



**FEEDING
THE WORLD,
CARING FOR
THE EARTH**

MANIFEST OF BRASILIA

15 November 2014

INTRODUCTION:

Organizations of women and men family farmers, traditional fishers, shepherds, indigenous communities from the 5 continents, we have all come together in Brasilia the 14th and 15th November, to assess the results and achievements of the IYFF-2014 and to determine what our priority areas of work will be in 2015 and beyond.

After 2 days of dialogue between us and rural NGOs, agricultural researchers, development cooperation agencies, etc.- we have assessed the results of the IYFF-2014, published in a separated document, and approved the following Manifest including our demands and our priorities for the coming years.

We cordially invite all the other farmers' organisations, rural associations, etc. who agree with these six demands, to add their signature to this Manifest.

Demand 1

Every nation must have the right to develop its own local food production managed by women and men members of Family Farming¹. This dynamics towards achieving Food Security and Food Sovereignty must be based on the implementation of sustainable agricultural models, resilient to climate change, such as the agro-ecological model, within the solidarity economy perspective.

The performance of the regional or international financial organisations: among others, the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the World Bank (WB), the bilateral and multilateral trade agreements, and the international corporations, represent a threat to achieve this fundamental right.

The main bodies responsible for the fulfillment of this demand are:

¹ The concept of Family Farming always includes women and men peasants, fishermen, shepherds and indigenous communities.



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- a) National governments, who must implement public policies favorable to family farming, ensuring the fundamental right to sufficient food, in the fight against hunger and malnutrition. These policies must be clearly designed and implemented across national governmental structures that take into account the Civil Society's participation.
- b) The regional integration mechanisms (ASEAN, AU, EU, CELAC, MERCOSUR, CPLP, among others), as well as specialized UN bodies (FAO, IFAD, WFP) must reinforce their proposals in favor of Family Farming in dialogue with the Civil Society, creating suitable mechanisms for it.
- c) Other international institutions, WB, WTO, etc., who must develop economic and financial policies that respect and promote the fundamental rights of family farmers.

Demand 2

Governments must give urgent priority to the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests, which they passed within the Committee on World Food Security (CFS).

These Voluntary Guidelines, in most of the cases, have not been implemented at national level, thus did not serve to protect farmers against the issue of increasing land grabbing by national and foreign investors, against those who till the land.

The inalienable rights of farmers and the political sovereignty of our countries are under threat by the ever-increasing control of multinational companies.

While we demand the urgent implementation of this request from the international institutions and governments, we will increase our advocacy work and political dialogue, especially with the governments involved and FAO' national offices, so that they take the following factors under consideration:

- a) The need to create systems at national level to convert the Voluntary Guidelines into laws, strategies, policies, action plans, ensuring that suitable financial resources are available for these objectives. It will also be imperative to monitor the progress of their implementation, mainly through their respective National Committees.



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- b) Identifying effective ways of publishing the Voluntary Guidelines in local languages.
- c) Ensuring that the design of national programs and international cooperation strategies take these Guidelines into account.

Demand 3

With the aim of strengthening and promoting Family Farming on a global scale, we request the Committee on Food Security (CFS) to design and approve Voluntary Guidelines for Family Farming as soon as possible.

These Voluntary Guidelines will bring about a policy framework that highlights the fundamental requirements in guaranteeing the proper development of Family Farming while urging countries to create public policies that will reinforce its function as a sustainable model for food production.

Demand 4

With the aim of promoting Family Farming, all countries, in particular those which have an important rural population, must sanction a suitable budget for the development of family farming. Agricultural organisations must be consulted throughout these budget discussions in order to guarantee its efficiency and relevance, assuring the effective transparency in the accountability of the responsible institutions.

Taking into account the importance of reinforcing public investments in agriculture, it is essential that development cooperation donors will increase their financial support for family farming.

The international community must also promote a coherent global relationship between these financial efforts in favour of family farming and private investments that may damage the right to food.

While we ask governments and international organisations for the urgent implementation of this request, it is important to increase our political advocacy work and communication with UN offices (FAO, IFAD, WFP, etc.) and other social sectors.



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We must ensure that there are public policies that make it easier for women and men farmers the access to financial resources, through instruments such as national agricultural banks and microcredit institutions, which should be supported by guarantee systems of the State.

Demand 5

To guarantee equality of rights among men and women involved in Family Farming, through women autonomy and specific public policies.

Women who live and work in rural areas are frequently discriminated, even within the family and Civil Society organisations. This is particularly apparent regarding fair access to productive resources like land, water, credit and extension and training services.

We underline the urgency of supporting equality of rights through certain policies and measures that will publically underline the great contribution of women farmers in the production of food and in the fight against hunger and malnutrition.

While we ask governments and international institutions for the urgent implementation of this request, it is essential to increase our advocacy work and political dialogue with Civil Society networks, agricultural and local organisations, trade unions and official bodies (governments, ministries, parliaments, congress), regional and international organisations (FAO, IFAD, WFP, CEDAW, etc.), schools and universities, so as to facilitate a change in mentalities. For this, we must:

- Deepen and expand the concept of gender equality.
- Create an institutional environment for women.
- Create public policies funded by specific budgets.
- Educate/train different stakeholders about gender equality in existing organisations.
- Strengthen women autonomy.
- Promote equal representation amongst men and women through the introduction, for example, of quota systems.



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- Improve the socioeconomic environment for women in order to reinforce their role in society.

Demand 6

It is necessary to approve different public policies that promote the inclusion, integration, incorporation, social, legal and economic recognition of young people within the agricultural sector, as underlined in the Bordeaux Manifest, 4 September 2014, signed by 36 young farmer organisations from the 5 continents. In this way, young farmers are recognised as fundamental actors in rural development. The only way to guarantee that this agricultural work appeals to them is by increasing public support through strategic alliance with other sectors in society.

We decided to treat the subject of youth in agriculture as a high priority, promoting their rural identity, supporting their participation in farmers' organisations and reducing migration from the countryside to the city. It is necessary to promote social organisations for young people by developing local structures who have links to productive and value chains.

While we ask governments and international institutions for the urgent implementation of this request, it is important to increase our advocacy work and political dialogue from the Civil Society, with FAO, IFAD, ILO, national governments and regional integration organisations in order to promote new institutional strategies supporting youth in agriculture. For this, we must promote specific changes and actions, such as:

1. Encourage the integration of young people into farming organisations and supporting their active participation in their structures.
2. Cooperation through the World Consultative Committee-WCC in the creation of a global network of youth organizations belonging to Family Farming.
3. Influence the mass media to broadcast positive messages about agriculture.
4. Make social services available in rural areas.
5. Facilitate access to productive means for young people: land, technology, equipment, credit and markets.



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6. Basic education offered to the children, without breaking up countryside-city links and with suitable incentives to young people's needs and rural employment.

Organisational factors:

With the aim of being as efficient as possible in the implementation of the above-mentioned 6 requests, we have made the following decisions:

1.- Promote the institutionalization of the National Committees of Family Farming according to the legal or organizational form that each of them might decide. We also encourage their creation in other countries, while considering that they have been effective to improve public policies in different countries. National Committees could promote the establishment of sub-national committees.

Thus, we, the family farming organisations gathered in Brasilia, have decided to continue participating and promoting these National Committees. This effort requires the involvement of all sectors of the Civil Society, governments and national offices of specialized international institutions.

It is important to manage the creation of National Committees' networks at regional or continental level in a sustainable way.

2.- We would like to continue working together within a global organisation, just as we have done throughout the IYFF-2014. The World Consultative Committee-WCC must continue as a model in the global movement for family farming, by updating its framework for action, structure, plans and actions according to following the criteria:

- a. Increase and guarantee the representation of National Committees in the WCC through regional representation in each of the 5 continents.
- b. To guarantee the leadership of family farming organisations in the WCC as well as the presence of various sectors, with gender approach and participation of the youth sector.



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c. To continue and to consolidate the process of effective dialogue with governments, international organisations, research centers, regional integration areas and others.

d. As a priority, we would like to continue the ongoing and effective relationship with the FAO and IFAD, taking into account their important contribution to Family Farming in the last few years. We would like to ask both agencies to start the process of designing and approving the Voluntary Guidelines for Family Farming, through the Committee on World Food Security-CFS.

e. Keeping the possibility of organising working groups within the WCC in order to launch specific global campaigns in relation to the decisions included in this Manifest.

f. The World Rural Forum (WRF) will continue acting as Executive Secretary to the WCC.

g. Consolidate and promote the link with the International Organizing Committee of the World Forum on Access to Land and natural resources, WFAL-2016, and develop to the work regarding the Sustainable Development Goals-SDG post-2015. The signatories of this Manifest commit themselves to continue working in favor of a strong presence of the concept of Family Farming amongst the SDG objectives and indicators. Once they are approved, they should be concretized through public policies as well as plans, programs and national projects, with the effective participation of the National Committees in their implementation and evaluation.

3. In conclusion, we would like to implement the initiatives and campaigns indicated in this Manifest within a plan of action to be carried out as part of a Decade of Family Farming, beginning in 2015.

Brasilia, Brasil, 15th November 2014



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LIST OF SIGNATORIES

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Mr. Nathanael Buka Mupungu	Porte-parole National. COPACO. République Démocratique du Congo
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WITH THE SUPPORT OF

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Meeting organized by the World Rural Forum, coordinator of the Civil Society IYFF-2014, with the support of the Ministry of Agrarian Development of Brazil (MDA), CONTAG, FAO, Oxfam and Action Aid.



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