ANGOLA

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HIS EXCELLENCY MR. PRESIDENT,
HER EXCELLENCY MRS. GENERAL DIRECTOR OF WHO,
HIS EXCELLENCY MR. GENERAL DIRECTOR OF FAO,
DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

First, I would like to submit you the greetings of His Excellency Eng. José Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola.

I would like also to congratulate the FAO and the WHO, for the noble initiative they had in organizing this Second International Conference on Nutrition.

In 1992, has taken place, in this room, the First International Conference on Nutrition.

It has been 22 years. At the time, about 840 Million people around the world were undernourished. In a lot of countries, the scenario was so catastrophic, that they depended on international food aid.

Today, a lot of countries, which at the time faced a situation of severe food insecurity, have managed to reduce significantly the number of people undernourished.

Angola is among the countries that managed to reduce the number of people undernourished, and has already reached the Goal One of the Millennium Development Goals.

In 1990/92, 63,3% of the population, or 6.800.000 persons, were undernourished;

In 2014, 18% of the population could be found in situation of food insecurity.

These results confirm the commitment of the Angolan Government, led by His Excellency Eng. José Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic, to eradicate hunger in our country.

Similarly, the Angolan Government has been providing his support to other African countries in the fight against hunger and poverty.

This event takes place in the year that the United Nations Organization has proclaimed 2014 as International Year of the Family Farming, and the African Union pronounced 2014 as Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa.

For this reason, it is fair to acknowledge the decisive contribution of Family Farming to the food and nutrition security of our countries.

This acknowledgment must translate into a systematic and continued support to small farmers and fishers for credits, technology and market insertion, valorizing their products, among other aspects.

My Government and the Angolan society have been providing assistance to Family Farming and small scale fishing, in various domains such as technical assistance, rural extension, formation and information, commercialization and credit.

We are equally dedicating a special attention to nutritional aspects, with the execution of various programs, namely, breastfeeding, salt iodization, food fortification, deworming of children, school feeding, among others.

Climate change and changes in diets remain a major challenge for our countries, governments and organizations.

We must therefore continue to seek the best agricultural systems capable of preserving the environment and ensuring safe food to the population, for the right price and in a sustainable manner.

For that matter, it is important that scientific and technological knowledge be shared, and its transfer to countries with low incomes and food deficit be done in a less costly way.

We encourage, in this sense, the increase of the South-South Cooperation, by sharing experiences and knowledge.

My Government support the Declaration of Rome on Nutrition, and reiterates its commitment to implement its respective action plan, according to its capabilities.

Today, we have all the means to guarantee the population of the planet, a balanced and healthy diet. Therefore, we must work to ensure that the recommendations of this Conference can be materialized.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION