

## WOCAN STATEMENT

### Rural Women and the MDGs

Side Event of Un Women, FAO, IFAD, WFP

15 October 2012

Thank you and congratulations to the UN Agencies for the collective effort in putting this important side event together. I believe that we have already achieved a great deal as seen in their joint program, including getting women voices heard but a lot has still to be done.

Rural women play a very vital role in MDG Goal 7 of ensuring environmental sustainability. I would like to focus on women's participation in decision making in agriculture and climate change. I could not but fully agree that institutional change and flexibility in the inclusion of women and girls in decision making could address an effective and viable implementation of food security especially in a changing climate. WOCAN would therefore like to use this occasion for all stake holders to endorse in the Policy Roundtable on Food Security and Climate Change decision box item 2, e, the second bullet point, to support CSO especially the small-scale producers organizations and women farmer's organizations, to fully and actively participate in decision making and the implementation of food security policies and programs to address climate change. As WOCAN says "CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE IS 'SMARTER' WHEN INFORMED BY A GENDER PERSPECTIVE.