

Hon. Lucio Stanca

FAO WORLD SUMMIT ON FOOD SECURITY

**Presentation on the outcome of the
Private Sector Forum to Reduce Food Insecurity**

Rome, 18 November 2009, ore 11.30

FAO HQs, via delle Terme di Caracalla 1

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTION

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As **CEO of Expo 2015**, the company in charge of organizing and managing the **2015 World Exhibition in Milan** - whose theme is “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life” - it is my pleasure to report to you on the **outcome** of the **Private Sector Forum to Reduce Food Insecurity**, held last week as a pre-summit event to this Summit and supported by Expo as a very concrete sign of our commitment.

In the final statement by the Forum – the **Carta di Milano** [Charter of Milan] – representatives of the private sector expressed their **engagement on food and nutritional security**.

The Carta di Milano is **at once a declaration of intention** and a **programmatic document** that **affirms the vigorous commitment** by the private sector to be an **integral part of the solution to food insecurity**.

To this effect, the Charter remarks that [and I quote] “the **most effective** way for the private sector to make its contributions is **as part of an integrated, long term strategic** approach that involves national governments, international institutions, development agencies and food chain partners” [end of quote].

The full text of the Charter will be annexed to the Report of the Summit. In the interest of time, let me briefly report on its core content.

CARTA DI MILANO

The Carta di Milano covers four main areas, which are:

- 1) Issues related to **productivity** and **efficiency** in achieving food security;
- 2) Issues related to **ensuring sustainability**;
- 3) Issues related to **food value chains** and **business practices**; and
- 4) Issues related to **partnerships** and **enabling policies**

In relation to **productivity** and **efficiency**, the statement highlights the **roles** of farmers, smallholders, supply companies and consumers as well as the importance of **farming techniques**, **supplying mechanisms** and **waste reduction** on the way from the farmer to the consumer.

In relation to **sustainability**, the Carta di Milano **calls** on governments and other development partners to ensure that sustainability is established as **one of the main goals** of agricultural development assistance programs.

With respect to **business practices**, it states our commitment to increase the emphasis on **sustainable food value chains** as element of **core** business strategies, particularly in developing countries.

In relation to **partnerships** and **enabling policies**, the Charter remarks that any initiative by the private sector can **only** be effective **within a broad strategy** that brings together all stakeholders.

For Expo Milan 2015 building effective partnerships to achieve common goals is a core value. I am glad to report that the Carta di Milano **calls on Expo 2015** as an **important platform** to promote, coordinate and facilitate global and local actions leading to improved food and nutritional security [together with FAO, IFAD and WFP, food industry federations, and the World Economic Forum].

In being such a platform, Expo wants to offer a very practical **contribution** to the achievement of the **United Nations Millennium Development Goals** - whose

deadline is precisely 2015 - as well as to the implementation of the Declaration on food security expressed by the G8 in L'Aquila, last July.

CONCLUSION

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, the companies of the private sector subscribing the Carta di Milano, are **action-oriented** and **committed** to translate the good intentions expressed during this Summit into **concrete actions** and **timelines** for implementation.

In doing our part, Expo 2015 will continue supporting the partnership launched at the Private Sector Forum by organizing **yearly follow-up events on the implementation of the Carta di Milano**. In order to guarantee their success, we will closely work with entrepreneurs and their organisations worldwide.

Expo 2015 represents the occasion of a **meaningful world gathering** as well as the **opportunity** to set up a process of **value creation** on *Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life* for the **entire world**. This is an opportunity that **cannot be missed**

In this spirit, we are building **close partnerships** with key actors. We are working to facilitate the contribution by the private sector. We are establishing fruitful relations with the United Nations and other multilateral organisations.

I am happy to remark that with FAO Expo has signed last week a **Memorandum of Understanding**, which launches a **long-lasting collaboration** and is already bearing fruit, as shown by the contribution by the Carta di Milano to this important Summit.

Thank you.