



Bordeaux, France, September 4, 2014

INTERNATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS' MANIFESTO

“To make family farming a solution for the future”

Social, economic and legal recognition of family farmers

While family farmers comprise 40% of the world's active working population, their livelihood is not given due recognition. Its socio-economic and legal recognition at both a national and international level is crucial to achieving world food security and halting the drastic decline in agriculture-related jobs. Such recognition constitutes the basis of any professional commitment. We therefore beseech:

- All governments to accord a meaningful legal status to the farming livelihood in their respective national laws, and to set up specific supports in favour of the family farming.
- The International Labour Organisation (ILO) to integrate a recognition of the livelihood of farming in international labour standards. We request that the International Labour Conference, which creates, adopts and reviews international labour standards, adopt a protocol recognising the livelihood of farming in Convention no 141 on the Organisation of Rural Workers.

The coming together and collective organisation of farmers bolsters the negotiation capacity of young farming men and women. The economic collaboration of producers facilitates agricultural network structures and favours income stability. So as to guarantee the right of collective organisation and negotiation of farmers we demand that governments:

- Promote trade-unions and economic collaboration of producers, so as to strengthen their negotiating leverage and stabilize their incomes,
- Support the creation of cooperatives of young farmers or creation of youth sections in existing cooperatives.
- Promote and support projects that enable farmers to increase value creation on their farms, through innovative and collective tools of production and commercialization.
- An effective and global implementation of the right of collective organisation and negotiation set out in Convention no 98 of the ILO for the entirety of agricultural organisations.

Family Farmers are the main actors in the socio-economic and political dynamic of their areas. The responsibilities that they take on warrant their being involved in the agricultural and commercial policy decision-making process, from the national to the international level. Facing the multiplication of bilateral agreements', and so as to strengthen the position of family farmers, in terms of representation and their ability to proactively contribute to the forging of policies in the political arena, we propose:

- The creation of a mechanism for farmer representation within the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). We therefore urge the FAO to make the CFS a platform for balanced and fair collaboration between those who are lynchpins of food security
- The re-establishment of agricultural ministerial meetings within the G20. At the same time, we advocate the creation of a farmer think tank, the F20, which would contribute to the general orientation of the ministerial meetings.
- The implementation of a representation structure for farmers within the Rapid Response Forum and the Agricultural Market Information System, both created by the G20 and affiliated with the FAO
- To initiate an international young farmers think tank on international trade exchange, in order to propose solutions to stop their negative impacts on the social and economic conditions of farming, to maintain the diversity of products and models of production, the know-how and the incomes safety for all farmers on their territories.

Promote Young Farmers' Installation

While young farmers are central to any discussion on farming modernization, the more general issue of succeeding generation in family farming faces global economic, political and cultural difficulties. Since we believe that young farmer installation on family farming must be a priority, we ask that national agricultural policies:

- Must be supported by education and training programs, representative of the full diversity of national farming practices and duly accredited by obtaining a state-recognized diploma. These programs should allow young farmers to succeed in their professional project, on their farm, within their collective organizations and on their territories.
- Put in place young farmers start up programs, providing financial and technical assistance.
- Promote for young farmers the access to the production means, to the markets, to credit, to continuing education and to technical support.
- Develop awareness and promotional campaigns in relation to the farming livelihood and aimed at both rural and urban young people.
- Guarantee freedom of association and the right to form and organize unions for young farmers, as set out in the Convention no 87 of the ILO, and provide technical and financial support for association of young farmers.
- Promote the setting up of synergies between public and private sectors to support the installation of young farmers.

Nowadays the sustainability and passing down of farm holding are increasingly threatened by the appropriation of the mean of production by external capital. The support of family farming must be guaranteed through aspiring young farmers' accessibility to the means of production. In order to safeguard the access to land and credit we call for:

- Effective implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure, endorsed by the CFS on 2012, within the countries' legislation
- A support to intergenerational cooperation consisting of knowledge transfer, co-operation and support between generations in the form of apprenticeships for young farmers in order to facilitate the renewal of generations in agriculture, as well as land transfers.
- A support to the development of "agricultural banks" and insurance schemes
- A preferential credits system, with real interest rates always below a two-digit number, for the aspiring young farmer who present a viable and livable project. Flexibility must be granted to young farmers in terms of request for an extension of the due date.
- The provision of a system of finance to enable young farmers' to obtain favorable rates on loans. Supranational institutions should provide bank guarantees to young farmers in order to give them the security they need when borrowing from their national bank.

Putting family farmers at the center of territorial development

Family Farmers are simultaneously the main actors of the rural dynamic and the lynchpins of local food security. Given the significant role family farmers plays in the fight against hunger and poverty, we seek to firmly place it at the center of international development programs. We therefore call for:

- The recognition of the key role playing by family farmers in the stewardship of the landscapes and conservation of natural resources.
- The recognition of family farming, within the Sustainable Development Goals, as one of the ways to achieve sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition goals
- The rightful spelling out of the economic, social and political input of family farming in sustainable agriculture, food safety and nutrition guidelines.

Family farming constitutes a repository of, and catalyst for, values such as our ties with place, international relation and sustainability, which are sorely needed to face on-going environmental and climate change challenges. On the above basis, we urge that:

- National and international policies be focus on measures of adaptation to climate change, such as water storage improvement and effective irrigation techniques, implementation of risk management measures, etc.

A lynchpin of territorial food security, family farming faces up to quantitative and qualitative world food challenges. Since most of the world's population is gathered in urban areas, where the population growth will be greatest, it is fundamental that governments:

- Develop synergies between social, economic and agricultural policies in order to implement coherent rural/urban food policies;
- Set up policies to limit the urban sprawl in order to bring a coherent development of rural and urban areas.
- Modernize rural infrastructure and develop countryside's attractiveness, to reduce rural population-drain and to promote well-balanced territorial development.

Signatories Organisations

AFRICA



South Africa
AFASA
African Farmers Association
of South Africa



Algeria
A.H.E.V.L
Association des éleveurs
laitiers de Sétif



Benin
FUPRO
Fédération des Unions de
Producteurs du Bénin



Burkina-Faso
FEPA-B
Fédérations des
Professionnels Agricoles du
Burkina-Faso



Burkina Faso
UCRB
Union Régionale des
Coopératives Rizicoles de
Bama



Cameroon
CONAPROCAM
Confédération Nationale de
Producteurs du Cacao du
Cameroun



Kenya
KENAFF
Kenya National Farmers'
Federation



Madagascar
FIFATA
Fikambanana Fampivoarana
ny Tantsaha



Madagascar
SOA
Réseau Syndical des
Organisations Agricoles de
Madagascar



Madagascar
TTN
Tranobe'ny Tantsaha
Nationale



Mali
CNOP
Coordination Nationale des
Organisations Paysannes du
Mali



Senegal
CNCR
Conseil National de
Concertation et de
Coopération des Ruraux



Tunisia
JA
Association des Jeunes
Agriculteurs



Chad
ATADER
Association Tchadienne des
Acteurs du Développement
Rural

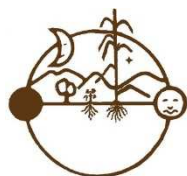
AMERICA



Brazil
FETRAF
 Federação Nacional dos
 Trabalhadores e
 Trabalhadoras Na Agricultura
 Familiar



Chile
CONAGRO
 Confederacion Nacional
 Campesina y Trabajadores del
 Agro



Colombia
Fondo Paez
 Asociacion Fondo Paez



Costa Rica
IICA
 Instituto Interamericano de
 Cooperacion para la
 Agricultura



USA
NFU
 National Farmer Union



Ecuador
CONFEUNASS-CNC
 Confederacion Nacional del
 Seguro Social Campesino



Quebec
FRAQ
 Fédération de la relève
 agricole du Québec



Haiti
Féchan
 Fédération des chambres
 d'agricultures du Nord Haïti



Peru
CNA
 Confederacion Nacional
 Agraria

ASIA



Cambodia
CFAP
 Cambodian Farmers
 Association Federation of
 Agricultural Producers



Cambodia
FAEC
 Farmer Association Promoting
 Family Agricultural Enterprise
 in Cambodia



Philippines
PAKISAMA
 National Confederation of
 Small Farmers and Fishers
 Organizations



Indonesia
WAMTI
 Indonesian Farmer and Fisher
 Organization

EUROPE



Europe
CEJA

European Council of Young Farmers



Germany
BDL

Bunder der Deutschen Landjugend



England
NFYFC

National Federation of Young Farmer Club



Belgium
FJA

Fédération des Jeunes Agriculteurs



France
JA

Jeunes Agriculteurs



Italy
AGIA

Associazione Giovani Imprenditori Agricoli



Kosovo
IADK-K

Initiative pour le Développement Agricole au Kosovo



Walles
NFYFC

National Federation of Young Farmer Club

OCEANIA



Fiji
AgroNet

AgroNet



New Zealand
NZYF

New Zealand Young Farmers