

Statement by Farmers' Major Group by Robynne Anderson

At Closing Session

CSD-18

Mister Chairman,

The Farmers' Major Group has welcomed the discussion, engagement and transparency here. Our sincere thanks to you - the Chair, the Vice Chairs, Bureau and Secretariat.

Progress is needed to accelerate efforts to meet near-term challenges, the longer term MDGs, and beyond. Working together at all levels and fostering private-public sector partnerships is essential to achieving the essential goals of reducing hunger and poverty while increasing sustainability.

A policy framework is necessary to foster a more sustainable approach in the key thematic areas and the overarching issue of sustainable consumption and production. We welcome the opportunity to further :

- The role for farmers in achieving sustainability goals
- Sustainable system management and ecosystem services
- Integrated crop management and best practices
- Supporting scientific research and the sharing of that information through extension services
- Reducing waste of harvests and food
- Use of a corridors approach to transportation
- Establishing risk management and marketing tools for farmers
- Supporting women farmers, including land rights
- The opportunity to use farm organizations to further sustainability goals.

We look forward to working with governments, IGOs and other stakeholders to prepare for fruitful discussions in CSD-19.