



## **WOMEN LEADERS' DIALOGUE ON INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE**

**Organized by WOCAN and the Network of Women Ministers and Leaders in Agriculture  
Side Event during the 36<sup>th</sup> Committee on World Food Security, FAO  
October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
12.30-14.00 Venue: Malaysia Room**

WOCAN's mission is to build leadership and gender equality in agriculture and natural resources management by partnering with motivated professional and rural women. The WOCAN-led Network of Women Ministers and Leaders in Agriculture creates a high-level space to address the critical role of women producers and entrepreneurs in policy directives and implementation strategies. The focus of the Women Leaders' Dialogue on Investment in Agriculture is to review what kinds of investment will best serve rural women, food security and agriculture overall. Acknowledging the fact that women are the majority of small-holder producers in many developing countries, investment must be designed to improve their livelihoods and their well-being, drawing from their knowledge and their leadership.

### **The Content**

Recommendations for responsible agricultural investment that will prioritize food security, protect land rights and ecosystems, improve access for women farmers and food producers and reduce vulnerability and risk in markets. Input on the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land and Other Natural Resources as well as the proposed Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment.

### **Expected Outcomes**

1. Preliminary understanding of what kind of investment is needed for rural women;
2. Women's input on the Voluntary Guidelines as well as the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment
3. Recommendations to governments;
4. Ways to promote policy convergence, coherence and joint action; and
5. Guidance to relevant institutions on how to play a facilitating role.

### **The Way Forward**

Policy makers will identify specific opportunities in the CFS and follow-up mechanisms to further the outcomes of the Women Leaders' Dialogue.

### **The Format**

In line with the official CFS process, this dialogue will take the form of a round table. A select group of speakers from the Network of Women Ministers and Leaders in Agriculture, including members of government, UN agencies, smallholder woman producers and woman entrepreneurs will offer short interventions followed by discussion. .