

ANGOLA

SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY PAULO ANTONIO KASSOMA PRIMER MINISTER OF REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE WORLD SUMMIT OF HEAD OF STATES AND GOVERNMENT ON FOOD SECURITY, ROME, 16TH NOVEMBER 2009.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

On behalf of the Angolan government and his president Eng. José Eduardo dos Santos I would like to salute all participants attending this World Food summit on food security.

The reason that all of us are joined in this city which clearly symbolize the very beginning of our current civilization it is so noble and unpostponeable pressing – the reduction by half the hunger and poverty by 2015 and its full eradication from the earth planet as earliest as possible.

To achieve this ambition we can not continue to take remedial measures and limited scope, because in this right moment more than one billion people suffer from severe food shortages and they are condemned to fight daily for their own survival.

Most of these people live in the developing countries, particularly in the continent of which by tragic irony is rightly regarded as the cradle of humanity

Commitments made so far by the highest representatives of countries in the international community, and embodied in agreements and declarations of principles and intentions and reaffirmed formally at High-level Conference held in this city in June last year, it has been insufficient to reverse this tragic situation.

Aggravating the already precariously instruments embodiment of these commitments, has settled in these last two years a severe international

economic and financial crisis, which by chance only now is starting to show a little way out.

From this regard, it is urgent to take vigorous, thoughtful and Livihoods not only to minimize the negative impact of current economic and financial crisis on the world food security, but also to adopt a more coherent and effective governance on the global food security, based on science and technical and an intergovernmental for a high-level decision-making.

It is also important to undertake more and depth studies on the real impact of climate change on agriculture and food security in order to prevent or mitigate its effects and should also be analyzed the financial requirements to suit the challenges of agriculture on today's world.

This summit should also focus on the need for technology transfer, mobilizing financial resources and the policy-setting systems to support the maintenance and growth of productive capacity land both in a developed and developing countries.

Angola considers the agricultural sector as that through which we can more quickly achieve a sustainable economic diversification, a rapid growth and hunger and poverty reduction, thereby ensuring food security.

For this regard, Angola has already internally adopted a strategic policy for an immediate execution on medium and long term, based on its government program for the agrarian sector; in the vast program of agricultural development in Africa (CPAD;) in a Sirte Declaration on the Challenges of implementation of an integrated and sustainable development in agriculture and water in Africa; the two summits in Abuja in 2006, one on fertilizer and other one on food security; and even the recent Summit of Heads of States and Government of the African Union held in Egypt.

Our national strategy for food security and nutrition for the years 2009 - 2014 is therefore as specific objectives:

1. To increase and diversify agricultural - livestock production and fisheries in order to improve the sustainable level of food supply and living conditions;
2. To ensure the availability, stability and sustainability of food supply, promoting linkages between areas of surplus and the greater purchasing power in order to restore local market;

3. To improve the conditions of access to food by ensuring social protection, especially for disadvantaged groups;
4. To reduce a levels of malnutrition of the population by improving the conditions of access to food, to the primary health care, education and sanitation;
5. To ensure the health safety, food quality and potable water to protect the consumer and public health;
6. To create and implementing national local systems for early warning, monitoring systems for food safety and nutrition, as well as the communication mechanisms and information to families;
7. To create a platform for an intersectoral to coordinate the policies and actions on food and nutrition security with the participation of the civil society.

To implement this strategy was created a practical tool, the Action Plan for Food Security, which defines the concrete actions to fulfil the stated preconceived objectives.

Thus, from this we are contributing so that every Angolans have at all time availability of food quality and adequate variety and physical and economic access to referred food to contribute to the human development, economic and social development of the country.

Excellencies

I hope, beyond the positive, coherent and technical diagnostic of different aspects on food security at global bases this summit should come into conclusion of a multidimensional optical to undertaking measures to reinforce the World Food Security and to find out the best solutions to the problems that all of us are facing.

This is the only way we could start giving firm steps in order to ensure what we expect in this Summit, that means a broad consensus on the total eradication of world hunger and the supply of sufficient, nutritious and safe food, for the growing world population assumed will be more than 9 billion individuals in 2050

What we do today depends therefore the future of our children and future generations.

This is the commitment that we personally have once more to take and deal with and trying our best to materialize, which makes us responsible for the permanence and continuity of our people and countries and even of our civilization

On the framework of its commitments, the Republic of Angola has committed itself to organize the 26th Regional Conference of World Food Organization on Mai 2010. The Angolan Government reiterate this challenge which will be once more a catalyser element on the common fight against hunger and poverty, by which we hope the support of all the counties members of this important organization on the our people lives.

Thank you very much!