

Mr Indroyono SOESILO (Indonesian Candidate for DIRECTOR-GENERAL)

First of all, I would like to thank and appreciate FAO and its Council Members for giving me the opportunity to embark into leadership challenges for the coming year.

Let me begin to present to you two main issues which are of our interest and of our concern for the coming years. First, we are talking about food security and how to provide food available for all the global populations. Second, how can we answer this challenge through reformed FAO in the coming years also?

First, we know the world still has so many people living in hunger and malnutrition. The numbers, more than 900 million people in the world in this area. In the meantime, the global resources of food, energy and water are getting fewer and scarcer. We are also now living the conditions of climate change, global warming, melting ice, climate variability which brings impact also on the global food production.

We are now have to fit to a six billion population and will be a nine billion population by the year 2050. We have to find a way together to make food available, accessible, at an affordable price and, of course, safe to be consumed.

We are talking about food availability, we are talking about strengthening the food securities and trying to increase food production, through land allocations, providing primary seeds which can adapt to climate change conditions, fertilizers and also bringing appropriate technologies and also technical know-how and local wisdom owned by all of us, the FAO member countries.

I would like to touch also, to bring the fisheries issues into the food security issues. We have to bring the fishery sector into the main stream of food productions and food securities in the years to come. This means controlling capture fisheries, developing aquacultures both fresh water and marine aquaculture and, last but not least, also conducting fishery food product processing and the cold chain system.

To increase food productions, to make food available to all of us, please also consider our capabilities to manage the global forest resources. Good forest resource management with good and better water resources management which will imply, later on, on the good food productions of the world.

Once we have the capability of providing food and make available for all of us, we have to go into second issues related to accessibility. In the past, when we talked about food accessibilities, we are talking about domestic issues, some areas have surplus, some have shortages and we have to increase cohesion on the domestic food accessibilities. In the meantime, there is also global food accessibility and in some regions they have a surplus, other regions have shortages.

In the arena of global food accessibilities, we are talking about international food trade. And in general, when we talk about international food trade please let us follow free, fair and

balance trade policies in order that each government has the mandate to set the policies that actively will be conducted by the private sectors and implemented also by the private sectors.

In the meantime, trade I am really looking forward that all investment policies should follow the domestic investment policies in all domestic investment policies on food accessibilities you have to put in it also human resources development, capacity building and technology transfer.

Once food is already accessible to all of us, we go into affordability. Food access should be affordable for all the global population. We talk about food affordability; we are talking about poverty eradication. Less poverty means more food affordability. This is also following the mandate of MDG Number 1, to reduce poverty of the global population. We have to introduce the Poverty Eradication Program to three pillars.

Pillar Number 1: direct assistance, providing food for the poor, providing healthcare for the poor, providing education for the poor and as a realistic situation give them fish so that they can survive.

Once they are able to survive we go to the Pillar Number two: empowerment and development. Let them work together, empower themselves so that they can move above the poverty line. When they are already above the poverty line they go into Pillar Number three, introduce to them small and macro entrepreneurship towards small and microcredits and to small and micro food enterprises.

By doing all of this, we should be able to reduce the number of people under the poverty line that means less poverty more food affordability.

When we have food accessible and also affordable, food to be consumed must be safe. I am very happy to learn that the FAO and the WHO already set up Codex Alimentarius which is setting codifications and standardizations of the global food resources. I am looking forward also that in the coming years many of our member countries will start to present and to initiate food codes and standards so all of the products of the global food products can be absorbed by all of us, people of the world.

I am also looking forward to the initial draft of the Codex on Food Standards and Codes can be initiated by the developing world and later on be assisted with the technology coming from the developed countries. There should be a partnership going hand in hand in this arena.

Once we are able to provide food for all of the global populations, we can do it through the Reform of FAO. I am very happy to acknowledge the current administration of conducting the Reform in this Organization including the "Reform with Growth", the IPA, the implementation of the Independent Plan of Action, now being implemented, I am looking forward to having good results of this.

We are looking forward to having FAO agile, transparent, decentralized, effective and efficient organizations in the future.

Decentralizing all the projects and the programmes most of which should be implemented in the field in the member countries and also in the regions, while here, in Rome, mostly they are doing global policy setting, resource allocations, conducting technology assessment, knowledge assessment and also conducting evaluation and monitoring.

I would like to propose that all of the projects in the field in the member countries should have a knowledge component, coming from the knowledge group here at the Organization. At the same time, I am also looking forward to all of the projects and programmes in the field to work together with a knowledge Organization in the centre of excellence in the countries in order to make the projects sustainable.

For those other countries with no knowledge Organizations, we have to ensure a capacity building component and also a training component into the projects. This is also to ensure that the project later on will be sustainable.

In doing the Reform I think there would be human resources allocation and resource repositioning because some of those will go to the field and we should be ready to have this constituting as a knowledge organization it has to be moving up.

Here, in Rome, FAO is the only Organization for Food, Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry and Natural Resources Management and we have to strengthen our database, we should continue the data inventories because, as a knowledge Organization, we should be able to answer any challenges occurring in the world related to Food, Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry and Natural Resources Management.

Linked to that, I would also like to touch the good management between headquarters down to the region, down to the country and down to the field. For these activities, FAO should be backed with a strong information technology, monitoring and evaluation, assessment and information coming from the top here in Rome down to the field to do it fast and easy.

Of course, in doing this, there should be cultural change. Knowing the Organization as a knowledge-organization, the characteristics of knowledge-organizations as I was working in this kind of arena for twenty years, they are ready to adapt and ready to go for change. So I think we can do it harmoniously in the coming years and by then we are all going to see an Organization which is very modern in this 21st Century.

Let me talk about the three Rome-based Organizations FAO, WFP and IFAD. We know that each of those organizations have a distinct mandate. We should continue to work together on partnership; we should work together, working within each mandate, to bring about together and reduce the number of hungry people in the world and to strengthen the global food securities.

The CFS, the Committee on Food Security which is joined by these three organizations in Rome in the future to coordinate the programme of these three Rome-based Organizations, should be enhanced and strengthened in the coming year.

Those are some of the issues and missions that I have just presented to you.

For the conclusions, I would like to invite all of you, together with me, to embark on a noble journey of eradicating hunger and malnutrition of our global population in the shortest times possible.

In the meantime, let us, hand in hand, working together to strengthen the global food securities, to provide food available to all of us, accessible and at affordable price and food to be consumed is safe.

FAO is the knowledge Organization on Food, Agricultures, Fisheries, Forestry and Natural Resources Management, yes, they can answer this challenge for the years to come.

With the Reformed FAO as an efficient and effective organization, with a new and fresh leadership, yes, we can answer these challenges to reduce the hungry people in the world and it certainly is possible with all of us working together.