

The WFD 2008 underlines the effects of climate change and bioenergies

The FIMARC is pleased to join the groups, associations, countries and international organizations that celebrate the World Food Day on October 16th. This day, which underlines the effects of climate change and bioenergies, comes just at the right moment to denounce some abusive practices in the "big" production and notably in the production of agrofuels and to demand people's food sovereignty.

We share the analysis of Mr. Alexander Meller, the FAO Deputy General Director, who underlines the urgency to have adaptation strategies for poor countries, which are the most vulnerable to these climate changes when they have not much contributed much to the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Nevertheless, at the same time, we wish the affected entities adopt measures to strongly reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases, especially rich countries, in order to avoid the implementation of programs that would be of absolutely no use.

Many analyses agree that it is urgent to radically change our ways of life and production modes. It is especially true in developed and emerging countries. Climate changes, which are now proven, are only tangible manifestations of the serious damage caused to our planet.

The production of agrofuels, which some people call necrofuels, fosters the destruction of biodiversity, a frenzied consumption of water, fertilizers and different inputs that are only used for intensive monocrops and to achieve results that are far from being convincing, at least for the poorest populations.

For the FIMARC and its member movements, it is urgent to act, to make our demands known in the field of the right to food, its realization in the framework of food sovereignty and the choice of solidarity economy systems that could meet people's fundamental rights (right to land, to a healthy environment, health, decent working conditions...).

We urge the FAO Committee on global food safety, currently gathered at the FAO headquarters, to assess food security and nutrition trends, to seriously and consciously examine the damage caused by the excess of monocrops, by the environmental damage caused by climate changes and to prepare firm recommendations for decision-making bodies that could slow down or put an end to these practices.

Convinced of the support we can get from the FAO, the FIMARC is committed to disseminating and implementing all measures taken in favor of changes that rural people could benefit from.

Assesse, October 2008