

GA Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals

Third Session 22-24 May 2013

Food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture, desertification, land degradation

Intervention by the NGO Subcommittee for the Eradication of Poverty

during the one-hour hearing with Major Groups and other stakeholders

on 22nd May 2013, 9-10 a.m. Conference Room 3, Conference Buildings, UN Headquarters, New York

The NGO subcommittee for the Eradication of Poverty, representing 26 member organisations whose constituencies are spread across the world strongly recommend 4 priorities under the theme in discussion;

One: Investing in Sustainable Agriculture. We heard Mr. Jomo during the last OWG session, stating that for the past two decades, governments have reduced their role in agriculture; there has been less government investment, less support for food agriculture, less research and less food price control.

Therefore, investing in sustainable agriculture with special consideration of the smallholder farmers, in particular women and with their participation, must be a priority in the formulation of sustainable development goals

Two: Food security- is also about ensuring access to adequate and nutritious food for every member of the household. The Technical Support Team issue brief on sustainable agriculture has stated that 870 million people go hungry.

Therefore the implementation of the recently adopted ILO Recommendation 202 on National Floors for Social Protection must be considered as a priority among the development agenda, so as to increase the resilience of people living in poverty. We also support the establishment of a global fund for social protection floor to support the national capacity

Three: Climate change- We call for a paradigm shift which would place Planet Earth boundaries at the heart of economic growth. ***Efforts to curb climate change and transition societies away from the industrial agricultural model to an ecologically based agriculture that respects both Earth rights and Human rights must be guiding principles in the formation of sustainable development goals along with further strengthening of the implementation of 10Year Framework of Programme on sustainable consumption and production.***

Four: Responsibility and Accountability- The world leaders in Rio Conference 2012 supported national regulatory and policy frameworks that enable business and industry to advance sustainable development initiatives. Taking into consideration the increased role of multinational corporations in development, we recommend strongly for the establishment of ***a legally binding International Regulatory Framework for Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility and Accountability which will result in addressing the issues that perpetuate poverty- such as: over-fishing, use of GMO, agricultural subsidies in developed countries, bio fuel, deforestation, farmland loss through land grabbing, mining, fracking and environmental degradation.***

I thank you for this opportunity

Link to webcast: <http://webtv.un.org/watch/co-chair-meeting-open-working-group-on-sustainable-development-goals-third-session-22-may-2013/2401937923001/>