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Draft to be submitted to the Resolutions Committee of the 37th FAO Conference.

RESOLUTION xxx/2011
International Year of Family Farming

THE CONFERENCE,

Noting that family farming is the basis of sustainable food production aimed towards food security,

Recalling that more than 3 billion people live in the countryside and that 2.5 billion of these women and men are farmers,

Desiring to focus world attention on the role that family farming could play in providing food security and poverty alleviation of the population,

Believing that family farming is much more than an agrarian economic model: it is the nuclear unit for environmental management of land and its biodiversity, the fountain of important cultural dimensions of each people and, all things considered, a fundamental pillar of the integral development of all nations.

Recognizing that the progressive deterioration in farming income and its effects on rural economies is causing the disappearance of many family farms due to the migrations to the cities.

Believing also that such a celebration would create a unique opportunity to develop means, which would assure in the medium and long term, a prosperous and sustainable family agriculture development in the rural and fishing areas on all the continents, especially, in the developing countries.

Affirming the need to heighten public awareness on the interrelationship between family farming, poverty, food security, and nutrition,

Requests the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the United Nations declare the Year ~~2015~~ as The International Year of Family Farming.

2014

(Adopted on xx June 2011)

International Year of Family Farming

During the 37th FAO Conference, the Philippines would like to sponsor a Resolution on International Year of Family Farming in the Resolutions Committee..

This is a request and initiative by the World Rural Forum.

The Philippines, together with Pakistan, supports this proposal. It also has support from Switzerland, Uganda and Belize, El Salvador, and Peru.

I would like to request your support and if you support it, please say so in your country statement.

The breakdown of the analysed IYFF objectives is as follows:

1. To promote, at all levels, active policies in favour of the sustainable development of family agriculture, including fishing, demanding the adoption on the governments and international institutions of concrete and operative means and strategies by establishing and implementing adequate policies, making the necessary financial allocation for these ends.
2. To strengthen the legitimacy of rural associations and farmers and fisherfolks organizations to represent the interests of family farming, making possible that their propositions and demands could be included in the agrarian policies.

3. To increase the awareness on the part of civil society and all social agents of the decisive role of family agriculture in the sustainable production of food and in the conservation of the ecosystem and biodiversity.

4. To achieve recognition of the role of women in family farming and to make possible the implementation of their specific rights in this matter.

5. To reduce/minimise the migration of small agricultural producers, fisherfolk and indigenous communities to the cities, for reasons allied to rural poverty by bringing about policies in favour of rural youth, and agricultural and rural employment.

6. To advocate and defend the international commerce of food products -subsidiary to local and regional markets-, based on the rules that encourage rural development and food security and food sovereignty in all countries, stop speculation, and promote equal access to markets and the protection of family farming in all the continents, - with special attention to developing countries- against dumping and subsidised food imports.

7. To promote the different forms of research and technology, including the acknowledgement and promotion of local know how, linked to sustainable rural development endowed with the necessary human and financial resources to achieve their end and to apply their results and advances to that purpose.