



International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty

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IPC statement on the draft Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security 2009

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The International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty has had access to the latest draft of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security. We would like to alert governments that we, social movements and civil society, will react strongly to a Declaration that does not clearly build on the advances that were accomplished during the process of discussion on the revitalization of the CFS and are reflected in the final reform document.

We strongly reaffirm our understanding that, in order to effectively fight hunger and malnutrition, States must:

a. Clearly identify the **promotion and protection of the right to adequate food**, as proposed in the Voluntary Guidelines and reflected in the Vision of the revitalized CFS, as the overarching principle of the Declaration. Failure to do so would be considered a serious regression as compared with the two previous summits and the final documents they adopted.

b. **Recognize the central role of the CFS** as the relevant multilateral space to co ordinate and promote strategic policy coherence and commitment.

c. Assume the **responsibility of globally coordinating** their policies and actions, mainly through the CFS. Such coordination should serve, on the one hand, to provide support for participatory country-led processes aimed at enhancing the capacity of peasant and small-scale producers to produce food for local and regional markets – through technical, financial and policy measures - and, on the other, to establish a global strategic framework that provides national governments with insights for the development of their national action plans and impedes the implementation of policies, activities or programs which destroy livelihoods and further hinder access to natural and productive resources on the part of those most affected by hunger.

d. Recognize that fighting hunger and malnutrition requires much more than increased investments in agriculture. It is necessary to **support modes of agricultural and food production** that promote social inclusion of the most affected, sustainability and the reduction of the impact of industrial agriculture on climate change.

e. Recognize the **central role of small-scale food producers and providers**, with special attention to women, as well as that of other groups affected by hunger, in discussing and identifying proposals and in implementing food security and nutrition policies and programs, since they are not only victims of hunger but also an important part of the solution;

f. Recognize the **Right to Food** as a relevant operational guide and as the third track in principle 3 of the Declaration

Governments must demonstrate to the peoples of the world that they are supporting real changes in the approach to hunger and malnutrition and their root causes and are willing to go beyond business as usual. The above points are the minimum that civil society would expect as an indication of this commitment. It is not only a question of demonstration of political will, but a political must.