/needs access to food?	4 working rooms
17:15-18.00	Meeting with President of IFAD Mr. Kanayo F. Nwanze (tbc) Co-chairs: Margaret Nakato, Pat Mooney	Plenary Room

MONDAY, 16 NOVEMBER

Venue: CAE

09:00-11:30	Meetings in 4 thematic working groups 1. Who decides about food policies? 2. Who controls food producing resources? 3. How is food produced? 4. Who has/needs access to food?	4 working rooms
12:00-13:00	Media action	
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00-16:00	Meetings in 4 thematic working groups 1. Who decides about food policies? 2. Who controls food producing resources? 3. How is food produced? 4. Who has/needs access to food?	4 working rooms
16:00-17:45	Meetings of 3 caucuses (Women, Indigenous Peoples, Youth) and working group on alliances.	4 working rooms

TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER

Venue: CAE and FAO

09:00-11:30	Closing plenary discussion and adoption of final declaration and strategies	Plenary Room
11.30-12.30	Meeting with Brazilian Minister for Rural Development Closing Mystica	Plenary Room
13:30-14:30	Forum Press conference	Venue: FAO, Iran Room



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Annex 3/4/5/6

Background documents **for the working groups**



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Uno no vende la tierra por la cual camina su pueblo
Tashunka Witko - 1840 – 1877

Working group: Who decides about food and agriculture?

Discussion Paper - Draft

The issue of who decides food and agriculture policies is central to ending hunger. We can achieve food sovereignty only if we have a clear understanding of where policy and financial decisions are made, where power lies, and if we manage to open up those spaces for people's participation. Decision-making is subject to complex negotiation processes involving a range of local, national, regional and international institutions and actors. We are currently in a critical moment in which a struggle is underway to shift power relations among various global institutions. In this working group, we will try to understand the key issues related to the present situation of global governance of food and agriculture (including the role of FAO, the World Bank, etc.). We will try to organise ourselves as civil society to participate strongly in the reformed Committee of World Food Security of FAO, which offers a significant opportunity for our participation not only at the global, but also at the regional and national levels.

General context and background

Food insecurity in the world has worsened over the last 3 decades. In 2009 the number of people living in hunger and malnutrition climbed above the 1 billion mark for the first time in human history and 80% of these people are food producers.

This situation is the result of 25 years of ill-devised international and national public policies such as structural adjustment, trade liberalization, conditioned renegotiation of the foreign debt, and reduction of support for and investment in small scale agriculture in the global south. Such policies have led to the massive eviction of peasants, indigenous peoples, pastoralists, fisherfolk, among others, destroying their livelihoods and hindering their access to land and other productive resources. At the same time, these global policies have severely hindered the capacity of States to regulate their national policies, interfering with their capacity to promote food sovereignty and to protect the right to adequate food and to produce food.

Over the past decades the situation of food systems policy decision-making has been characterized by:

- General inadequacy of political will on the part of national governments and regional economic organizations to transparently adopt food and agriculture policies which respond to the interests of the majority of their populations, with the meaningful participation of social actors (with some notable exceptions that need to be highlighted);
- Severe restrictions on the capacity of these governments and regional organizations to do so, i.e. severe outside interference with their food sovereignty;
- At global level, absence of an authoritative policy forum with the capacity of adopting and enforcing policy guidelines in the name of ensuring the right to food and food sovereignty. A small group of powerful governments promoting liberalisation of the global market and imposing neoliberal policies on the entire

world economy have determined a situation in which decisions – by default – are taken by multilateral institutions like the International Financial Institutions and the World Trade Organization,. Rich donor countries acting in groupings like the OECD, the G8 and the G20, and economic actors like the agrifood corporations and financial speculators have strongly supported this strategies, often with the complicity of the elite of developing countries..

The World Food Summits of 1996 and 2002 merely proposed the continuation of the same policies, and did not serve to reverse the process. On the contrary, over the past few years some powerful developed countries attempted to limit the mandate of FAO and to reduce the importance of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), or even eliminate it, with the objective of bringing the food system under the more direct control of the G8 and the corporate private sector.

This situation exploded in 2007 in a so-called “food crisis” sparked off by the combined pressure of increased oil prices, financial speculation in food commodities, strong investment in the production of agro fuels and, most recently, by the land grab by richer states and corporations. The aggravation of food insecurity in the world in 2007 and 2008, accompanied by social mobilizations throughout the world, changed the political situation and has led to a number of new initiatives at global level:

- 1) In April 2008, at the moment of most dramatic food crisis, the UN Secretary General established a **UN High Level Task Force on Food Security (HLTF)**, composed of technical staff from UN and Bretton Woods institutions (International Monetary Fund, World Bank) which produced a **Comprehensive Framework of Action on Food Security (CFA)** in July 2008. This is a technical secretariat-led initiative (and a *temporary* one, according to Nabarro and Moon declarations) which does not include any form of political oversight by member governments.
- 2) The Human Rights Council organized a special session on the **Right to Food (RTF) and the world food crisis** in May 2008, at the request of the Special Rapporteur on the RTF, and strongly emphasized that international and national policies are the root causes of the systematic violations of the RTF and of the food crisis.
- 3) FAO convened a **High Level Conference** in June 2008, originally planned to discuss food security, climate change and agro fuels, but in which discussion concentrated on the food crisis. The weak final declaration was critiqued by the Terra Preta civil society forum held in parallel.
- 4) The G8, under the leadership of France and Britain, proposed the creation of a **Global Platform on Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition (GPAFS)** in July 2008. According to some G8 countries, urgent measures were needed to increase food production in most affected countries and the UN, especially FAO, would not be an efficient channel for the needed assistance. By promoting this proposal the G8 countries aimed at strengthening their hold on the food system, bypassing the multilateral system (particularly the universal membership and one-country, one-vote system that is guaranteed under FAO and other UN agencies) and imposing models of production conducive to bringing small-holder agriculture – that is still the most important food production sector - under the control of the private sector. For this reason it has been opposed by many small food producer and civil society organizations and a number of southern governments.
- 5) The **Madrid High-Level Meeting on Food Security for All** in January 2009, convened by the Government of Spain with the support of the HLTF and the UN SG and of the G8 (GPAFS), did not produce the expected results for the G8. A consensus on the establishment of the GPAFS was not achieved, due especially to the opposition of many civil society organizations, and Latin American countries. On a positive note, in his final speech Ban-ki-Moon proposed the explicit inclusion

of the Right to Food in the strategy for fighting against food insecurity, in order to incorporate stronger components of assessment, monitoring and accountability in the Rome-based agencies' "twin track approach" (food assistance coordinated with support to rural development).

- 6) The alternative to the GPAFS, strongly proposed by the Director-General of FAO and some G77 governments and supported by many CSOs, was to undertake a process of **reforming the FAO Committee on World Food Security** in order to transform it from an ineffective "talk shop" into an authoritative global policy forum operating within the UN system (universal membership and one country-one vote procedure). This reform process, dealt with in detail in the following section, got underway in April 2009 and the final reform proposal was adopted during the 35th Session of the FAO CFS on 17 October 2009.

The process of revitalization of the CFS, described in the next section, changed the correlation of power in the direction of guaranteeing that the CFS should be the central political platform of the proposed Global Partnership, opening up the possibility that the CFS could influence the way the partnership is established. In fact, while many actors in the CFS discussions opposed the Global Partnership, in the name of pragmatic negotiation they finally agreed to accept the idea, but to link it strongly with the CFS.

The dispute is far from over, since some countries would still like to see the influence of the CFS reduced to that of a "debate space", while the real decisions regarding investments in support of agriculture in the south would be taken elsewhere. The G20 meeting in Pittsburgh in September 2009, following the usual strategy of multiplying initiatives in order to avoid any effective system for monitoring political decision-making, called on the World Bank to develop a multilateral trust fund "to scale-up agricultural assistance to low-income countries." At the request of the governments of Canada, Spain and USA, the World Bank subsequently formulated a "Framework Document for a Global Agriculture and Food Security Program" which was discussed at the annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and the IMF Istanbul in early October 2009. This proposal makes no mention of the CFS, thus confirming that the powerful countries have no intention of really accepting to work under the democratic multilateral system.

Strategic opportunities and challenges

Social movements and civil society participation have already played a big role in shaping the future governance of the food system and could continue to play a decisive role, if we are able to take advantage of the recently generated new opportunities within the CFS revitalization process described in this section. The key to changing the current power balance undoubtedly lies in strong mobilization by social movements and civil society at national and regional levels. However, the existence of an authoritative global policy forum could significantly strengthen the prospects of achieving bottom-up change by "disciplining" those who act against the right to food and food sovereignty at global level and rewarding governments who fulfil their commitments.

The process of discussion regarding the reform of the Committee on World Food Security has been characterized by an unprecedented involvement of civil society representatives in the "Contact Group" in which the discussions took place over a period of 8 months, and in the session of the CFS at which the final reform proposal was adopted (15-17 October 2009).¹ Representatives of the IPC, Via Campesina, Oxfam, Action Aid and the Ad Hoc Group of INGOs participated actively in all of the meetings and contributed their comments in writing. There is no doubt but that this participation, in close cooperation with some "like-minded" countries, has led to some of the most positive results achieved.

¹ Tribute needs to be paid to the political leadership of the President of the CFS Bureau, the Permanent Representative of Argentina.

Civil society's contribution to the negotiation process was highly appreciated by both the governments and the FAO secretariat, laying an excellent basis for civil society participation in the new CFS. The process has opened up unexpected opportunities for social movements and civil society to play a meaningful role in global policy decision-making. It is therefore strategically important to defend the space that has been gained and to do all that we can to ensure that the new CFS operates effectively. For this reason, it is suggested that the second part of the discussions in the thematic working group on governance focus on developing our proposals for the implementation of the reform of the CFS.

What we have won. The final CFS reform proposal (CFS/2009/2 Rev 1) includes some very important points which civil society strongly advocated:

- The description of the context for CFS reform affirms the structural nature of the causes of the food crisis and acknowledges that the primary victims are small-holder food producers, particularly women, and other rural inhabitants.
- The vision of the CFS defines it as "the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform" for a coordinated effort to attain food security and makes explicit mention of the right to adequate food. This policy forum is unequivocally based in the UN system - with its universal membership and one country-one vote procedure - and, more specifically, in the Rome-based food agencies.
- The roles assigned to the new CFS are significant ones which, if implemented effectively, could give it substantial authority. The new CFS is empowered to develop a global strategic framework for attaining food strategy. Governments would commit themselves to translating this framework into national action plans, with the participation of stakeholders, and would be held accountable for the results. The CFS would thus promote accountability, as well as policy convergence and programme coordination, based on the orientations of the global strategic framework.
- The principle of "subsidiarity" (decisions should be taken at the lowest appropriate level) is recognized and the need to establish strong linkages between the CFS and the regional and country levels is emphasized.
- It is accepted that the CFS will not be just an annual global meeting - as in the past - but that it will need to carry out activities throughout the year at various levels. These "intersessional" activities will be overseen by the Bureau of the CFS, aided by an Advisory Group composed of representatives of the non-state CFS participants.
- There is a totally unprecedented level and quality of participation foreseen for civil society, with particular attention to organizations representing small food producers, poor urban consumers, women and other key constituencies. Voting rights will continue to be reserved for member governments, but civil society organizations will be full participants with the right to intervene in plenary and breakout discussions, to contribute to the preparation of meeting documents and agendas and to present documents and proposals. Furthermore, the reform document recognizes the right of CSOs/NGOs to autonomously establish a global mechanism to facilitate their participation in the CFS and in "intersessional" activities and to interact with the CFS Bureau. It is this mechanism which will propose the civil society participants in the CFS plenary sessions and in the Advisory Group.
- The proposal for a High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) which will provide technical support for the work of the CFS recognizes the value of "knowledge from social actors and practical application" and foresees the participation of civil society representatives in the selection committee.
- The proposal recognizes that "resource mobilization strategies to cover the costs of participation by CSOs/NGOs from developing countries will need to be addressed." (CFS-2009/2 Rev 1, para. 50)

What we haven't won, yet... As in any negotiation, we and our like-minded government allies did not win on all points:

- The reformed CFS is described as "a central component of the evolving Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition" whereas many civil society actors would have preferred eliminating any reference to the GPAFN or making it clear that the CFS is where the real decisions are taken. The issue here is whether global policies are deliberated transparently in a democratically constituted policy forum and applied to all other actors, or whether pressure from donors and economic actors continues to dictate law. Some rich country delegations mask their intention to continue to make the decisions in discourse about "country-led processes", but such processes are more subject to donor conditionalities than are global forums.
- The broadening out of the CFS beyond the FAO to include a significant role for the other Rome-based UN system entities (IFAD and WFP) and the CGIAR is hinted at but not thoroughly accomplished.
- In addition to civil society organizations and UN agencies dealing with food security, participation in the CFS plenary sessions and in the Advisory Group is extended also to the IFIs and to private sector associations and foundations.

What we need to reflect on. The People's Forum for Food Sovereignty is the best and most legitimate space for reflecting on what kind of mechanism civil society wants to propose in order to facilitate its participation in the whole range of activities linked to the CFS at all levels. Discussions in the thematic working group "Who decides about food and agriculture?" should cover the following issues:

- 1. Supporting and building on participatory policy and programme negotiation spaces at national and regional levels**
 - In what ways can the existence of a global policy forum on food security provide support for efforts by social movements and civil society to promote participatory processes at national and regional levels?
 - What kinds of policy decisions should be taken at national regional and global levels? How to link these levels making full use of, and providing support for, existing networking efforts by social movements/civil society?
- 2. Establishing a "global mechanism for food security and nutrition which will function as a facilitating body for CSO/NGO consultation and participation in the CFS and in inter-sessional global regional and nation actions" (CFS-2009/2 Rev 1, para 16)**
 - What important elements should the Terms of Reference of such a mechanism contain? What important activities should the mechanism carry out? What principles should be respected in establishing it?
 - How to ensure "*broad and balanced representation by regions and types of organizations*" keeping in mind the need for "*priority representation by organizations of those sectors of the population most affected by food insecurity*". How to define the roles and responsibilities of different types of CSOs.
 - What resources are needed to make it work?
- 3. Making sure that decisions regarding the allocation of financial resources for food and agriculture are controlled by the CFS and not by donor countries and the World Bank.**
 - What strategies to adopt ?
 - What alliances to develop?



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Working group: Who controls food producing resources? **Discussion Paper - Draft**

Access to and control over land, water and agricultural biodiversity is getting increasingly concentrated in few hands with serious implications for the availability of precious natural wealth for food provision by local communities and societies at large. The aim of this working group is to identify key drivers and trends behind the concentration of food producing resources; and to discuss possible actions and alternatives to face this threat guaranteeing the rights to food producing resources of local communities as a pre-condition to food sovereignty.

Increasing concentration of food producing resources

Land

Landlessness and land grabbing have intensified in the wake of the global food crisis, deforestation, sequestering of water bodies, inland waters and coastal zones. Forced evictions and displacement of local communities to make way for industrial agriculture, plantations, large infrastructure projects, tourism and luxury recreation have become commonplace in many parts of the world. Governments have no qualms about using the principle of *eminent domain*¹ to fracture and possess territories to feed the interests of private capital or public-private projects. Many of these areas are prime productive lands and fertile waters with significant value for terrestrial and marine biodiversity and ecology. Rural communities are being driven into poverty and marginalisation and forced into distress migration to other rural areas or from rural to urban areas, where they compete with previously settled communities for scarce resources and livelihood opportunities, thus creating new conflicts and vulnerabilities. Privatisation often occurs first at the cost of collectively owned property (whether land, water or seeds) which is wrongly portrayed as having no owner or being inefficiently managed. Increased competition for natural resources tends to exacerbate the inequality of access to land between men and women. In many cases, all these actions amount to violations of the human rights of the dispossessed communities.

Since 2008, a new trend is sweeping the world: countries and companies are buying or leasing farmland abroad to secure food supplies, or just to make money. This landgrab wave was, and still is, sparked off by the global food crisis when import-dependent countries realised that they couldn't rely on the international market to purchase food. At the same time, the finance industry, in the midst of its own market collapse, realised that food prices are bound to stay high while land in many places is cheap, making farmland a fresh haven worth investing in. As a result, over a period of less than a year, more than 20 million hectares of fertile land in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe are being handed over to rich countries or investors by governments eager for cash. Local communities stand to be displaced and lose their very livelihoods in a new and unprecedented way.

¹ Eminent domain refers to the power possessed by the state over all property within the state, specifically its power to appropriate property for a public use. For further information refer to:
http://www.expertlaw.com/library/real_estate/eminent_domain.html

International responses to this new land grab promoted by agencies like the World Bank and FAO aim at formulating 'win-win' rules for these foreign agricultural investments so that apparently everybody benefits and some moral high ground is created. But this is not possible. Land grabbing – even where there are no related forced evictions - drastically reduces land availability for agrarian reform and equitable land access, reduces the political space for peasant oriented agricultural policies and distorts national markets towards agribusiness interests and global markets, rather than sustainable peasant agriculture for local and national markets. This is particularly detrimental in societies where peasants and pastoralists count for a large percentage of the population – and where there is considerable population growth – hence the need to provide access to productive resources.

Water

Fresh water consumption worldwide has more than doubled since the 1940s to nearly 4,000 cubic kilometres annually and is set to rise another 25 percent by 2030. Up to three times that amount is said to be available for human use but waste, climate change, and pollution have left clean water supplies running short. Water is becoming commodified and privatised, and often times diverted to uses other than sustaining life, ensuring health and hygiene, and producing food. Aquifers and water sources are increasingly contaminated by leaching of chemicals and poisons from industrial aquaculture, agriculture and food processing, extractive industry and other types of industrial production. In many regions, aquifers are becoming depleted because of over-exploitation by industry, tourism, luxury recreation and over-consumption by wealthy classes. Watersheds are being destroyed by deforestation, hillside erosion and large dams. The depletion of water hits particularly hard women and girls since they are often the ones in charge of supplying water to their families.

A growing threat to the availability of fresh water for rural and vulnerable communities is water trade. Trade in 'virtual' water is estimated to be around a thousand cubic kilometres a year. Much of this water is going to the wealthy nations from countries that are over pumping their ground water beyond its capacity to be replenished. Climate change and overuse of ground water are impacting the water footprints of some countries. The amount of the earth's surface that is suffering drought has more than doubled in the past 30 years, partially the result of rising temperatures.

Biodiversity

Agricultural biodiversity is the part of biological diversity that feeds people and, therefore, the part most crucial to farmers, fishers and livestock-keepers. In the last half of the 20th century the industrial food system and the Green Revolution combined to erode much of the species and genetic diversity that is needed now -- and will be needed even more in the future -- to meet the pressures of climate change. Although more than 5000 plant species have been domesticated, multinational seed companies are focusing on a handful of species that make up three-quarters of our global food calories. Today, ten multinationals control more than two thirds of the global commercial proprietary seed market and just three companies control half of this market. Eighty-two percent of commercial seed sales come with restrictive intellectual property claims that can sometimes prevent farmers from saving or exchanging seed for the next growing season. Simultaneously, 10 multinational chemical companies control more than 80% of global pesticide sales and the top pesticide manufacturers are also the top seed companies. We have already lost at least three quarters of the genetic diversity of our major food crops.

Although livestock-keepers have domesticated at least 40 species, global corporations are forcing the world to use only five species and, now, a handful of global companies are gaining control of the breeding stock and genomes of the commercially important species. Close to 60% of the world's known livestock breeds are either endangered or their condition is unknown. Ocean trawling fleets also focus on five marine families and throw away at least 40% of their annual catch in the process. Dams and deforestation are also eroding the species diversity and well-being of freshwater fish. Using disease prevention and food safety regulations, both agricultural input companies and giant food retailers are driving small

producers into bankruptcy, calling Hardee's livestock breeds to protect weak industrial breeds, and preventing the rural and urban producers from selling their surpluses. The destruction of biodiversity disproportionately affects poor rural women undermining their knowledge of the traditional uses of wild plants as food, fodder and medicine.

The way forward: We the people demand: Food Sovereignty now!

Secure access to and control over land is crucial for the realization of a full range of human rights - including the right to food – and for food sovereignty. Genuine agrarian and aquatic reforms which recognise the socio-environmental functions of land, the sea, and natural wealth, and uphold the rights of access to and control over of territories to local food providers, including for Indigenous Peoples, are urgently needed. Gender equity must be at the heart of genuine agrarian and aquatic reforms. States should guarantee community control over natural resources by peasant, fisherfolk, pastoralist, and forest communities, and by Indigenous Peoples. This implies the recognition of their laws, traditions, customs, tenure systems, and institutions; and constitutes the recognition of the self-determination and autonomy of peoples. Reforms should guarantee women full equality of opportunities and rights to land and natural wealth, and redress historical and ongoing discrimination. Discriminatory laws of inheritance and repartition in the event of divorce should be abolished, and customs that deny equality between women and men in land and rights to natural wealth must be transformed. **Special supportive policies and measures to encourage young people take up farming and to live a dignified rural life are of utmost importance. Intergenerational transfer of land and other resources should be promoted and strengthened through adequate education, professional training and technical and financial support.**

Genuine agrarian and aquatic reforms must ensure that communities and peoples that share territories have equitable, but controlled, access. The peaceful coexistence of diverse communities has to be ensured by strengthening organisations and alliances so as to democratically negotiate how to share and protect territories and resources. The notion of territory views nature as a spiritual being, and was initially proposed in the context of food sovereignty by indigenous peoples; today it is subscribed to by many social movements and peoples' organisations. It encompasses all the components of the ecosystem and its natural wealth in which a particular community may be based, for example land, forests, coastal areas, flora, fauna, mineral and oil deposits, inland and marine bodies, etc. This notion of territory involves the political, economic, environmental, cultural and social rights of food producing communities in rural areas. Territories are essential to diverse and sustainable food production and reinforce local markets, build capacities to support safe and decent jobs, and create the conditions for the full implementation of food sovereignty.

Land grabbing must stop. Expropriation of lands, natural wealth and territories from local communities through economic concessions, big plantations, industrial agriculture and aquaculture, tourism and infrastructure projects and any other means must come to an end. Interim protective measures like a moratorium on large-scale agricultural investment are urgently needed. At the same time, structural policies like those implied in the Declaration of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD) and in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples must be implemented.

Water is an ecosystem component essential for sustaining life, regenerating nature, nurturing biodiversity and producing food. Without adequate water people become easily affected by health and nutritional problems. Water is fundamental to the conceptualisation of territory in its myriad fresh and saline forms. The human right to water entitles all peoples to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable fresh water for personal and domestic uses, which include water for drinking, domestic food preparation and maintaining standards of hygiene. Access to water for food production in subsistence and small-scale agriculture is also part of this right. The right to water is thus closely linked to the right to food. Food sovereignty therefore implies secure access to, and sustainable use of, irrigation water as much as it implies secure access to land and territory.

The privatisation, commodification, expropriation and trade of water must be halted. Water must remain in the "commons" and not subject to market mechanisms of use and governance. Aquifers, surface water sources and watersheds should be protected and regenerated. Aquatic

reforms should give legal recognition, protection and enforcement of the collective rights of small-scale fishing communities to access and use fishing grounds and maritime resources. They should also include measures that halt the depletion of marine life and undermine marine and coastal resources through unsustainable fishing practices and destructive investment and infrastructure projects.

The trend toward narrowing the species and genetic base of our food supply and the build up of corporate monopolies all along the food chain must be reversed. Intellectual property over living resources including plants, animals and microbes, must be rejected and competition laws must prohibit vertical and horizontal concentration along the food chain. Companies involved in both seeds and pesticides must be broken up. *De facto* biological monopolies -- where the seed or breed is rendered sterile -- must be banned. GM crops must be prohibited. There must be no restrictions on the right of farmers, livestock-keepers or fishers to save and exchange breeding material. The international public-sector research system must be led by smallholder producers who set the agenda and monitor the progress of all agriculture and aquaculture research.

Lead questions for the working group:

- What forms of land grabbing and dispossession of natural resources (waterbodies, coastal zones, seeds, forests, fishergrounds, livestock breeds) are you/your community facing?
- In what ways are your rights to control collective property being eroded?
- How are you defending your lands/natural resources/territories from encroachment ?
- How can your rights - including collective rights- to food producing resources best be secured and protected? What kind of immediate protective measures are needed? What kind of long-term structural policies?
- What do you demand from your government and FAO in this regard?
-



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Working group: How is food produced? Discussion Paper - Draft

What food is produced, how and for whose benefit?

The aim of this working group is to hear testimonies and discuss how to move towards an ecological model of food provision that supports and implements food sovereignty, providing sufficient healthy food in localised food systems while cooling the planet. It will debate actions needed, at local through international levels, to achieve necessary changes in production, distribution and consumption. It will counter the productionist agenda that supports corporations and the new Green Revolutions being forced on vulnerable communities.

PROVIDING HEALTHY, LOCAL FOOD WHILE COOLING THE PLANET

Food sovereignty: *uses the contributions of nature in diverse, low external input [agro]ecological production and harvesting methods that maximise the contribution of ecosystems and improve resilience and adaptation, especially in the face of climate change; it seeks to heal the planet so that the planet may heal us; and, rejects methods that harm beneficial ecosystem functions, that depend on energy intensive monocultures and livestock factories, destructive fishing practices and other industrialised production methods, which damage the environment and contribute to global warming.*

Nyéleni 2007: Forum for Food Sovereignty, Synthesis Report
www.nyeleni.org/spip.php?article334

PROBLEM – what are we against?

Industrial crop and livestock production and intensive fisheries, and associated processing, global distribution and retailing, are damaging our food systems, people and planet in a multiplicity of ways; they are in the hands of unaccountable and remote corporations.

This model of production and consumption is based on intensive energy use and the mining of nature and favours production of commodities and agrofuels rather than healthy food. It contributes most of the greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) released by agriculture, livestock production and fisheries, adding up to more than a quarter of global GHGs, the main cause of Climate Change. It has little resilience and cannot adapt. It harms people and the planet, increasing:

- corporate control;
- global warming;
- hunger as well as unhealthy food consumption and 'diet convergence'
- monocultures and homogenous eating habits
- the distance between food provider and consumer
- air, water and marine pollution
- pesticide contamination
- animal suffering
- negative impacts of disasters on poor people
- destruction of biodiversity, soils, rural livelihoods and communities
- unfair labour conditions
- abuse of fundamental rights
- wars and conflicts

In addition to corporations consigning agricultural produce and products just to be commodities, and these are prone to financial speculation, the 'food' in the system is not properly cared for. Less than half of harvested cereals, the main food staple for virtually all the people on the planet, is used for food, the rest goes to feed animals, cars or non-food industries.

At global levels, upstream losses can be up to 30%; In wealthy nations losses and food waste can be as high as 40-50%. Obesity (projected to affect 700 million people as soon as 2015 and rising rapidly, according to WHO) and other food-related diseases are another result of this dysfunctional food system that also leaves more than 1 billion people hungry.

This industrial model of production, harvesting and consumption is supported by public and private research institutions and promoted for so-called 'food security' that increases control of localised food systems by outsiders. It enables capital concentration, speculation and corporate control, facilitated by trade liberalisation, intellectual property rights systems and the neoliberal policies, agreements and institutions which support them such as the World Trade Organisation, regional and bilateral Free Trade Agreements, Codex Alimentarius, as well as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

The corporate model is behind the push for a new Green Revolution, as promoted by AGRA, CAADEP and other initiatives, and the dragging of small-scale food providers into the global market through enhancing 'Value Chains'. It is capital intensive and is protected by patents, commercial contracts, trade rules and technologies, especially GMOs, that facilitate corporations' capture and control of markets for inputs and products; the capture of [agro]ecosystems; and the overexploitation and degradation of these and other natural wealth.

It is at the root of the dysfunctional food system, facilitating at the same time an increase in over-consumption of a narrow range of sugar and fat rich foods. In summary, it has negative impacts on food provision, the environment, people's health, culture, nutrition and food sovereignty and the human right to adequate food.

SOLUTION – what are we working for?

Ecological food provision in the framework of food sovereignty enables sustainable, zero carbon production, collection and consumption of healthy, local foods.

This can be achieved in ways that increase resilience and can enable food provision to adapt to climate change. It requires localised, ecological, diverse, and low external input methods of production, harvesting, fishing, pastoralism, processing and distribution. These methods maximise the contribution of ecosystems, increase agricultural biodiversity and improve resilience and adaptability of production and harvesting systems, especially in the face of climate change and other threats. As a result, sustained productivity per unit area and unit of water is higher, while fossil fuel use and food losses are lower.

Ecological food provision is smaller scale, people-centred with both women and men having decisive roles. It is knowledge-intensive and maintains livelihoods in systems that

conserve, develop and manage localised food production and harvesting and increase synergies with nature. Accordingly, research, development and production systems should build upon the skills and local knowledge of food providers and their organisations creating space for local experimentation and building the store of knowledge that can be shared, without high costs.

This ecological, locally-controlled model of production and harvesting regenerates soils, absorbs and keeps carbon in soil organic matter and uses organic manures and nitrogen-fixing plants in place of chemical fertilisers. It is not dependent on agrochemicals. It can adapt more easily to future shocks.

This model of production cannot be appropriated or 'owned' by an individual but is responsive to democratic demands and respects collective rights. The UN sponsored International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), prepared by more than 400 scientists over 4 years and approved by 58 governments in 2008, supports this model of production. It found that a move towards agroecological sciences is necessary if hunger is to be eradicated, equity realised and the environment restored. (Finding # 7 www.iaastd.net).

OUR PROPOSALS – for debate in the Working Group

The very large majority of 1,4 billion women and men making up the small-scale food provider community are already working for and aim to strengthen a biodiverse, ecological model of food provision and consumption that develops localised food systems which:

- provides healthy food for people in both rural and urban areas
- prioritises local markets
- shortens producer-consumer links
- increases livelihood security and incomes
- values local knowledge and skills and local innovation
- improves the environment, regenerates soils and maximises ecosystem functions
- is (bio)diverse and prioritises use of a multiplicity of locally adapted seed varieties, caringly farmed and diverse livestock breeds and sustainably harvested and diverse aquatic and fish species that can cope with a changing climate
- conserves water
- uses less external inputs including agrochemicals
- reduces losses of food in all links in the food chain
- cools the planet
- respects territories and fishing grounds, their nature and living organisms
- builds solidarity within and among communities
- defends cultural values
- ...

POSSIBLE ACTIONS NEEDED – to advance our common agenda:

- change towards biodiverse, ecological approaches to food provision for local markets – crops, livestock, fish – in all areas (rural, coastal, urban) and regions (South and North), while securing incomes of small-scale food providers and affordable prices for consumers.
- reclaim the language of (healthy) food and regain control of nutrition - changing diets, 'eat less meat'...
- ensure that the rules on trade, investment, credit, subsidies, access to agricultural biodiversity are set in the interests and for the well-being of small-scale food providers and consumers
- fight for a global moratorium on GMOs including biofortified foods
- work for a 'Complex Alimentarius' designed to interconnect production and consumption, ensuring food quality and reducing losses and waste
- foster a (bio)diverse food system enabling climate change mitigation, promoting adaptation and countering climate and environmental pollution
- reframe research in a more inclusive and participatory way
- engage with local and national institutions to reduce distances between food providers and consumers; to promote local and organic procurement and availability of food; and to increase local farmers/livestock/fish markets
- contain and reverse the current domination of food trade, markets and food options by corporations
- strengthen urban food consumer and small-scale producer movements
- ...

PROPOSED QUESTIONS – to facilitate our discussion

1. How can we promote and protect peasant-based agriculture, herding and small-scale fisheries – in the framework of food sovereignty – as part of the solution to the food, nutrition and climate crises?
2. How to move towards ecological production and harvesting methods while increasing the availability of food per unit land or water? Who should ensure financial support for these methods and how? What are the impacts of certification schemes (organic, eco-labels, fair trade, ...)?
3. How to change diets and revalue nutritional richness of locally available foods?
4. What types of research are needed to realise effective change in favour of ecological food systems? How can we articulate further participatory research experiences? What kind of innovation do we need to develop our food systems?
5. How can we ensure a sustainable and diverse urban food production/provision? How can we build stronger alliances within a 'Complex Alimentarius' (linking small-scale food providers, consumers, scientists, institutions...)
6. How can we counter the productionist agenda pushed by corporations? How can we debunk the new Green Revolutions with their so-called pro-poor (bio)technology rhetoric?
7. How to overcome obstacles to realising the changes we demand?



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Working group: Who needs access to food? Discussion Paper - Draft

This Working Group is expected to formulate proposals in regard to the following:

- urban-rural linkages: how best to guarantee access to and availability of food and nutrition for all;
- how best to support people in war-torn and conflict zones in terms of organizing food aid under the principles of food sovereignty;
- how to respond to the situation of food security in occupied territories;
- how best to meet the food and nutrition needs of the countries that are low-income and in food-deficit, with limited natural resources for adequate domestic food production, making them dependent on imports to meet their food needs.

Food sovereignty and the Right to the City

We have witnessed food riots and related unrest, particularly in the urban areas, as the access and availability of food were shaken by rising and overlapping waves of global food prices, the price of oil and the global financial crisis. In addition to the one billion people suffering from hunger, two billion people are suffering from malnutrition, including about one billion obese people. Today, over half of the world's population of six billion people lives in urban areas – cities and towns, large and small. The urban population is set to rise to two-thirds of an even larger number in another generation. Urbanization will increase dramatically everywhere, as the world's population grows over the next four decades, to reach nine billion people.

Urban and rural people, particularly the disadvantaged, suffer the same global-local forces of marginalization that contribute to massive violations of their right to food. These global-local forces often drive rural people off their land—peasants, indigenous people and others—and subject people in cities and towns to an inactive and unhealthy life because of poor diets—also responsible for the “hidden hunger”. The food and nutrition needs of urban and rural people are linked in many ways, but there is the tendency to treat them as separate and even as competing with each other. On the contrary, in many Southern countries, rural remittances of food from the rural to the urban areas supplement the food and nutrition needs of the city and town dwellers. Urban-rural differentials and linkages are complex and must be treated in a systemic rather than sectoral way.

While food sovereignty is often associated with rural social movements, it is no less relevant or critical to urban movements, who are grappling with their own set of pressing challenges related to food and agriculture, such as disparities in food access and food quality. In many poor urban communities, a lack of access to healthy food combined with a barrage of highly processed food from multinational food corporations is fueling epidemics of obesity, diabetes, and other diet-related disease. Effectively tackling issues of urban hunger, malnutrition, and diet-related disease will encourage city dwellers to become active participants in shaping food systems in cooperation with food producers in surrounding areas and supporting food sovereignty.

City dwellers do produce food to meet their needs

The people who flood into cities and those who are already there continue to produce food on available land. The presence of the vast urban market helps such backyard or small farmers make a living from the crops and livestock they produce, although they mostly do it to feed themselves and their families. This food production—by about a third of urban dwellers and a higher proportion of peri-urban dwellers in one typical African city recently measured—provides household food security for those small farmers and contributes to the food security of the cities they live in. Key sectors are fresh vegetables and dairy production. The children of urban livestock-keepers are healthier as a result of their families farming activities (Kampala nutritional data).

Because these small farmers have easy market access and easily available organic inputs in the form of urban solid waste and waste water, their outputs per unit area tend to be much higher than rural farmers, yet they tend not to be supported by official extensions programmes or agriculture policies. There is often a mismatch between rural and urban administrations that leads to discrimination against small farmers operating inside urban jurisdictions, instead of helping them. Recent data show that the urban poor are less able than the rich to farm, mainly because the rich have better land access, for example to backyards which the poor in dense squatter settlements do not.

Urban social movements have been struggling for the “Right to the City” in order to have secure tenure and access to relevant land and natural resources as well as space in the city to develop livelihoods and access to housing and services. The idea of the right to the city is conceived as the right to an equitable use of cities under the principles of sustainability, democracy and social justice. Because all human rights are interconnected and interdependent, the right to the city includes the rights to land, natural resources, means of subsistence, labour, health, education, culture, housing, social protection, healthy environments, sanitation, public transportation, leisure and information. It also includes the right to meet and organise freely, the respect for minorities and immigrants, and for ethnic, sexual, and cultural plurality, and the guarantee of the preservation of historical and cultural heritage. The “Right to the City” movement provides an important opportunity to advance the food sovereignty agenda in the cities and towns of the world, taking into account the worsening food security situation of urban disadvantaged people and areas.

Proposals for policies and actions to ensure the Right to Food and achieve food sovereignty:

- Land and agrarian reform policies that support a continuum of food production from city centres into the countryside, including urban and peri-urban farms and gardens. This also applies to women, especially women heading households, whose access to land is worse than men's.
- Encourage urban livestock farming and support greater food security and health. Urban and peri-urban agriculture needs to be recognized and supported as a sub-sector of national agriculture policy.
- Adopt urban and regional planning that prioritises land for food production, space for public markets and other locally-owned food retail outlets, as well as additional infrastructure to support local and regional food systems, including transportation, storage, and processing facilities.
- Support community markets and introduce and facilitate direct marketing opportunities to connect farmers, fishers and urban consumers, such as community-supported agriculture and fisheries, box schemes, mobile markets, and food purchasing cooperatives, without the involvement of corporate retail chains.
- Ensure equitable distribution of food through, *inter alia*, well-functioning public distribution systems and school meal programmes. Specific attention needs to be paid to meeting the needs of vulnerable populations, including women, children, senior citizens, and the chronically ill or disabled. All schools, for example, should provide students with free meals of locally produced, safe and nutritious food.
- Invest public funds in infrastructure for regional food systems that connect cities to the countryside, including transportation, storage, and processing facilities for local and regional foods.

Food Sovereignty and emergency aid

The implementation of food sovereignty and other policies and actions outlined in this document will drastically reduce the need for emergency aid and humanitarian food delivery. Local communities and countries will be able to ensure the right to adequate food on a regular basis, and to handle most emergency situations caused by bad harvests, natural disasters and conflicts. Hunger and famines have complex multiple causes. Each situation has to be dealt with systemically and holistically according to its specific circumstances. Food delivery alone will often not be sufficient to rescue people in emergency food crises. In emergencies, although development aid may well be provided for humanitarian motives and solidarity, international institutions and rich countries should ensure that the aid needed to counter hunger and prevent famines and other crises does not undermine food sovereignty. Emergency aid is often used to dump surplus production from some rich countries and to pressure aid recipient countries to accept GMOs, both of which undermine local production and biodiversity. Such aid must be stopped. All emergency aid should be based on the needs of affected peoples, provision of safe and nutritious food, support for local production and conservation of local biodiversity.

Proposals for policies and actions:

- Rich countries must guarantee adequate and stable funds in emergency situations to fulfil the right to adequate food, the right to shelter, sanitation and basic health services.

- Emergency aid has to build and strengthen long-term strategies for food security and food sovereignty, not undermine them.
- When food delivery is needed in emergency situations, it should be procured as locally as possible, first from local small-scale farmers, herders and small-scale fishers, then from nearby communities, producers from other areas in the country and, when not available within the country, from other parts of the region.
- Food delivery in emergency situations must be carried out in close cooperation with people affected by hunger, their organisations, local authorities and governments. This is important in order to reach the people most in need, strengthen local capacities and avoid distortion of local markets.
- Special care must be taken to ensure that women have access to food, water and medical attention in emergency situations.

Mechanisms to support people in zones of conflict

Conflicts and wars disrupt the regular availability and supply of food, access to and control over the resources needed to produce and distribute food, and sources of income (by which one might purchase food). Particularly important in such situations is access by affected populations to water, health facilities, land and other culturally valuable assets. Conflict can take various forms: between or among states, civil (within states), tribal, sectarian, ethnic, etc. The presence of valuable natural resources such as diamonds, oil and minerals can generate and aggravate conflict dynamics, especially when these are stoked by the interventions of external actors. People in conflict/war zones are subject to evictions, displacement, blockades, land mines, high security exclusion zones, contamination of water sources by used weapons, loss of natural resources and destruction of livelihood security. Impediments to proper cultivation of land and production in the absence of normal living conditions, limited access to markets and restrictions on freedom of movement, of expression and of the exercise of democratic rights, and the use of food and water as weapons, magnify the threat of hunger as a chronic condition. Women are especially vulnerable in such situations because of the frequency of violence targeted at women.

Proposal for policies and actions:

Facing up to the threat of hunger in conflict zones requires combined efforts that should involve policy making, conflict resolution, engagement of affected populations and societies, training and awareness. Such efforts may include the following:

- establish and sustain peace based on justice: the restoration of human dignity and of civil and political rights are preconditions for any lasting peace.
- ensure that war and conflict do not become opportunities for the appropriation of natural resources and other commercially, strategically and culturally valuable assets, either by parties to the conflicts themselves, or by external actors intervening, for example, under a humanitarian guise.
- Hold UN bodies accountable for monitoring violations of people's livelihoods and resources, and ensuring that conflict actors observe international law and international human rights covenants. Those who transgress against international law and international human rights covenants must be held accountable for their actions, if necessary through the use of sanctions.
- Enforce the right of return and resettlement mechanisms for displaced peoples, including the reunion of families, rehabilitation of destroyed livelihoods, trauma counselling and prevention of further damage.

- Provide basic needs such as water, food, medicines and sanitation, and security for women and children, and prohibit the use of food and water as weapons or instruments of control and oppression.
- Introduce local 'no interest' credit and funding programmes, and shift emergency and charity aid into development aid which enables self sufficiency to prevent dependency on outside resources.
- Reach out to people in all areas of conflict and help them to maintain production, through access to land, water and national wealth.
- Support resilience among affected populations by maintaining or developing traditional crafts and handiwork, offering capacity building to women to maintain/create self reliance through creating home jobs, developing food alternatives, encouraging urban agriculture and 'home economics', and encouraging barter programmes.
- Support people's resistance to occupation.



PEOPLE'S FOOD SOVEREIGNTY NOW!
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSO) FORUM PARALLEL TO
WORLD SUMMIT ON FOOD SECURITY **2 0 0 9**
13TH–17TH NOVEMBRE **R O M A**

Annex 7

Background document: **Policies and actions to eradicate** **hunger and malnutrition**



Open letter

November 2009

Policies and actions to eradicate hunger and malnutrition

We, small-scale farmers and fisher peoples, pastoralists, women, youth, indigenous peoples, other social movements and civil society organisations, have taken the challenge together to propose policies and actions that would lead to the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in our world.

We strongly believe that the actions to eradicate hunger and malnutrition must be based on a vision of a world where:

- food sovereignty is recognised and implemented by communities, peoples, states and international institutions;
- all peoples, societies and states determine their own food systems and have policies that ensure availability of sufficient, good quality, affordable, healthy, and culturally appropriate food;
- there is recognition and respect for women's rights and their crucial contribution to food provision, and representation of women in all decision making bodies;
- terrestrial and aquatic environments and biodiversity are conserved and rehabilitated based on ecologically sustainable management of land, soils, water, seas, seeds, livestock and aquatic organisms;
- the diversity of traditional knowledge, food, language and culture, are all valued and respected;
- the way people organise and express themselves is accepted and peoples' power to make decisions about their material, natural and spiritual heritage is defended;

We are proposing the policies and actions recognising that hunger and malnutrition have reached outrageous levels in the world today and that this is not accidental. When the prevalence of this scourge is seen in the context of the multiple crises in the world today, it is very clear that existing policies have compounded the problem and that there is a need for a new approach

We have also taken into consideration the known fact that this situation is not a result of a lack of food in the world, as enough food has consistently been produced for decades. Solutions have been, and are being, offered by states and international institutions, in the name of increasing food production and availability, without dealing with the root causes of the multiple crises. They are proposing solutions using the same framework that caused the problems in the first place.

Eradicating hunger and malnutrition requires mechanisms that incorporate social and environmental as well as economic measures. To implement these requires the decisive involvement of the organisations of small-scale food providers and consumers in any policies and programmes designed to address the problems

We welcome the working document, ***Policies and Actions to Eradicate Hunger and Malnutrition***, which outlines our proposals for the needed changes and how these might be realised. The working document contains a number of policies and actions in the following areas:

- Sustainable, ecological food provision and access to territories and natural wealth
- Environment, climate change and agrofuels
- Market, trade, price policies and subsidies
- Ensuring access to adequate food
- Finance, debt and development aid
- Governance

We endorse the summary of the working document annexed to this letter with the conviction that it will be useful for governments and institutions and peoples and their organisations in efforts to eradicate hunger and malnutrition and to ensure the attainment of food sovereignty including the human right to adequate food.

The world does not need to stay locked up in a dead-end that only has the potential to lead us into deeper levels of problems. We therefore urge states and international institutions to work with us - the movements of small-scale farmers and fisher peoples, pastoralists, Indigenous Peoples, other social movements and civil society organisations - in a common endeavour to tackle and end the scourge of hunger and malnutrition.

(This letter and the summary as well as the working document are available online. To sign on, see the list of signatories and download the documents in English, French and Spanish, please go to www.eradicatehunger.org)





Summary of working document on policies and actions to eradicate hunger and malnutrition

1. Background to the working document

The working document provides proposals for policies and actions to eradicate hunger and malnutrition. It is based on the experiences and political work of social movements, non governmental organisations (NGOs) and others from all over the world during past decades and currently. It is based largely on the food sovereignty framework that embraces the human right to adequate food.

These policies and actions have been prepared to inform governments, institutions and others, who are committed to eradicating hunger and malnutrition. They may also be helpful in discussions on these key issues within and between governments, institutions, social movements and NGOs. And they could be used by social movements, organisations and individuals in all regions as an input to their own proposals at local, national, regional and global levels.

2. Why change is needed

A billion people are hungry because they do not have the means to produce food for themselves or purchase it. The majority of these hungry people are rural small-scale food providers, workers and their families, who are unable to grow sufficient food or earn enough income from their production and labour to meet their food and health needs.

Women are especially hard hit. They are the principle providers of food for their families and communities, playing central roles in food production, processing and preparation. Yet they are subject to multiple forms of social, economic and cultural discrimination, which prevent them from having equality in access to food and control over productive resources and natural wealth.

Hunger and malnutrition are chronic structural problems and worsening in the wake of the food price, financial, energy and climate crises. The food price crisis has hit particularly hard those who depend on markets affected by global prices for their access to food.

Not only have most governments and international institutions failed to reduce hunger and poverty and build on the findings of international processes designed to find ways forward (e.g. the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development - IAASTD), but they have, instead, adopted and implemented policies that have exacerbated the problems.

There is an urgent need to change the power and economic structures and policies that have caused the current crises.

3. Vision

Actions to eradicate hunger and malnutrition must be based on a vision of a world where:

- food sovereignty is recognised and implemented by communities, peoples, states and international institutions;
- all peoples, societies and states determine their own food systems and have policies that ensure availability of sufficient, good quality, affordable, healthy, and culturally appropriate food;
- there is recognition and respect for women's rights and their crucial contribution to food provision, and representation of women in all decision making bodies;
- terrestrial and aquatic environments and biodiversity are conserved and rehabilitated based on ecologically sustainable management of land, soils, water, seas, seeds, livestock and aquatic organisms;
- the diversity of traditional knowledge, food, language and culture, are all valued and respected;
- the way people organise and express themselves is accepted and peoples' power to make decisions about their material, natural and spiritual heritage is defended;

To realise this vision, a series of policies and actions are proposed that address the key issues which are needed to eradicate hunger and malnutrition. These are summarised below.

4. Sustainable food provision

There should be a shift from high input industrial agriculture and livestock production and industrial fisheries towards smaller-scale ecological food provision that secures local livelihoods and strengthens organisations and communities. Ecological food provision conserves nature, rehabilitates and values local and traditional knowledge and uses socially just and appropriate technologies, excluding GMOs. It maximises the contribution of ecosystems and improves resilience and adaptation of production





and harvesting systems, especially important in the face of climate change. Conversion towards smaller-scale ecological food provision requires support. Research systems need to be reframed and use inclusive and participatory methods. Losses post-harvest should be minimised.

Sustainable food provision also requires that gender equity is at the heart of genuine agrarian and aquatic reforms and that all local small-scale food providers – women and men and especially young people, small-scale farmers and fishers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples and workers – have secure access to and control over territories, lands, water, fishing grounds, seed varieties, livestock breeds and fisheries resources. This access should be respected by state and societal actors, in accordance with customary laws, governance and benefits rights. On no account should access to hitherto common property resources be privatized for the benefits of a privileged minority.

5. Environment, climate change and agro fuels

The production of food is increasingly vulnerable due to climate change, ecosystem destruction, loss of biodiversity, land conversion and agrofuel production. Thus, the adaptive ecological systems outlined above, that are more resilient to environmental shocks must be the foundation for environmentally-sound food provision. These systems will better secure food supplies and will also regenerate soil carbon and restore natural and developed habitats for water security.

Production systems must minimise greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). In all countries GHGs must be kept at or reduced to a sustainable level (about 1 tonne CO₂ per capita per year). The most effective way to reduce GHGs in food provision is to localise production and consumption, reduce the use of chemical fertilisers, reduce fossil fuel use and increase energy efficiency, including use of decentralised, alternative energy technologies and systems. To enable people and communities to tackle climate change effectively and sustainably, countries in the North must pay compensation and reparations of at least 1% of annual GDP to countries in the South.

An immediate moratorium on the production, trade and consumption of agrofuels, is called for, together with an in-depth evaluation of their social and environmental costs. This is required because, in general, the use of industrial agrofuels does not reduce GHG emissions and the corporate driven, industrial-scale production of agrofuels is converting land from food production and displacing local communities.

6. Markets, trade and price policies and subsidies

New market, trade and price policies and redirected subsidies that prioritise local and national production and consumption and the needs of people for food, are needed. Government procurement systems, publicly owned and managed food stocks, supply management policies and sound market regulation are essential to guarantee good and stable prices for small-scale food providers and to avoid speculation, hoarding and food price escalation.

Governments and international institutions should not finance and facilitate the operations of agribusiness corporations but should formulate and enact laws to reduce their power and, in the short-term, make them socially, environmentally and economically accountable to the public.

New international trade rules are urgently needed. These should be based on the rights of peoples and their governments to determine their desired levels of self sufficiency, market protection and support for sustainable food provision for domestic consumption. The ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO), on Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) should be stopped and all trade and investment agreements that impact negatively on local and national food systems should be revoked.

Equally urgent are the prevention of dumping of low priced imports and a ban on all direct and indirect export subsidies. If available, subsidies should be provided for localised ecological food provision that creates employment, protects the environment and strengthens local and national economies.

7. Ensuring access to adequate food

In addition to the measures outlined above, assuring decent work for all and universal social security nets, especially for those who are most vulnerable, are crucial. Urban food insecurity is also a serious problem that cannot be addressed in isolation from the crisis in the countryside. Hunger and malnutrition in urban areas can be reduced through sustainable food provision through urban and peri-urban farms and gardens, and building “urban-rural linkages” in which cities are fed through sustainable provision from surrounding regions. All these will also drastically reduce the need for emergency food aid and humanitarian actions.





Emergency food aid will, however, still be necessary in the short-term but resources needed must be made available in sufficient quantities and in ways that do not undermine local economies and structures.

Peace, based on justice, civil and political rights, is a precondition for any lasting solution to wars, occupations and conflicts. Special support to people in all areas of conflict is needed to help them to maintain food production and secure access to food.

8. Finance, debt and development aid

Speculation and derivatives trade in sensitive sectors, especially food, agriculture, fisheries, water, weather conditions and climate must be heavily penalised and banned. Equally important is preventing corporate concentration in the insurance, credit and banking sectors. Financial institutions and conglomerates should not be allowed to become “too big to fail.”

The unconditional cancellation of the external debts of countries in the South and immediate dismantling of Structural Adjustment Policies (SAPs) and neoliberal policy regimes are crucial. Also important is repayment by countries in the North of their massive ecological debts and historical exploitation.

Aid donors must immediately fulfil their commitments to pay at least 0.7% of gross national income (GNI) in development assistance, without conditionalities other than programmes supported should be based on the priorities and plans of peoples and communities in the aid receiving countries, in ways that do not create aid dependency. The power of multilateral financial institutions and IFIs over development aid and credits must be removed, and aid programmes and arrangements must be subjected to national and sub-national democratic and public scrutiny.

9. Governance

The world's food supplies and food producing natural wealth should be governed through transparent and accountable multilateral fora and regional and international agreements that are forged, implemented and monitored democratically with the full participation of people's organisations and States.

States should promote policies and actions that actively support the measures outlined above that will realise food sovereignty and the progressive realisation of the human right to adequate food. Also, food providers, their communities and their organisations must have rights of access to information about policies, technologies, programmes, agreements, in appropriate and accessible forms.

All international institutions, and especially the Rome-based UN food and agriculture agencies, as well as the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) must support states to formulate and implement the policies needed to effectively tackle hunger and realise food sovereignty. They should ensure that States have the policy space and political agency to limit and discipline the operations of corporations, as well as protect their domestic food and economic systems from international markets, and trade and investment agreements.

UN agencies, in particular, should actively: implement the recommendations of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD) and IAASTD; promote the adoption of the Covenant 169 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on Indigenous Peoples; implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP); implement the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); and support the formulation of international conventions that defend the rights of small-scale food providers, including fishing communities and pastoralists, along the lines of the UN DRIP and the proposed International Convention on the Rights of Peasants.

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Annex 8

Statement of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food to the World Summit on Food Security



Statement to the World Summit on Food Security

**The Role of the Right to Food in achieving
Sustainable Global Food Security**

**Message of Dr. Olivier De Schutter
Special Rapporteur on the right to food**

**18 November 2009
Rome**



Excellences, Distinguished Delegates,

I would like to commend the diplomats who worked hard during the past few weeks in order to reach a consensus on the Declaration that was finally adopted at this World Summit on Food Security.

Of course, the Declaration is far from perfect. It is weak on issues such as the production and use of agrofuels (para. 30), or speculation by commodity index funds (para. 24), although both of these have important impacts on the volatility of prices, and on the ability of net-food-importing countries to feed themselves. Alluding to the issue of large-scale acquisitions or leases of farmland, it refers to the need to promote responsible international agricultural investment, without recognizing that, without a more coordinated approach, developing countries may not be able to maximize the positive impacts of the arrival of investors, while minimizing potential adverse impacts (para. 40). The Declaration refers to the need for a timely and balanced conclusion of the Doha Development Round of trade negotiations (para. 22), without even acknowledging the fact that export-led agriculture has in the past worked against the interests of smallholders, those that we all now recognize must be supported in their ability to produce. The food economy today is characterized by the global supply chains and the importance of added-value production led by private corporations, who set the prices and link the producers to the consumers, without any sort of control and with often extremely high levels of concentration that represent a serious market failure. The Declaration is entirely silent about how to address this. And it is silent about the right of agricultural workers to a living wage and to the enjoyment of their other fundamental rights, although the 450 million people in this category, due to depressed wages and casualization of labour on large plantations, form an increasingly important vulnerable group.

We are now at a critical juncture, in which the tension between supporting smallscale agriculture and sustainable modes of farming, on the one hand, and pushing for more competition on increasingly globalized food markets dominated by large agribusiness corporations often tempted to depress the wages of agricultural laborers, on the other hand, is more and more visible. The Declaration could have recognized this tension, and identified ways to alleviate it by appropriate policies : instead, because it ignores the problem, it is silent on the solutions.

And yet, I am convinced that this Summit and the Declaration it has adopted may signal a new and promising era of global cooperation in achieving food security. The reason is that, at both national and international levels, it strongly emphasizes the need for accountability. In my view, this is key. Hunger is not a fatality. It is a result of policies that could have been different, and that would not have been allowed to stand if their impacts had been monitored more carefully in the past.

In the 2004 Voluntary Guidelines on the progressive realization of the right to adequate food, the member governments of the FAO unanimously committed to the adoption of nationally owned strategies. The Final Declaration reiterates this commitment (para. 9). Such strategies can have an important impact, by ensuring an adequate mobilization of resources, by improving coordination across different branches of government, by setting timebound objectives to be achieved, and by setting up participatory bodies – such as CONSEA in Brazil, or CONASSAN in Nicaragua – that ensure that the policies will be addressing the real needs of those who are hungry. Such strategies raise accountability. They prohibit governments from remaining passive in the light of widespread, unfulfilled needs.

A number of countries have institutionalized the adoption of such strategies. In Brazil, Guatemala, Nicaragua, or Venezuela, national framework laws have been adopted, based upon the principles of the right to food. In my capacity as Special Rapporteur, I shall in the future collect such good practices on a systematic basis, in order to accelerate collective learning by imitation.

At international level, accountability should be strengthened thanks to the reform of the Committee on World Food Security. As a member of the contact group that worked on that reform, I advocated the establishment of the CFS as a forum that could improve coordination across donors and international agencies, that could encourage collective learning from best practices, and that could enhance accountability of all actors involved, since they would have to relate the actions they take to a framework adopted by the CFS. Such a global strategic framework, in my view, should offer a shared

diagnosis about the problem and about the desirable solutions, and should inform our joint work towards the realization of the right to food. Of course, it cannot be ignored in the implementation of the multilateral trust fund that should provide support to agriculture in low-income countries, and that the World Bank has been asked to develop by the G20 Leaders' Statement at the September 2009 Pittsburgh Summit.

Accountability based on the right to food is not a luxury, or an add-on to the two tracks that have hitherto characterized our actions to achieve food security – 1° direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and 2° medium- and long-term development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty. Support schemes to farmers that leave out the most marginalized, those living far from communication routes and who work the least fertile soil, may succeed in raising production, but they will fail to reduce hunger. Social programmes that benefit the best connected, or those who are sufficiently well equipped to overcome the bureaucratic hurdles, but that do not reach the poorest households or the illiterate, will equally fail. Grounding these efforts on the right to food means that this will not be allowed : by improving accountability, we ensure that such programmes will be both more legitimate and more effective in achieving their objectives.

The past approaches have failed, in no small part because of the absence of accountability and follow-up on solemn commitments made summit after summit. We now have a historic opportunity to fix the system of global governance, in order to ensure that this trend is reversed. If we fail to seize this moment, we will be judged harshly by those who will succeed us : the generation which will inherit the world we are shaping will simply not understand. For us, this will be a source of embarrassment and shame ; for the very poor, it will mean even more wasted lives and avoidable deaths of children who asked nothing but to live. None of us want this to happen. In order to reach success; we must consequently embrace this new vision based upon sustainable small-scale farming; local and regional markets; and policies based upon the principles of coordination, participation and accountability. We must start the year 2010 not only with a functioning CFS but also with a genuine agenda to address the gaps in international governance. The real work starts now.

Olivier De Schutter was appointed the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food in March 2008 by the United Nations Human Rights Council. He is independent from any government or organization, and he reports to the Human Rights Council and to the UN General Assembly. For more on the work of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, visit www.srfood.org or www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/food/index.htm.



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Uno no vende la tierra por la cual camina su pueblo
Tashunka Witko - 1840 – 1877

Declaration from Social Movements/NGOs/CSOs Parallel Forum to the World Food Summit on Food Security Rome, November 13-17, 2009

We, 642 persons coming from 93 countries and representing 450 organisations of peasant and family farmers, small scale fisher folk, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, youth, women, the urban people, agricultural workers, local and international NGOs, and other social actors, gathered in Rome from the 13 -17 of November, 2009 united in our determination to work for and demand food sovereignty in a moment in which the growing numbers of the hungry has surpassed the one billion mark. Food sovereignty is the real solution to the tragedy of hunger in our world.

Food sovereignty entails transforming the current food system to ensure that those who produce food have equitable access to, and control over, land water, seeds, fisheries and agricultural biodiversity. All people have a right and responsibility to participate in deciding how food is produced and distributed. Governments must respect, protect and fulfil the right to food as the right to adequate, available, accessible, culturally acceptable and nutritious food.

Governments have obligations to provide emergency aid. But this must not undermine food sovereignty and human rights. Emergency aid should be procured as locally as possible and must not be used to pressure countries into accepting Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO). Food must never be used as a political weapon.

We call attention to the violations of rights of people, both urban and rural, living in areas under armed conflict or occupation and in emergency situations. The international community must urgently address violations of human rights like those related to forced displacement, confiscation and alien exploitation of property, land, and other productive resources, demographic manipulation and population transfers.

Who Decides?

We declare our support for the renewed Committee on World Food Security: We take particular note of the commitment of those Heads of State present at the FAO Summit have shown to this important body in their Declaration. We emphasize the fundamental importance of the renewed CFS as the foremost inclusive international policy body for food and agriculture within the UN system, and as an essential body where the knowledge and perspectives of those whose daily labours have fed humanity for generations are not only heard, but also acted upon. We assert the centrality of the Right to Food as a principle to guide all elements of the Committee on World Food Security's work.

We express concern that the CFS is not receiving the funding appropriate to the ambition of its work programme. We urge FAO member states to back their political commitment with financial resources. We also note that much work remains to be done within the CFS to ensure that there is coherence between the different organs of the global food and agricultural institutional architecture. In this regard, we are extremely concerned by the proposed World Bank Global Agriculture and Food Security programme whose governance mechanism appears

undemocratic, un-transparent, and destined to lead to a replication of past mistakes. As long as institutions such as the WTO continue to privilege commercial interests over the globally marginalised and malnourished, hunger will continue to stalk the world.

Civil society has played a fundamentally important role in the CFS reform process, opening up a critical space which we intend to fully occupy in a responsible and effective manner. In so doing we will ensure that the voices of the excluded continue to be heard at the heart of food and agricultural policy-making and governance, at all levels. However, whilst we value the work that has been done, and hold high expectations regarding the CFS's future achievements, we will vigilantly monitor its work to ensure that member states follow through on their commitment to create an effective mechanism that is strong in its powers of coordination at all levels; able to hold its members to account; and start now to realise its commitment to develop a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition .

Ecological Food Provision

We reaffirm that our ecological food provision actually feeds the large majority of people all over the world in both rural and urban areas (more than 75%). Our practices focus on food for people not profit for corporations. It is healthy, diverse, localised and cools the planet.

We commit to strengthen and promote our ecological model of food provision in the framework of food sovereignty that feeds all populations including those in marginal zones like small islands and coastal areas. Our practices, because they prioritise feeding people locally, minimise waste and losses of food and do not create the damage caused by industrial production systems. Peasant agriculture is resilient and can adapt to and mitigate climate change. We insist, however, that food and agriculture be kept out of carbon market. We will defend and develop our agricultural, fisheries and animal biodiversity in the face of the aggressive commodification of nature, food and knowledge that is being facilitated by the 'new Green Revolutions'. We call for a global moratorium on GMO. Governments must protect and properly regulate domestic food markets. Our practices require supply management policies in order to secure availability of food and to guarantee decent wages and fair prices. We are ready to discuss new legal frameworks to support our practices.

We call for a reframing of research, using participatory methods, that will support our ecological model of food provision. We are the innovators building on our knowledge and skills. We rehabilitate local seeds systems and livestock breeds and fish/aquatic species for a changing climate. We commit to promote the findings of IAASTD (International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development). We call for accountability by researchers. We reject corporations' control of research and will not engage in forums that are dominated by them. We will promote our innovations through our media and outreach programmes for capacity building, education and information dissemination.

We will strengthen our interconnecting rural - urban food webs. We will build alliances within a Complex Alimentarius - linking small-scale food providers, processors, scientists, institutions, consumers - to replace the reductionist approach of the Codex Alimentarius. We commit to shorten distances between food provider and consumer. We will strengthen urban food movements and advance urban and peri-urban agriculture. We will reclaim the language of food emphasising nutrition and diversity in diets that exclude meat provided from industrial systems.

Control over food producing resources

Land grabbing by transnational capital must stop. Landlessness and land grabbing have intensified in the wake of the global food crisis, deforestation, sequestering of water bodies, privatization of the sea inland waters and coastal zones. Land and water confiscation and isolation practiced by occupying forces must be stopped. Countries and companies are colluding in alarming land grabbing practices. In less than a year, over 40 million hectares of

fertile land in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe have been usurped through these deals, displacing local food production for export interests.

Instead of promoting large-scale industrial agricultural investments, we urge our governments and the FAO to implement structural changes implied in the Declaration of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD) and in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) must play a critical role in ensuring the effective participation of social movements and civil society organizations

We demand comprehensive agrarian reforms which uphold the individual and collective/community rights of access to and control over territories. All States must implement effective public policies which guarantee community (those whose derives their livelihood) control over all natural resources. Strong accountability mechanisms to redress violations of these rights need to be in place. Gender equity and the youth interests must be at the heart of genuine agrarian and aquatic reforms. Reforms should guarantee women and youth full equality of opportunities and rights to land and natural wealth, and redress historical and ongoing discrimination.

Access to water is a human right. Water must remain in the "commons" and not be subject to market mechanisms of use and governance. Aquatic reforms should give legal recognition, protection and enforcement of the collective rights of small-scale fishing communities to access and use fishing grounds and maritime resources.

Closure of pastoralists routes and expropriation of lands, natural wealth and territories from local communities through economic concessions, big plantations, industrial agriculture and aquaculture, tourism and infrastructure projects and any other means must come to an end. Gathered food is also an important source to feed many of our communities and therefore deserves specific protection.

The rights to territory for indigenous peoples encompass nature as a living being essential to the identity and culture of particular communities or peoples. As guaranteed by Articles 41 and 42 of the UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples Rights, we call FAO to adopt a policy for Indigenous Peoples , to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Territorial Rights, and to ensure their participation in resource decisions. .We urge FAO and IFAD to create a Working Group with Indigenous Peoples in the CFS.

We reject intellectual property rights over living resources including seeds, plants and animals. De facto biological monopolies –where the seed or breed is rendered sterile – must be banned. We will keep the seeds in our hands. We will keep freely exchanging and saving our seeds and breeds. We value our traditional knowledge as fishers, livestock keepers, Indigenous Peoples and peasants and we will further develop it to be able to feed our communities in a sustainable way. Our songs and tales express our cosmovision and are important to maintain our spiritual relationship with our lands.

Civil Society Commitments

We commit ourselves to increase our level of organization, build broad and strong alliances and promote joint actions, articulations, exchanges, and solidarity to speak with a strong voice for defending our food sovereignty. We are convinced that only the power of organized peoples and mobilization can achieve the needed changes, thus our principal task is to inform, raise awareness, debate, organize and mobilize people.

Women participants in the forum, noting the systematic oppression of women through the processes of globalization and corporatization of agriculture, fisheries and livestock, intensified by patriarchy, commit ourselves to achieving equality in representation and decision making bodies. We demand gender justice, peace and respect for the rights of women, including common property rights. Our rights over seeds, productive resources, our knowledge and our contributions to enhancing resilience must be respected, valued and protected. Women

agricultural workers and their communities must be assured safe working conditions and fair wages.

Youth participants of the forum reaffirm that young people are key to the development and implementation of ecologically and socially sustainable agriculture policies. All decision making bodies must ensure the effective participation of young people. We insist on agricultural, fisheries and livestock education (formal and informal) from an early age, and the FAO and IFAD should provide adequate funds for capacity building training at all levels to address the needs of young people and rural women. Our commitment to food sovereignty includes a demand that the Committee on Food Security be transformed into the "Committee for Food Sovereignty" and a call for a moratorium on agrofuels.

We engage ourselves to collectively accept our responsibilities to mobilize from the local to the international levels in our struggles for food sovereignty. We claim the control and the autonomy of our processes of organisation and alliances and we will further enhance our mutual accountability by valuing the wealth of our diversity and in the respect for our autonomies. We recognise the essential role of the IPC in the facilitation of alliance building.

We demand Food Sovereignty now!



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Declaración de los Movimientos Sociales/ONG/OSC Foro Paralelo a la Cumbre Mundial de la Seguridad Alimentaria Roma, noviembre 13-17 de 2009

Nosotros y nosotras, 642 personas de 93 países representando 450 organizaciones de campesinos y campesinas, pequeños agricultores, pescadores a pequeña escala, pastores, pueblos indígenas, jóvenes, mujeres, movimientos urbanos, trabajadores agrícolas, ONG locales e internacionales y otros actores sociales nos encontramos en Roma del 13 al 17 de noviembre del 2009, unidos por nuestra determinación de trabajar por y exigir la soberanía alimentaria en este momento en que el número de las personas que sufren hambre ha traspasado los mil millones. La Soberanía Alimentaria es la solución real a la tragedia del hambre en nuestro mundo.

La Soberanía Alimentaria implica transformar el sistema alimentario actual para asegurar que aquellos y aquellas que producen los alimentos tengan un acceso equitativo a, y el control sobre, la tierra, el agua, las semillas, la pesca y la biodiversidad agrícola. Toda persona tiene el derecho y la responsabilidad de participar en la decisión de cómo se producen y distribuyen los alimentos. Los gobiernos deben respetar, proteger y garantizar el derecho a la alimentación, definido como el derecho a alimentos adecuados, disponibles, asequibles, culturalmente aceptables y nutritivos.

Los gobiernos tienen la obligación de proporcionar ayuda de emergencia. Pero no deben socavar la soberanía alimentaria y los derechos humanos. La ayuda de emergencia debe obtenerse lo más localmente posible y no debe ser utilizada para presionar a los países a aceptar los organismos genéticamente modificados (OGM). Los alimentos no deben ser usados jamás como un arma política.

Hacemos hincapié en la violación de los derechos de las personas y comunidades, tanto urbanas como rurales, que viven en zonas de conflicto armado u ocupación y en situaciones de emergencia. La comunidad internacional tiene que abordar, de manera urgente, las violaciones a derechos humanos relacionadas con los desplazamientos forzados, la confiscación y explotación ajena de la propiedad, la tierra y otros recursos productivos, la manipulación demográfica y las transferencias de población.

¿Quién decide?

Declaramos nuestro apoyo al renovado Comité de Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial (CSAM) y resaltamos el compromiso hacia este importante órgano que han mostrado los Jefes de Estado presentes en la Cumbre de la FAO en su Declaración. Enfatizamos la importancia fundamental del renovado Comité de Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial, como el principal órgano inclusivo para la formulación de políticas internacionales de la alimentación y la agricultura, dentro del sistema de la ONU y como un órgano fundamental donde el conocimiento y las perspectivas de

aquellos y aquellas que, con su trabajo diario, han alimentado a la humanidad por generaciones, no sólo son escuchado sino también aplicados. Insistimos en el papel central del Derecho Humano a la Alimentación como principio para guiar todos los aspectos del trabajo del Comité Mundial de la Seguridad Alimentaria.

Expresamos preocupación porque el CSAM no está recibiendo el apoyo financiero apropiado para la pretensión de su programa de trabajo. Urgimos a los Estados miembros de la FAO para que su compromiso político sea respaldado con recursos financieros. Manifestamos que aún queda mucho trabajo por hacer en el CSAM para asegurar que habrá coherencia entre los diferentes órganos de la arquitectura global institucional de la alimentación y la agricultura. En este sentido, estamos muy preocupados por el programa global sobre agricultura y seguridad alimentaria que ha sido propuesto en el seno del Banco Mundial pues su mecanismo de gobierno parece ser no democrático ni transparente y condenado en esa medida a repetir los errores del pasado. Mientras instituciones como la Organización Mundial del Comercio sigan privilegiando intereses comerciales por encima de las personas marginadas y malnutridas, el hambre continuará lacerando el mundo.

La sociedad civil ha jugado un papel fundamental en el proceso de la reforma del CSAM, abriendo un espacio crítico, que tenemos la intención de ocupar plenamente y de forma responsable y efectiva. En hacer esto, aseguraremos que las voces de los excluidos continúen siendo escuchadas en el corazón de la construcción de políticas alimentarias y agrícolas y la gobernanza a todos los niveles. Aunque valoramos el trabajo realizado, y tenemos grandes expectativas respecto a los futuros logros del CSAM, vamos a mantener un seguimiento atento del trabajo para asegurar que los Estados miembros cumplen con sus compromisos para crear un mecanismo efectivo, con fuerte capacidad de coordinación a todos los niveles, capaz de hacer rendir cuentas a sus miembros, y de realizar sus compromisos para desarrollar un Marco Estratégico Global para la seguridad alimentaria y la nutrición.

El suministro ecológico de alimentos

Reafirmamos que nuestro suministro de alimento ecológico actual alimenta la gran mayoría de las personas del mundo, tanto en las zonas rurales como en las urbanas (más del 75%). Nuestras prácticas se centran en alimentar a las personas y no en el beneficio de las corporaciones. Es un suministro sano, diverso, local que enfría el planeta.

Nos comprometemos a fortalecer y promover nuestro modelo ecológico de suministro de alimentos en el marco de la soberanía alimentaria para abastecer a todas las poblaciones incluyendo aquéllas en zonas marginadas como las pequeñas islas y las zonas costeras. Nuestras prácticas, puesto que priorizan alimentar localmente a las personas, minimizan el desperdicio y las pérdidas de alimentos, y no crean los daños causados por los sistemas de producción industrial. La agricultura campesina es resistente y puede adaptarse a y mitigar el cambio climático. De todas formas, insistimos en que la alimentación y la agricultura deben mantenerse fuera del mercado del carbono. Vamos a defender y desarrollar nuestra biodiversidad agrícola, pesquera y animal de la agresiva mercantilización de la naturaleza, los alimentos y el conocimiento, que ha sido facilitado por las «nuevas revoluciones verdes». Llamamos a una moratoria global de los OGM. Los Estados tienen que proteger y regular adecuadamente los mercados nacionales de alimentos. Nuestras prácticas requieren políticas de gestión del suministro con el fin de asegurar la disponibilidad de alimentos y garantizar sueldos dignos y precios justos. Estamos preparados para discutir nuevos marcos legales para apoyar nuestras prácticas.

Llamamos al replanteamiento de la investigación, usando métodos participativos, que apoyen nuestro modelo ecológico de suministro de alimentos. Somos los innovadores que construimos nuestro conocimiento y nuestras habilidades. Rehabilitamos las semillas locales y las variedades del ganado, pescados y especies acuáticas para un clima en cambio. Nos comprometemos a promover los descubrimientos de la Evaluación Internacional sobre el Conocimiento, la Ciencia y la Tecnología Agrícola para el Desarrollo (IAASTD por sus siglas en inglés). Llamamos a la rendición de cuentas por parte de los investigadores. Rechazamos el control de la investigación por parte de las corporaciones y no vamos a implicarnos en foros

que sean dominados por ellos. Vamos a promover nuestras innovaciones a través de nuestros medios y mediante programas de formación, educación y difusión de la información.

Vamos a fortalecer nuestras redes alimentarias rural-urbanas. Vamos a construir alianzas dentro de un Complex Alimentarius – vinculando pequeños productores, proveedores, procesadores, científicos, instituciones y consumidores – para reemplazar el enfoque reduccionista del Codex Alimentarius. Nos comprometemos a achicar las distancias entre los proveedores de alimentos y los consumidores. Vamos a fortalecer los movimientos urbanos por la alimentación y a promover la agricultura urbana y peri-urbana. Vamos a reclamar el lenguaje de la alimentación poniendo énfasis en la nutrición y la diversidad de las dietas que excluyen la carne que proviene de sistemas industriales.

Control sobre los recursos para producir alimentos

Hay que poner fin al acaparamiento de la tierra causado por el capital transnacional. El acaparamiento de la tierra y el problema de los sin tierra se han intensificado, tras la crisis alimentaria global, la deforestación, y el secuestro de los órganos gestores del agua, tanto en las zonas continentales y en las costas. Actos de confiscación de tierras y aguas y aislamiento hechos por fuerzas de ocupación deben cesar. Los países y las compañías están colaborando en prácticas alarmantes de acaparamiento de tierras. En menos de un año, más de 40 millones de hectáreas de tierra fértil en África, Asia, América Latina y Europa del Este, han sido usurpadas mediante estos acuerdos, desplazando la producción local de alimentos por intereses de exportación.

En vez de promover las inversiones en industria agrícola a grande escala, urgimos a nuestros gobiernos y a la FAO a implementar los cambios estructurales implícitos en la declaración de la Conferencia Internacional sobre Reforma Agraria y Desarrollo Rural (CIRADR) y en la Declaración de los Derechos de los Pueblos Indígenas de la ONU. Aquí, el Comité Internacional de Planeación por la Soberanía Alimentaria (CIP) debe jugar un papel fundamental para asegurar la participación efectiva de los movimientos sociales y las organizaciones de la sociedad civil.

Exigimos reformas agrarias integrales que aseguren los derechos individuales y colectivos/comunales al acceso y el control de los territorios. Todos los Estados deben implementar políticas públicas efectivas que garanticen el control comunal sobre todos los territorios. Hay que implementar fuertes mecanismos de rendición de cuentas para indemnizar las violaciones de esos derechos. La igualdad de género y los intereses de la juventud tienen que estar en el centro de las reformas agrarias y acuáticas genuinas. Las reformas deberán garantizar a las mujeres y a la juventud plena igualdad de oportunidades y derechos a la tierra y a los bienes naturales, y deberán compensar la discriminación histórica y actual.

El acceso al agua es un derecho humano fundamental. El agua debe seguir perteneciendo al acervo común y no verse sujeta a mecanismos de mercado en su uso y gobernanza. Las reformas en este ámbito deben dar reconocimiento legal, protección y refuerzo de los derechos colectivos de las comunidades de pescadores de pequeña escala a acceder y utilizar los caladeros y recursos marinos.

Debe acabarse con la supresión de rutas de pastoreo y con la expropiación de tierras, riquezas naturales y territorios a las comunidades locales a través de concesiones económicas, grandes plantaciones, agricultura industrial y acuicultura, turismo, grandes infraestructuras y otros proyectos. La recolección también constituye una fuente importante de alimento para nuestras comunidades y merece por ello protección específica.

El derecho al territorio de los pueblos indígenas comprende una visión de la naturaleza como un ser vivo esencial para la identidad y cultura de las comunidades o pueblos. Tal y como lo establecen los artículos 41 y 42 de la Declaración de las Naciones Unidas sobre los Derechos de los Pueblos Indígenas, hacemos un llamado a la FAO a que adopte una política para los pueblos indígenas, a que reconozcan los derechos territoriales de los pueblos indígenas y a que garanticen su participación en la toma de decisiones sobre los recursos. Instamos a la FAO y al

FIDA a que creen un grupo de trabajo para los pueblos indígenas en el CSAM.

Rechazamos la propiedad intelectual sobre recursos vivos como semillas, plantas y animales. Deben prohibirse los monopolios biológicos de facto, en que la semilla o el animal se esterilizan. Debemos conservar las semillas en nuestras manos. Seguiremos intercambiando nuestras semillas y nuestros animales. Valoramos nuestro conocimiento tradicional de pescadores, ganaderos y agricultores y vamos a seguir desarrollándolo para poder alimentar a nuestras comunidades de forma sostenible. Nuestras canciones y cuentos expresan nuestra cosmovisión y son de vital importancia para mantener nuestra relación espiritual con la tierra.

Compromisos de la Sociedad Civil

Nos comprometemos a incrementar nuestro nivel de organización, construir alianzas fuertes y transversales y promover acciones conjuntas, articulaciones, intercambios y solidaridad para hablar con una sola voz fuerte en favor de nuestra soberanía alimentaria. Estamos convencidos que solo el poder de los pueblos organizados puede conseguir los cambios necesarios, y por ello nuestra principal tarea consiste en informar, concienciar, debatir, organizar y movilizar a la gente.

Las mujeres participantes en el Foro, señalando su opresión sistemática a través de los procesos de globalización y corporativización de la agricultura, opresión ésta que se ve exacerbada por el patriarcado, nos comprometemos a conseguir la igualdad en la representación y la toma de decisiones. Exigimos justicia de género, paz y respeto de los derechos de las mujeres, incluidos los derechos comunes de la propiedad. Deben respetarse, valorarse y protegerse nuestros derechos sobre las semillas, los recursos de producción, nuestro saber y nuestras contribuciones para la mejora de la resistencia de ciertas especies. Deben garantizarse condiciones laborales seguras y salarios justos a las trabajadoras del campo y sus comunidades.

Los jóvenes participantes en el Foro reiteramos que la juventud es clave para el desarrollo y la puesta en práctica de políticas agrícolas ecológicas y socialmente sostenibles. Todos los órganos de toma de decisiones deben garantizar la participación de los jóvenes. Insistimos en la necesidad de una educación agrícola, pesquera y ganadera (formal e informal) a partir de una edad temprana, incluyendo la capacitación y formación necesarias para satisfacer las aspiraciones de los jóvenes y las mujeres. Nuestro compromiso con la soberanía alimentaria incluye la petición de que el Comité de Seguridad Alimentaria Mundial se rebautice y se transforme en el "Comité de Soberanía Alimentaria Mundial" y que se declare una moratoria a los agrocombustibles.

Nos comprometemos a asumir nuestras responsabilidades de forma colectiva para movilizarnos por la soberanía alimentaria a todos los niveles, desde lo local a lo internacional. Reclamamos el control y la autonomía de nuestros procesos de organización y alianzas y vamos a seguir mejorando el proceso de rendición de cuentas mutuo valorizando la riqueza de nuestra diversidad y desde el respeto de nuestra respectiva autonomía. Reconocemos el papel esencial del CIP en la facilitación de la creación de alianzas.

¡Queremos la Soberanía Alimentaria YA!



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**Uno no vende la tierra por la cual camina su pueblo
Tashunka Witko - 1840 – 1877**

Déclaration du forum des mouvements sociaux, ONG et organisations de la société civile en parallèle au Sommet de la FAO sur la sécurité alimentaire

Nous, 642 personnes venant de 93 pays et représentant 450 organisations de paysans et agriculteurs familiaux, petits pêcheurs, pastoralistes, peuples autochtones, jeunes, femmes, urbains, ouvriers agricoles, ONG locales & internationales et autres acteurs sociaux, nous sommes réunis à Rome du 13 au 17 novembre 2009, unis par notre détermination à œuvrer pour revendiquer la Souveraineté alimentaire au moment où le nombre croissant des personnes souffrant de la faim a atteint le seuil du milliard de personnes. La Souveraineté alimentaire est la solution efficace à la tragédie de la faim dans notre monde.

La Souveraineté alimentaire implique la transformation du système alimentaire actuel afin d'assurer que les producteurs d'aliments disposent d'un accès équitable ainsi que d'une maîtrise de la terre, des eaux, des semences, de la pêche et de la biodiversité agricole. Tout un chacun a le droit et la responsabilité de prendre part à la prise de décisions sur le mode de production et de distribution de l'alimentation. Les états doivent respecter, protéger et satisfaire le droit à l'alimentation, en tant que droit à disposer d'aliments adéquats, disponibles, accessibles, culturellement acceptables et nutritifs.

Les états ont l'obligation de fournir une assistance en cas d'urgence, sans que cela ne se fasse au détriment de la Souveraineté alimentaire et des Droits humains. Les mesures d'urgence doivent mobiliser les ressources au niveau le plus local possible et ne doivent pas servir à obliger les pays à accepter les OGM. L'alimentation ne doit jamais être utilisée comme une arme politique.

Nous attirons l'attention sur les violations des droits des peuples, aussi bien urbains que ruraux, qui vivent en zones de conflit ou d'occupation et dans des situations de crises. La communauté internationale doit s'opposer d'urgence aux violations que constituent les expulsions de populations, l'expropriation et l'exploitation par des étrangers des propriétés, des terres et des autres ressources productives, la manipulation démographique et les transferts de populations.

Les pouvoirs de prise de décision

Nous déclarons notre soutien au nouveau Comité de la Sécurité Alimentaire mondiale, en insistant sur l'engagement pris par les Chefs d'Etats présents au Sommet de la FAO vis-à-vis de cette instance dans leur Déclaration. Nous insistons sur l'importance fondamentale du nouveau Comité de la Sécurité Alimentaire mondiale en sa qualité d'instance politique internationale la plus ouverte parmi toutes celles chargées des questions d'alimentation et d'agriculture au sein des institutions des Nations-Unies. Le Comité est une instance indispensable où les connaissances et les perspectives de tous ceux qui, par leur travail quotidien, ont nourri l'humanité depuis des générations ne soient pas seulement entendus, mais aussi appliqués. Nous affirmons que le Droit à l'Alimentation forme la référence centrale qui doit guider tous les éléments du travail du Comité de la Sécurité Alimentaire.

Nous exprimons notre préoccupation concernant le financement approprié du CSA. Nous appelons les états membres de la FAO de concrétiser leur engagement politique par un financement adéquat aux ambitions de son programme de travail. Nous constatons qu'il y a encore beaucoup de travail à faire au sein du CSA pour assurer la cohérence entre les différentes composantes de gouvernance globale sur l'alimentation et l'agriculture. A cet égard nos sommes extrêmement préoccupés par le programme global agricole et de sécurité alimentaire de la Banque Mondiale dont les mécanismes de gouvernance apparaissent être non démocratiques, opaques, et conduisent à reproduire les erreurs du passé. Et tant que l'OMC privilégie les intérêts commerciaux au détriment des marginalisés et des mal nourris, la faim persistera dans le monde.

Le Forum de la Société Civile a joué un rôle d'une importance fondamentale dans le processus de réforme du CSA, qui a ouvert un espace significatif que nous voulons occuper de manière responsable et effective. C'est ainsi que nous allons garantir que les voix des exclus continueront à être entendues, à tous les niveaux, au cœur des processus qui définissent les politiques agricoles et de gouvernance. Toutefois, tout en reconnaissant le travail qui a été effectué, et en maintenant de fortes attentes par rapport aux réalisations futures du CFS, nous resterons vigilants dans la vérification de son travail pour s'assurer que les Etats membres respectent leurs engagements pour créer un mécanisme effectif disposant de pouvoirs de coordination à tous niveaux, capable de demander des comptes à ses membres et tenant son engagement à développer un Cadre Stratégique Global pour la sécurité alimentaire et la nutrition.

Approvisionnement écologique de l'alimentation

Nous réaffirmons qu'effectivement notre système d'approvisionnement écologique nourrit la grande majorité des habitants de la planète vivant aussi bien dans les zones rurales que dans les zones urbaines (plus de 75%). Nos pratiques visent l'alimentation des peuples et non pas l'enrichissement de l'industrie. Elles sont de nature saine, diversifiée et localisée, et sont susceptibles de mitiger le changement climatique.

Nous nous engageons à renforcer et promouvoir notre modèle écologique d'approvisionnement en aliments dans le cadre de la Souveraineté alimentaire, visant à nourrir l'ensemble des populations, y compris celles des zones marginales telles que les petits pays insulaires et zones côtières. Nos pratiques, en donnant la priorité à l'alimentation locale, réduisent au minimum le gaspillage et les pertes et n'engendrent pas les dommages causés par le système de production industriel. L'agriculture paysanne, de nature résiliente, peut s'adapter et mitiger le changement climatique. Nous insistons cependant sur la nécessité d'exclure l'alimentation et l'agriculture du marché des droits d'émission du carbone. Nous voulons défendre et développer notre biodiversité agricole, piscicole et animale face à la marchandisation agressive du vivant, de l'alimentation et de la connaissance que facilitent les « nouvelles révolutions vertes ». Nous réclamons un moratoire mondial sur les organismes génétiquement modifiés. Les gouvernements doivent protéger leurs marchés internes. Nos pratiques requièrent des politiques de gestion de l'offre afin d'assurer la disponibilité des aliments et de garantir des revenus décents et des prix justes. Nous sommes disposés à discuter des nouvelles dispositions juridiques pour encadrer nos pratiques.

Nous appelons à un recadrage participatif de la recherche qui soutiendrait notre modèle écologique d'approvisionnement alimentaire. Nous sommes des innovateurs qui nous appuyons sur nos savoir-faire et nos compétences. Nous réhabilitions les semences, les races ainsi que les espèces aquatiques locales afin de s'adapter au climat. Nous nous engageons à promouvoir les résultats de l'IAASTD (International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development). Nous exigeons que les chercheurs rendent des comptes de leur travail. Nous nous opposons à la main-mise de l'industrie sur la recherche et refusons de participer à des forums dominés par ces dernières. Nous allons promouvoir nos innovations à travers nos moyens de communication et nos programmes de formation, d'éducation et de divulgation.

Nous allons renforcer les réseaux alimentaires reliant les villes aux campagnes. Nous allons forger des alliances dans le cadre d'un Complex Alimentarius, reliant les petits producteurs, les transformateurs, les scientifiques, les institutions, les consommateurs, en remplacement de l'approche réductrice du Codex Alimentarius. Nous nous engageons à raccourcir les distances entre producteurs et citoyens. Nous allons renforcer les mouvements d'acteurs urbains concernés par l'alimentation, ainsi que l'agriculture urbaine et peri-urbaine. Nous allons nous réapproprier le concept d'« alimentation » pour mettre l'accent sur la nutrition et la diversité des régimes alimentaires permettant d'exclure la viande provenant du système industriel.

Le contrôle de ressources pour la production alimentaire

L'accapement des terres par des capitaux transnationaux doit cesser. Le problème des sans-terres et de l'accapement des terres s'est intensifié suite à la crise alimentaire mondiale, la déforestation, la séquestration des mers et des océans, des eaux douces et des zones côtières. Les actions d'isolement et la confiscation des terres et de l'eau pratiquées par des forces d'occupation doivent cesser. Des pays et des entreprises sont complices dans des pratiques alarmantes d'accapement. En moins d'un an, plus de 40 millions d'hectares de terres fertiles en Afrique, Asie, Amérique Latine et Europe de l'Est ont été usurpés par ces marchandages, remplaçant la production alimentaire locale par des intérêts d'exportations.

Plutôt que de promouvoir les investissements agricoles industriels à grande échelle, nous appelons nos gouvernements et la FAO à mettre en œuvre les changements structurels contenus dans la Déclaration de la Conférence Internationale sur la Réforme Agraire et le Développement Rural (ICARRD) ainsi que dans la Déclaration des Nations Unies sur les Droits des Peuples Autochtones. A cet effet, le Comité International de Planification pour la Souveraineté alimentaire (CIP) doit jouer un rôle déterminant pour assurer la participation effective des organisations de la société civile.

Nous exigeons des réformes agraires globales qui respectent les droits individuels et collectifs/communautaires à l'accès et à la maîtrise des territoires. Tous les Etats doivent mettre en œuvre des politiques effectives qui garantissent le contrôle des communautés (celles qui en tirent leurs moyens de subsistance) de toutes les ressources naturelles. De solides mécanismes obligeant les Etats à rendre des comptes doivent être mis en place pour empêcher les violations de ces droits. L'égalité des genres ainsi que les intérêts des jeunes doivent être au cœur des vraies réformes agraires et aquatiques. Ces réformes doivent garantir aux femmes et aux jeunes la totale égalité des chances, le droit à la terre et aux richesses naturelles et doivent corriger les injustices historiques et actuelles.

L'accès à l'eau est un droit humain. L'eau doit rester un bien commun et ne doit pas être assujettie aux mécanismes de marchés régulant son utilisation et sa gestion. Les réformes aquatiques doivent reconnaître, protéger et mettre en œuvre, de manière légale, les droits collectifs d'accès et d'utilisation des eaux de pêche et des ressources maritimes pour les communautés de petits pêcheurs.

La fermeture des couloirs de passages pastoraux ainsi que l'expropriation des terres, des richesses naturelles et des territoires au détriment des communautés locales par le biais de concessions économiques, de grandes plantations, de l'agriculture et l'aquaculture industrielles, du tourisme et des projets d'infrastructures, et par tout autre moyen doivent cesser. Les aliments issus de la collecte sauvage sont aussi une source importante d'alimentation pour de nombreuses communautés et méritent donc une protection spécifique.

Les droits aux territoires pour les populations autochtones englobent la nature comme organisme vivant essentiel à l'identité et à la culture des communautés et peuples. Nous appelons la FAO à développer une politique sur les populations autochtones, à reconnaître les Droits Territoriaux des Peuples Autochtones et à assurer leur participation aux décisions concernant leurs ressources, comme consacré dans les articles 41 et 42 de la Déclaration des Nations Unies sur les Droits des Peuples Autochtones. Nous appelons la FAO et le FIDA à créer, au sein du CSA, un groupe de travail avec les Peuples Autochtones.

Nous rejetons les droits de propriété intellectuelle sur le vivant, y compris sur les semences, les plantes et les animaux. Les monopoles biologiques *de facto* – rendant stériles les semences

ou les races – doivent être bannis. Nous devons maintenir le contrôle sur les semences. Nous allons maintenir les pratiques d'échange libre et de sauvegarde des semences et races. Nous valorisons nos connaissances traditionnelles en tant que pêcheurs, pastoralistes, peuples autochtones et paysans et nous allons continuer à développer ces savoirs pour nourrir nos communautés de manière durable. Nos chants et nos contes expriment notre vision cosmique et sont importants pour maintenir la relation spirituelle avec nos terres.

Les engagements de la Société Civile

Nous nous engageons à renforcer notre niveau d'organisation, à construire des alliances larges et fortes et de promouvoir des actions conjointes, des connexions, des échanges et des solidarités afin de pouvoir parler d'une voix forte pour la défense de notre Souveraineté alimentaire. Nous sommes convaincus que seuls le pouvoir des peuples organisés et la mobilisation peuvent atteindre les changements nécessaires. C'est pourquoi notre tâche principale est de débattre, informer, sensibiliser, organiser et mobiliser les populations.

Les femmes participant au forum, face à l'oppression systématique qu'elles subissent suite à la mondialisation et à la main mise de l'agro-industrie sur l'agriculture, la pêche et l'élevage, renforcée par le système patriarcal, s'engagent prioritairement à atteindre l'égalité dans la représentation et la prise de décisions. Nous demandons la justice en matière de genre, la paix et le respect des droits des femmes, y compris les droits de propriété collectifs. Nos droits sur les semences, les ressources productives, nos connaissances et nos contributions au renforcement de notre résilience doivent être respectés, valorisés et protégés. Les ouvrières agricoles et leurs communautés doivent avoir des conditions de travail sûres et des salaires équitables.

Les jeunes participant au forum affirment que les jeunes sont essentiels au développement et à la mise en œuvre des politiques agricoles écologiquement et socialement durables. Toutes les instances de prises de décisions doivent s'assurer de leur participation effective. Nous insistons sur l'éducation agricole, piscicole et d'élevage (formelle et informelle) depuis le jeune âge, y compris le renforcement des capacités à tous niveaux pour répondre aux besoins des jeunes. Notre engagement pour la Souveraineté alimentaire comprend la demande de transformer le Comité de la Sécurité Alimentaire en Comité de la Souveraineté Alimentaire ainsi qu'un appel pour le moratoire sur les agrocarburants.

Nous nous engageons à prendre collectivement nos responsabilités dans la mobilisation allant des niveaux locaux aux niveaux internationaux autour de nos luttes pour la Souveraineté alimentaire. Nous revendiquons la maîtrise et l'autonomie de nos processus d'organisation et d'alliances tout en renforçant notre redevabilité mutuelle en valorisant la richesse de nos diversités tout en respectant nos autonomies. Nous reconnaissons le rôle essentiel du CIP dans la facilitation des alliances.

Nous demandons la Souveraineté Alimentaire maintenant!



**Uno no vende la tierra por la cual camina su pueblo
Tashunka Witko - 1840 – 1877**

Declaration of Indigenous Peoples for Food Sovereignty

Representatives of Indigenous Peoples from the regions of Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, North America, Africa and Northern Europe, gathered at the Global Forum for Peoples' Food Sovereignty in Rome from the 13th to the 17th of November 2009.

Reaffirming our right to Food sovereignty, which is intrinsically linked to our historical, cultural and spiritual relations with our Mother Earth, our lands and territories,

Upholding our right to communal self-determination, as enshrined in Article 1 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Ratifying our rights, as established in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Concerned by the most recent reports issued by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) which indicate that over a billion people in the world are going hungry, over 80% of whom are food producers and the majority of which live on the territories of Indigenous Peoples,

We convened at a Forum of Indigenous Peoples for Food Sovereignty and we agreed upon the following:

DECLARATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

1.- Indigenous Peoples came from places as diverse as the Amazon rainforest to the Arctic homeland of the Saami to the Sahara of Africa, the islands of the Pacific and the mountains of the Himalayas to sound the alarm on the dire effects suffered by their communities from the food crisis. Their communities are the most impacted by hunger and malnutrition, constituting a violation of their right to food, and our self-determination.

Remembering that the World Summit on Sustainable Development reaffirmed "the vital role of Indigenous Peoples in sustainable development" and called upon the

states and United Nations organisations to "Promote the effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in decision-making processes and the implementation of policies relating to the use of traditional knowledge and biodiversity, amongst many other issues including agriculture, poverty and development."

2.- Aware that the States and their governments are supporting the large transnational companies to the detriment of the Indigenous Peoples' traditional food production, through the appropriation of our lands, territories and resources.

3.- We have decided to continue using our indigenous seeds and our traditional products, and to continue our struggle against the capitalist market of food production, as well as against genetically modified products, because they weaken and exterminate traditional seeds.

4.- Indigenous Peoples have the right to possess, control, protect and pass on the traditional knowledge originating from our lands, territories and resources which we have possessed, used and occupied, respecting the relationship we have with Mother Earth and looking after the environment. In this sense, we are the alternative model of sustainable food production and protection of biodiversity.

5.- Therefore, we as Indigenous Peoples reject farming practices that use inorganic chemical substances and genetically modified seeds, also because their use aggravates global warming and climate change, affecting our Mother Earth. To this end, we demand that the FAO and all UN agencies also recognise the farming practices carried out by nomadic pastoralists.

6.- Remembering a number of UN bodies have adopted resolutions and agreements which state the fundamental importance of participation of Indigenous Peoples and the fact that governments must collaborate to facilitate it. In the same manner, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the former Human Rights Commission, the World Health Organisation, the World Intellectual Property Organisation, the Stockholm Convention, the current Human Rights Council, together with the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, amongst others, have created mechanisms which promote full and effective participation of representatives of indigenous communities in their meetings. These mechanisms range from the financial support established by the Voluntary Fund in order to facilitate participation for indigenous and local community representatives in meetings, to logistical support, as well as allowing participation in formal and informal groups, thereby stressing good practices for the entire UN system.

7.- The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the UN General Assembly, in Article 41 and 42 states that the UN must establish ways of guaranteeing indigenous participation in matters that affect them.

Therefore:

8.- We call on the FAO to approve and establish a Relationship Policy with Indigenous Peoples based on the progress made on the draft of this policy and on issues related to the recognition of territorial rights of Indigenous Peoples.

9.- In this regard the FAO and IFAD must create a Working Group with Indigenous Peoples in the Committee on Food Security as well as in the specialised agencies and bodies of the FAO and IFAD.

10.- Beginning in this Indigenous Peoples` Forum on Food Sovereignty we have come together as an Indigenous Peoples` Caucus to facilitate dialogue, to foster communication, participation and following-up with the FAO and other bodies related to agriculture, food and food sovereignty and security.

11.- We, Indigenous Peoples, reaffirm the alliances we have with Social Movements, Nomadic Pastoralists, Artisanal Fisherfolk, Peasants, Small-scale Producers, Universities in solidarity with our cause, Women and Youth.

12.- We will also promote strategic and respectful alliances between diverse social movements, Indigenous Peoples, rural populations and urban groups. .

13.- We call on the Indigenous Peoples of the world to put forward as part of Food Sovereignty the concept of "Buen Vivir" (Living Well) which is practiced by the Original Peoples of the Andes and other peoples.

14.- We call on the states and on the governments to recognise the different the cosmovisions of Indigenous Peoples, whilst respecting the autonomous processes of Indigenous Peoples and to adopt the concept of "Buen Vivir" in their national legislations.

15.- We, Indigenous Peoples, demand the right to define what our diet is and what it means to us, as part of our cultural identity. We cannot speak of food without speaking of water and the right to water as well as the protection and definition of our relationship to water. It also implies talking about our right to our territories and resources.

16.- In this manner, we urge the FAO and governments to develop policies for the decolonization of our lands, territories and natural resources as well as the re-education of states and governments on the vision of the Indigenous Peoples.

17.- However, we will promote the establishment of local markets which benefit our peoples, in the face of the monopoly of large companies which commercialize and hoard food products.

18.- We, Indigenous Peoples, reject the use of Intellectual property rights which contribute to the appropriation, monopoly and alienation of genetic resources protected by indigenous knowledge.

19.- We, the Indigenous Peoples will continue to consume our traditional foods. Seeds are what we find along the way, wild animals are our siblings, our myths and our history are linked to the way we eat.

20.- Food is not just agriculture or what men and women produce, but it also includes wild plants and animals, and the relationship between these and Mother Earth. We, as Indigenous Peoples will continue to put our traditional methods of food

producing in practice as an act of self-determination.

21.- We, the Indigenous Peoples, demand the right to enjoy what we produce and improve our livelihoods, as well as to continue to use our traditional ancient seeds.

22.- We, the Indigenous Peoples, and Indigenous women in particular, should have the right to participate in the definition of specific policies that affect our right to food. This includes the right to use methods like crop rotation; the recognition of nomadic pastoralism, traditional hunting and gathering; and creating policies to guarantee our systems of land and resource tenure.



Food Sovereignty now: young people creating their future

-Final declaration of the Youth Caucus-

Introduction

Food Sovereignty is a legitimate cause involving sustainable improvement of social, economic and nutritional wellbeing of all individuals on earth by increasing access to quality food, production resources and making favourable food policies for all producers in the world. Young women and men from several Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) around the world gathered in Rome on November 14th - 17th 2009 during the CSO Forum held in parallel to the World Food Summit on Food Security 2009, to create our future by declaring our demand for food sovereignty and inclusive decision-making at all levels worldwide. This included discussions on the four central themes of the Forum: "Who decides about food policies?"; "Who controls food producing resources?"; "How is food produced?"; and "Who has/needs access to food?".

We recognised the development of agricultural production and trading in the past years and noted that neo-liberal policies without respect to nature and human beings brought the catastrophic situation of 1.02 Billion people. 75% of the hungry people are living in rural areas and peasant farmers are the victims of these policies.

We acknowledge the efforts made by different individuals, leaders, governments and Civil Society Organizations, to visualise food sovereignty in the world. However, much remains to be done as regards youth involvement in the fight for food sovereignty and food security at both national and international levels.

It was clearly noted that young people are always excluded from decision-making bodies and their views are not recognised during the formulation of food policies at all levels. This has not only made them victims of illusive and unrealistic food and agriculture policies influenced by Intergovernmental Organizations, International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and Transnational Corporations (TNCs), but has denied young people the access to and control over land and other food producing resources.

The issue of a lack of agricultural education was raised in the discussions. The topic of agriculture has been dropped from many school curricula and where it exists, it is delivered using narrow formal education methods. We shared examples of non-formal agricultural education that contributes to capacity building in young people.

Recommendations:

- We, the young people, commit ourselves and we recommend that governments and institutions also commit to building awareness among the population about food security and sovereignty. Food sovereignty must be the basis of all policies, regimes and institutions which deal with and decide about agriculture and food production. All the governing mechanisms should ensure a participatory space for vulnerable groups and a democratic system in all decision-making processes that govern food and agriculture. An opportunity should be provided for young people to present their work plans to decision-making bodies so that their needs are taken into account.
- We recognise the progress made by reforming the FAO Committee on Food Security, as defined in the vision of the CFS reform as the international and intergovernmental platform which recognises the right to adequate food. However, we see the necessity to rename the Committee on Food Security of FAO to "Committee for Food Sovereignty" (CFS) as food security describes only a physical situation, such as eating three times a day and does not focus on how is food produced and by whom.
- We ask FAO to ensure the participation of young men and women in all three pillars of the CFS – Policy, Scientific and Financial; and the implementation of monitoring regulations through civil society-coordination mechanism. The new CFS would be empowered to develop, together with young people, a global strategic framework for attaining food sovereignty. We emphasise the importance of governments' commitments to the implementation of the framework and structure of CFS at national, continental and international levels. The CFS structure must ensure that the voices of young people are heard in order to define policies that create their future.
- While strongly supporting the creation of an Advisory Council, we the young people recommend the representation of youth in this Advisory Council as well as in the "participant" space. The High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) should be nominated in consultation with young people.
- We, the young women and men, believe that capacity building must be strengthened for young people in agriculture. We insist on the access to agricultural education in a formal and non-formal way from an early age. Capacity building training at all levels to address the needs of young people, and promoting engagement in sustainable production through agroecological, small-scale and family farming should be supplemented by resource support.

- We consider sustainable agriculture as the priority in order to feed people and thus we demand the access to and control over land and food resources that is often denied to young people. Young women and men demand the right to have our voices heard at the highest level of governments and international agencies. It is crucial that young women and men are mobilised to advocate on the issues that affect them.
- The genuine agrarian reform must recognise the socio-environmental function of land, sea, forests and natural resources in the context of food sovereignty. Food sovereignty implies policies of redistribution, equitable access and control over natural and productive resources (e.g. land, water, seeds, credit and appropriate technology etc.), by young people, women, indigenous people, peasants and other rural communities. Access to and control over land must be achieved through an implementation of the right to land with respect to hereditary inheritance and protection from land grabbing in rural areas.
- We denounce the land grabbing by transnational corporations and rich countries in poor countries that challenges peasants' access to land and threatens their right to food.
- Access to food is extremely important in conflict zones, military invaded and war areas, therefore we demand that our governments and all stakeholders address this issue as soon as possible to reduce the malnutrition, victims of disease and the deaths of women, men and children.
- We denounce the criminalisation of the peasant struggle and Civil Society Organization.
- Due to the exploitation and discrimination of neo-liberal policies young people are distracted from farming and compelled to abandon their profession, which causes the internal and external migration of the young women and men. In view of the sharp decline of interest in agriculture and the migration of young people to cities, we ask FAO to support the development of initiatives and programmes that motivate young women and men to remain in agriculture.
- We call for the Food Provision Periodical Review (FPPR) that will be a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation for each country.
- We recognised the aggravation of food insecurity in the world in 2007 and 2008, accompanied by social mobilizations throughout the world has changed the political situation and has led to a number of new initiatives at global level. We call for a better coordination of all UN institutions linked with food and agriculture as well as their policy coherence. We demand to have long-term sustainable policies for food provision in not only rural areas but also urban areas.
- The provision of good quality food is especially important for young people as they grow and develop. Therefore, we demand the access to good quality food, including increased access to organic and small-scale family farming products, for all people, especially young women and men. Therefore we promote environmentally friendly production which respects the dignity of human beings and meets the needs of local consumers.
- We denounce International Financial Institutions, and transnational corporations that promote the neo-liberal policies and agreements that facilitate the exploitation of peasants, women, indigenous, and young people.
- We demand the right to the unrestricted production of local seeds, adapted to our needs, including the protection of local seeds and support for the creation of seed banks by young people. We also recommend a moratorium on the production of agofuels and GMOs; and support for sector diversification in livestock and crops.
- We ask the UN agencies to assist in developing an alliance between young people, UN agencies and agricultural organizations, as previously facilitated for climate change and biodiversity. Such an alliance would allow the exchange of traditional knowledge and new technologies, development of common initiatives and support for local, national, regional and international efforts.
- FAO should identify and secure financial support to undertake a pilot micro-financing programme to allow young people to start their own agricultural initiatives and develop local projects such as community gardens and seed banks.

Commitments by the young people of the Youth Caucus

- Social movements, including young women and men, in civil society need to be mobilised
- Young people must organise themselves in order to make common demands through a united approach
- Young people will raise awareness of the issues of the right to food and food sovereignty, and advocate on behalf of those affected
- Young people will share their experience of local level capacity building that uses non formal education methods
- Young people will create local seed banks and this action can be promoted through civil society networks