

## **Farmers, Food Security and Sovereignty – Interactive Dialogue, 24 June 2015**

This intervention is delivered on behalf of ...

In reviewing the Zero Draft of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, we strongly encourage Member States to maintain the balance and the ambitious character of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, as proposed by the Open Working Group on SDGs (OWG). It is with our collective desire to maintain this balance and level of ambition of the SDGs in mind that we would like to make the following suggestions:

1. In order not to lose the emphasis on sustainability as included in the titles of goals 2 and 12 we strongly urge that all references to food, nutrition and production/productivity in the declaration or chapter 1 of the agenda be preceded by the adjective sustainable or sustainably if only to reinforce the message that business as usual is no longer an option.
2. In order to reference the symbiotic relationship that exists between humans and nature, in particular animals, we would suggest that in para 44 we add the words, **'and all life it sustains'** after **'planet'** to read **'The future of humanity, our planet, and all life it sustains, lies in our hands'**. Similarly we suggest that in para 27 the reference to biodiversity is followed by the qualification **'particularly animals'**.
3. In order to ensure that the poorest and most marginalized are not just seen as people with needs but rather as development actors and change agents in their own right we would suggest that in para 37 we make reference to not just 'all relevant stakeholders' but rather to **'all relevant rights-holders and stakeholders'**.
4. Rural land redistribution and tenure security remain the top agenda of poor farmers, especially in the global South and are vitally linked to their food sovereignty. In order to ensure that the Post-2015 agenda addresses the structural factors that undermine sustainable development for all, particularly as it relates to agriculture, we would argue that the issue of equal rights to land and natural resources be considered as a priority and is reference as such in the declaration, possibly through the inclusion of the following sentence in para 24: **'We will work to ensure secure and equitable tenure rights for women, men, indigenous peoples and local communities, to promote inclusive and human rights-based development paths'**
5. In order to accentuate the integrative nature of the Post-2015 Agenda, and, more specifically the close linkage between goals 2 and 11 we would suggest that a reference to the fact that **'Rural based integrated landscape management approaches are key to sustainable natural resource management and ecosystem services'** be included in para 26 of the Zero Draft
6. Finally, we would also like to stress that the proposed changes to targets 6.6 and 15.1, 15.3 and 15.5 on ecosystems would weaken the level of ambition and not faithfully reflect the CBD's Aichi targets by extending the original timeline from 2020 to 2030.

Thank you very much.