



I. FIMARC

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Annual Report 2016

Dear Friends,

In this Annual Report **FIMARC** will provide a topline overview of the major global and continental actions and interventions undertaken by the movement in 2016. Last year indeed marked with the tremendous engagements of FIMARC to the fight for Food Sovereignty, Rights of Peasants and the promotion of Agro ecology and family farming.

As you will read, FIMARC moved further towards “**people- led**” **campaigning**, engaging and working alongside others to make change in their own situations. More and more we are also focusing our attention on what the root causes of issues are so that we can design our campaigns to tackle what is creating the problems in the first place, or holding back the solutions. Our objective is to built a strong model that enables grassroots-led coalitions and campaigns to influence the fight for justice, rights,gender equality, at both national and global levels. Together, with our supporters, donors and Alliance members, we are truly trying to change the way development is being done, and ensuring farmers and rural people take their due place in decision-making spaces.

Economy of exclusion, the growing impacts of climate change, the marginalization of women, the lack of educational opportunities, the unfettered exploitation of natural resources, and policies that do not place the poor and most vulnerable at the centre, if at all. These issues can be only addressed collectively. At a time when the risk of the poor becoming poorer seems to be increasing exponentially, the work of FIMARC and its membership in challenging the structures that perpetuate poverty is of immense relevance and importance.

FIMARC, we have always believed that lasting change rises from the resistance and alternatives build with the grass root movements. We do believe in the power and necessity of movements around the world to transform policies, practices and power relationships to ones based on sustainability, equity, resource rights, and justice.

We accomplished so much together in 2016! With your partnership, FIMARC facilitated powerful exchanges among diverse communities working for global justice, deepened and expanded our advocacy network in Rome, Geneva and Paris, and stood in solidarity with peasant rights leaders facing tremendous dangers.

We know that when people who are the most affected by problems organize in dynamic movements, they will devise the most effective and sustainable solutions and responses to the challenges posed, including the climate

change. And we know that truly sustainable solutions to climate change must change exploitative systems and build just alternatives, from the ground up.

During the last year we have strengthened our work with various political actions, representation, trainings as well as networking and lobbying and had a significant impact at various policy making institutions. Our actions were aimed to create solidarity among the people to fight for their rights and to resist all the systems that marginalize the rural communities and other vulnerable groups.

Our world Food Day campaign activities, mobilised the national movements to take up some small but concrete actions related to food security and poverty eradication on the ground. Our effort in promoting and fostering family farming and agro ecology has been advanced in different continents.

We delivered powerful messages to decision-makers at the UN and governments, ensuring that grassroots voices were heard. We have made more coordinated efforts to ensure established alliances and networks to build pressure for structural change. We were able to bring the voice of the farmers and rural people from both South and North to different policy debates such as in the UN process for the rights of peasants and in the processes related to food and agricultural governance.

FIMARC supports the communities and social movements on the frontlines of leading the transition from the extractive economy to sustainable local, living, and linked economies, particularly those led by rural people, small farmers, Indigenous Peoples.

As usual, FIMARC grass root movements provides training and awareness in sustainable agriculture practices. Encouraging seed savings and to value local knowledge. FIMARC movements are involved with their grass root groups in their local resistance against exploitations of rural resources. We really wanted to strengthen this twin tract approach of building alternatives and resistance to fight against the injustices that we face and be the actors of change both individually and collectively.

FIMARC will strengthen our global campaign at different levels on the UN Process for the declaration of rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas and will advance our campaign on family farming and agro ecology in the year to come. We are ready to keep fighting and to keep standing up for rights of farmers rural people. We do this work together as part of a vocal and committed global movement. Together, we are stronger.. When we combine our voices we can **speak truth to power with more volume and more courage than ever before.**

I thank my fellow Bureau and Exco members for their commitment and our volunteer teams at different levels for the commendable work during 2016. The Development Partners who financed our programmes are highly appreciated and I hope that we have done worth to the real value of money. The achievements detailed in this report are a collective effort of many actors especially our own members.

We thank them all. Last year FIMARC had a great loss Baek Nam-gi, the vice chair and peasant leader from South Korean Movement CCFM, who was shot by police's water cannon on 14 November 2015 during his protest calling for just rice price. Even though our **hero laid to rest, we will continue our struggle for justice.** Thank you for being part of this work. Together, we are working to make 2017 a year of spirited resistance and transformative movement building!

Assesse, Belgium-June2016

Composition of the Exco of FIMARC 2014-2018

President	Wolfgang Scharl (Germany)
Treasurer	Jean Claude Germon (France)
Secretary General	George Dixon Fernandez (India)
Chaplain	Fr. Tomas Sphangero (Argentina)
Delegates	Medard Meyanga Ayong (Cameroun) - Coordinator Africa Elizabeth Kibuywa (Kenya) - Coordinator Africa Manuel Moran (El Salvadore) - Coordinator Latin America Modesta Arevalos Ortiz (Paraguay) - Coordinator Latin America Philip Biswas (Bangladesh) - Coordinator Asia Rony Joseph (India) - Coordinator Asia Nady Abdelsayed Khalil (Egypt) - Invited member from Middle East

Global objectives and working lines of FIMARC

The global objective: keeping rural populations in their living environment, enabling them to live a dignified life.

The overall goal of all the activities of FIMARC is to foster sustainable rural development and peasant based agriculture by promoting and creating a lively rural world. Our activities also aim for the creation of sustainable society and to promote a comprehensive education and training of rural people.

Main working lines that be adapted according to movements' and continental realities:

FIMARC World Assembly 2014 held in Germany decided the general orientation of the movement for the upcoming 4 years. Other than the ongoing thrust areas, it was agreed to focus specifically on the following areas.

FIMARC take into account in our actions, lobby and advocacy the following topics.

- Promotion and Protection of Family farming and Agro Ecology
- Solidarity economy-Fair trade, direct marketing, Alternative Economy and other initiatives
- Food sovereignty: Farmers rights
- Rural Migration
- Climate change and Environmental protection
- Decrease /Less is more-Sustainable production, consumption and life styles
- Sustainable rural world and peasant based agriculture
- Defence of Human Rights and right to food against Resource grabbing
- Justice and solidarity between the people

1. Meeting with COMECE and European Parliamentarians- January 2016

FIMARC Europe organised a meeting with the representatives of the European Episcopal Conference at their headquarters in Brussels to discuss about the collaborative work that can be organised at EU level and this was followed by a meeting with representatives of the European Union Commission for Agriculture and Rural Development and a meeting with representatives of the EU Parliament's Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development to discuss about pertaining agricultural issues especially of Milk Crisis and rural development questions.

2. FIMARC Campaign and Support to CCFM against the Police impunity and the killing of farmer Baek Nam-gi

Baek Nam-gi, a farmer and the vice chair of our Korean Movement CCFM, was shot by police's water cannon on 14 November 2015 during his protest calling for just rice price, was passed away after 317 days of remaining unconscious.



Unfortunately, no perpetrator was properly punished nor proper investigation has been conducted until today. As soon as Farmer Baek passed away, the police tried to seize his body, saying that autopsy is necessary when cause of death is not clear. Families and supporters strongly protest against this attempt since they believe that it is clear that Farmer Baek's death is caused by the police's brutality. There has still not been a proper investigation into the excessive use of police force that caused his death and no one has yet been held accountable.

FIMARC members joined the hands with our Korean movement CCFM against the killing of Baek Nam-gi with the following demands. All FIMARC members around the world sent warm solidarity message in criticizing Korean government and this global support and campaign brought great energy and power for CCFM's struggle in Korea

- *Appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the excessive use of force by police that killed Farmer Baek Nam-gi immediately!*
- *Swiftly bring to justice all those responsible for farmer Baek Nam-gi's death!*



A people's hero laid to rest, but the struggle continues

Farmer Baek's funeral ceremony on November 5 was attended by thousands of citizens who marched behind his casket across the city. He was buried at Mangweoldong Old Cemetery in Gwangju next to other martyrs who have given their lives for Korean democracy. Farmer Baek can now rest in peace, but its friends cannot rest until those responsible for the killing of Baek Nam-gi are brought to justice.

3. FIMARC European Coordination Meeting in Assesse, Belgium -January 2016

FIMARC European Coordination meeting was held in Assesse on 29th and 30th January with the participation of 7 Countries. The main agenda of the meeting was to develop coordinated actions on family farming and to plan for the Erasmus plus proposal with a view to Strengthen civil society to develop sustainable rural areas through two lines of actions -1) Individual engagement of the member organisations. 2) To work collectively on strengthening Family Farming in Europe focussing on young people in Agriculture as well as to build /Strengthen Civil society organization in Eastern Europe.

4. Meeting with CIDSE Secretariat-Brussels 28 January 2016

FIMARC had a meeting with CIDSE secretariat in Brussels on 28th January 2016 to discuss about the collaboration of FIMARC in some of the key activities, lobby advocacy initiatives and campaigns of common interest. George Fernandez and Jean-Claude Germon attended this meeting on behalf of FIMARC and Chiara Martinelli, Francois Delvaux and Emmanuel Yap attended on behalf of CIDSE Secretariate.

5. FIMARC PLDP Initiation Workshop for conceptual clarity at INAG field area in India.- February 2016

FIMARC ASIA organised an initiation workshop for discussing the concept of People Led Development Approach, in the field areas of INAG (FIMARC) India with main facilitation from the community leaders of INAG movements. A key leader, two staff and two community leaders from each movement/ organisation of the 4 Asian countries (Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India) where PLD Approach is piloted participated in this workshop. FIMARC Asian Coordination and International Secretariate jointly organised this initiation workshop. The workshop was hosted by DULAL Orissa ,member organisation of FIMARC India from 4th of February to 9th of February 2016. The programme included field visits and workshop. DULAL, is one of the member organisation of INAG who started this PLDP process (People Led Development Process) first within INAG.

6. Country level joint workshop with field visits-February 2016

FIMARC Asia organised Country level Joint workshops with field visits to deepen the work on PLDP. An analysis of the existing involvement of each movement/ organisation was done with the key staff and the community together to make them realise the need for a change in the development perspective, approach and the partnership level between the communities and the partnering organisations. It was also important for the activists/ staff to understand the community in a historical purview so that the cultural dimensions, the traditional food pattern and agriculture systems and the traditional institutions and their roles are understood well. Facilitators from INAG and the Secretary General of FIMARC visited each country of interventions and participated in this workshop to initiate actions at each organisation level. Initial plan of action with a more PLD approach was developed as an outcome. The Country level joint workshop and field visit was organised in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand. George Fernandez and Rony Joseph had visited the movements who are part of the PLDP programme in January 2016.



In Philippines, with a group of land less women



and a group of fishermen

7. FIMARC Latin American seminar on Family Farming-Feb 2016

FIMARC Latin America organised Family Farming seminar and training in UN dialogue method in Peru in collaboration with MISEREOR in February 2016. Delegates from Columbia, Paraguay, Peru, El Salvadore, Guatemala (5 Countries + MISEREOR) participated in the meeting. Latin American coordinators Manuel and Modesta led the programme.

8. 33rd session of the FAO Regional Conference APRC 33- Putrajaya, Malaysia, 7-11 March 2016

The 33rd session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC) was convened in Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 7 to 11 March 2016, hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture & Agro-Based Industry, Malaysia.

The conference focused on the opportunities and challenges in the region and priority areas of work to improve food security and nutrition, increase agricultural productivity, raise the standard of living in rural populations and contribute to sustainable economic growth.

Agriculture ministers from 46 countries across Asia and the Pacific participated. Representatives from international non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations organizations, civil society organizations and the media are also attended.

During the first three days, 7 to 9 March, senior government officers hold in-depth discussions focusing on policy and regulatory issues in the Asia-Pacific region and globally. On 10 and 11 March, a two-day ministerial segment was convened, focusing on measures to speed up progress of alleviating hunger and improving nutrition in Asia-Pacific countries.

Most specifically, the discussions focused on the state of agriculture across the region, including future prospects and emerging issues in the framework of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); revitalizing the rural economy through enhanced linkages between small-scale agricultural production and value chains; promoting national nutrition policies and investments, and integrating nutrition objectives into food and agriculture policy, programme design and implementation; and 'blue growth.'

Further discussions were held on emerging issues, FAO priority activities, matters regarding the programme and budget, the organization's decentralization process and a multi-year programme of work.



A round table on the future of youth in agriculture was held on the last day of the conference

9. CSO Consultation in conjunction with 33rd FAO Asia Pacific Regional Conference

The Civil Society Consultation is a self-organized meeting held before or in parallel to the FAO Asia-Pacific Regional Conference (APRC). It is meant to gather key actors from different constituencies and countries to discuss key topics pertinent to the region, evaluate what FAO has done in the previous biennium (according to what was agreed upon at the previous Regional Conference), and discuss on specific agenda items of the Conference. The CSOs also take stock of what has been done collectively in the region/sub-region or thematically in view of the call of actions they have made in the previous biennial meeting. 54 representatives of small farmers, landless, rural women, fishers, agricultural workers, pastoralists and herders, indigenous peoples, consumers, youth and NGOs representing 39 national, regional and international CSOs coming from 17 countries met in conjunction with the 33rd FAO APRC. Rony Joseph (FIMARC Asian Coordinator) participated in the CSO Consultation as well as in the official APRC meeting to bring the voice of the movement on policy debates.



33rd FAO Asia-Pacific Regional Conference.
Participation of Rony Joseph.

10. The International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) -Dhaka ,Bangladesh 12-14 March 2016

12th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) was held in Dhaka ,Bangladesh from 12-14 March 2016. The International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) is the largest forum on AIDS held in the Asia and the Pacific region. Since the first ICAAP was held in 1990 - almost 25 years ago - the ICAAP has played a critical role in raising public awareness, building political commitment, strengthening advocacy networks and disseminating knowledge and experiences on HIV issues among stakeholders in the region. Dhaka Declaration was adopted at the 12th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP12) on 14th March 2016. FIMARC participated in this UN conference and brought the topic on health of the rural communities .The conference was supposed to be held in November 2015 but postponed due to the terrorism alter in Dhaka. .FIMARC planned different workshops including the role of religion in promoting health of the communities etc. Rony Joseph from India and Philip Biswas from Bangladesh led the activities of FIMARC in this important in Asia Pacefic.

11. Meeting of NGO's in UNESCO in relation to the follow up of climate change - March 2016

Estelle Hervé from CMR France represented FIMARC in the meeting of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee on 16 March at HQ of UNESCO in Paris to prepare for the International Forum of NGOs set up in the framework of COP22. CIONG has decided to set up a working group on COP21 which worked during the year 2015 and decided on the topics to be dealt with and held meetings with UNESCO to discuss themes and to have information on UNESCO's role in COP21. An online consultation was launched to get feedback on the themes and to get the views of NGOs on these themes and their expectations on COP21. An NGO Day of Action took place on 6 October 2015, bringing together more than 70 people from four continents who worked on the drafting of the declaration. This was followed by the final drafting of the Declaration by a small working group and its on-line publication that NGOs were able to sign: <http://www.ngo-unesco.net/en/?p=619>. Presentations were made within the framework of the COP21 Climate Generation Space and in the UNESCO pavilion, which devoted a full day to NGOs. At present, this Declaration will serve as a basic document for NGOs on the occasion of this new Forum, which will serve as a follow-up to COP21.

The main objective of the meeting was to prepare for the Forum on Peace to be held in November 2016 in connection with COP 22. Martine Levy introduced the draft Forum on Climate Change UNESCO had given the mandate given to the Liaison Committee by the Guidelines on Forums: so far five forums have been organized, three of which have been held outside UNESCO Headquarters: in Côte d'Ivoire, Bulgaria and In China and the two other Forums to be held in 2016 should in principle also be held away from Headquarters: surely for the one on Peace and presumably for the one on climate change. Forum requires the Liaison Committee and NGOs to work closely with ERI and the relevant UNESCO sectors and may held in an Arab country with the fact that the next COP22 will take place in Morocco.

12. African CSO consultation meeting in conjunction with FAO regional Conference- 1-2 April, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

The regional Conference was preceded by a self organised Regional consultation of Civil Society Organizations, on 1st to 2nd of April 2016, at Hôtel Belle-Côte, Abidjan. FIMARC supported the participation of Medard Meyanga (Afrian Coordinator of FIMARC) in the pre CSO consultation held in Ghana to prepare the FAO regional conference of Africa. Joseph Kama from Senegal and Lucy Lubano from Kenya participated in the Civil Society Preparatory conference for the FAO regional Conference of Africa from 1-2 April 2016 and also in the FAO regional conference which was from 4-8 April in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

13. ARC 29- 29th session of the FAO Regional Conference of AFRICA Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 4-8 April 2016

"Transforming African Agri-food systems for inclusive growth and a shared prosperity"



The 29th session of the FAO Regional Conference for Africa was held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire from 4 to 8 April 2016. Jointly hosted by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Conference was attended by ministers and other high level delegates from FAO Member States, partners, representatives of Civil Society Organizations in Africa and the media.

The Conference began with an Experts' Meeting from 4 to 6 April 2016, which focused on Regional and Global Policy and Regulatory Issues, in particular Public Private Partnership for Inclusive Growth as well as Trends and issues in food and agriculture for regional and national action in the context of the SDGs. Issues related to the Work Programme, the Budget, the Decentralization process and the multi-year programme of work of the Regional Conference was also discussed, among other matters.

A Ministerial Roundtable took place on 8 April 2016 to discuss "Strengthening national and regional capacities to effectively implement commitments and increase investments made at national and continental level for the eradication of hunger and the transformation of food systems in Africa for

an inclusive growth and shared prosperity" and means of increasing solidarity between countries, enhancing south-south cooperation and also boost the Africa Solidarity Trust Fund (ASTF)".

14. FIMARC formation session on Agro ecology 2016, resolution, field visits-April 2016



FIMARC organizes a yearly formation session for the global and continental leaders on the key burning topics related to rural people and agriculture. We organised an International Formation Session on **Agro ecology from 10-12 April 2016**. This study session was organised prior to the Exco meeting of 2016 in Belgium. It was a sharing and learning platform on Agro ecological experiences and initiatives. Few CIDSE Secretariat members participated in this programme. FIMARC global leaders visited an Agro ecological farm "ARC EN CIEL" and had an interactive session with local farmers. A Concrete resolution on Agro ecology was declared by the Exco 2016.

Some basic conclusions of the Seminar

FIMARC consider Agroecology as a way of life and a set of practices, more than a science. It is a tool and approach to attain food sovereignty and family farming system is key to develop agro ecological practices. Agroecology represents a real alternative to existing production systems which is destructive of natural balances and peasant life. It integrates the dimension of water management, reforestation, combating erosion, biodiversity, climate change, the economic social systems and the relationship of humans with their environment.

Agroecology can lead to the progressive realization of Food Sovereignty through family farming systems and provide safe and diverse food for all. The key idea of agro ecology is to go beyond alternative farming practices and to develop agro ecosystems without the dependence on agrochemical and energy inputs. Agroecology cannot be implemented the same way in all territories. It can be practiced in many different ways, based on the local reality and culture. The use of agrotoxins, artificial hormones, GMOs or other dangerous new technologies is totally against the basic principles of Agroecology. Diverse forms of smallholder food production based on Agroecology generate local knowledge, promote social justice, nature culture, and strengthen the economic viability of rural areas

FIMARC want to strengthen the linkages between food sovereignty, agroecology and family farming. Family farmers are the first and foremost actors for promoting agro ecology. FIMARC has been defending and promoting Food Sovereignty in all our engagements and most of our rural communities

are practicing Agroecology in different names but it has been there since from the origin of traditional farming systems. Only food self-sufficiency, food sovereignty of peoples can resolve the issue of hunger in the world.

FIMARC believe that Agroecology is an alternative way forward and a solution to feed the world of today and in the future without destroying nature. For FIMARC, Agroecology, is without doubt a model to counter the neo liberal capitalist system booming around the world. FIMARC want to promote Pope Francis' Encyclical on the environment. Laudato Si is quite relevant as it call for an 'ecological conversion', by a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet and also urge for the implementation of IAASTD (International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development) report which reflects a growing consensus among scientists and many governments that the old paradigm of industrial energy-intensive and toxic agriculture is an outdated concept, while small-scale farmers and agro-ecological methods provide the way forward.

As the present education system favors the interest of the transnational corporations and dictates the food habits of the populations aiming to make more and more profit. FIMARC wanted to revive and promote the traditional knowledge sharing practices and food baskets through local analysis.

15. FIMARC Exco and Bureau April 2016



Exco and Bureau are the two main political decision bodies of FIMARC. The Bureau meets two times per year and one along with Exco which takes place once a year, with the participation of continental coordinators of each continent as well as the Bureau members. The first Bureau Meeting was held on 8-9 April 2016 prior to the formation session and the second bureau meeting was held in Rome during the CFS 43 meeting in October 2016. This gave the opportunity for the Bureau

members to have different meetings with various government representatives as well as the leaders of other global organisations and networks

The Exco 2016 was held in Assesse, Belgium after the formation session on Agroecology. Exco made a concrete planning for the strong and committed engagement of FIMARC to build the agroecological movements at different levels, approved the work and financial report of the movement, provided inputs for the engagement of FIMARC at the Human rights council, FAO, CFS, UNESCO and also approved the resolution on Agro ecology. Exco evaluated the work of the continental movements, made the operational plans of the movement in different levels and updated our lobby advocacy actions.



16. New Chaplain for FIMARC -April 2016

FIMARC Exco 2016 elected Fr .Tomas Jose Sphangero from Argentina as the new

chaplain of FIMARC for the next 4 years and his position was confirmed by the Pontifical Council for Laity of Vatican. FIMARC extends all the best wishes for his new mission in the movement



17. Global meeting of the Catholic social action movements-28-30 April 2016-Rome, Italy

25 global leaders of ten different specialized Catholic Action Movements met in Rome, Italy from 28 - 30 April 2016 to strengthen our collaboration and to reflect together to find collective ways to meet the common challenges of today and more over to deepen our analysis on the apostolic exhortation of His Holiness Pope

Francis "Evangelii Gaudium" through a critical reflection on the issues affecting our Movements, the Church and the world.

One of the particularity of the Catholic Action Movement is our presence in and among the people down to the peripheries and our effort in re-echoing the cries and yearnings of the poor and marginalized and the commitment for their liberation.

The world is today faced with various challenges, ranging from disparity, precariousness, poverty, hunger and malnutrition, inequality, human rights abuse, lack of access to holistic quality education, climate change/global warming. All are results of human action or inaction.

Faced with these challenges which threatens human relationship and co-existence, we feel the intense need to re-echo the Holy Father's call in celebrating the Extra-ordinary jubilee year of mercy which is an invitation to love, kindness and unbounded generosity by extending hands of fellowship and being in solidarity with the suffering, the downtrodden and the poor, irrespective of their race, ethnicity or religion.

Catholic Social Action Movements decided to re-affirming our action in the world in line with the call of Pope Francis in "Evangelii Gaudium and Laudato si.

Following are the collective actions agreed by the movements

- Rely on the Gospel and the Catholic Social Teachings as the core and fundamental bases of our work;
- Strengthen the collaboration of the Specialized Catholic Action Movements internationally, nationally and at the grassroots;
- Explore synergy to make the voice of the poor and oppressed in the society heard.
- To create a pole of theological reflection and accompaniment for our Movements
- To organize an automatic communication between us about analysis, statements and activities

- To organize Strategic contacts outside the group
- To set experiences of cooperation at the local level in Italy, Lebanon, India, Kenya, Peru.

The key leaders from ICYCW, FIMARC, IYCS, IYCW, MIAMSI, MIDADE, IMCS Pax Romana, ICMICA Pax Romana, MIJARC, WMCW were present in the meeting. George Dixon Fernandez (Secretary General) and Wolfgang Scharl (President) represented FIMARC in the meeting.

The meeting agreed to organize a reflection meeting of the chaplains and adult collaborators in 2016 itself in Paris

18. COMECE/ECWM SEMINAR ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF RERUM NOVARUM-May 2016

From *Rerum Novarum* (1891) to *Laudato si'* (2015): Catholic social Teaching as a reference to social and ecological welfare?

In times of Panama papers, climate change and a seemingly never-ending economic crisis in Europe,



visions are needed that provide the impetus for reforms towards a more equitable and sustainable future. To what extent Catholic social teaching can help politicians to bring about change and be a reference for social and ecological welfare was subject of discussions of a one-day seminar that COMECE and the European Christian Workers' Movements (ECWM) organised on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of Rerum Novarum on 03 May 2016. FIMARC collaborated with this

programme. Together with distinguished guest speakers from academia, European politics, and social entrepreneurship, they looked back to its development, impact and relevance for today's decision-makers. The event was divided into two parts: a seminar and an evening reception and panel debate on social doctrine as a method of policy-making with Prof. Ingeborg Gabriel, the Vice President of Justice and Peace Europe and Head of the department of social ethics at the University of Vienna, as keynote speaker and two Members of the European Parliament (MEP) Patrizia Toia (S&D) and Elmar Brok (EPP) who responded by outlining the influence of the Catholic social thoughts in their political career.

The seminar underlined that Catholic social teaching is still considered as an important guideline and stimulus to drive forward solution in the complex and inter-connected world of today. The very positive reception of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'*, in particular, has shown that Catholic social thought can provide the impetus to solve the central questions of our time and to remind us that not money, but people "are the source, the centre, and the purpose of all economic and social life".

19. General Assembly of Catholic Centre in relation with UNESCO -24 May 2016

FIMARC participated in the General Assembly of Catholic Centre in relation with UNESCO (CCIC)

which was held on 24 May 2016. The Assembly adopted the report of the previous Assembly of 12 May 2015, Moral and Financial report of 2015, Draft Budget of 2016. Assembly had a deep discussion about the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the CCIC and the CCIC forum of March 23rd, 2017 at UNESCO. CCIC president Christine Roche presented the commitments of the CCIC in the joint events of UNESCO/NGO group and the Board member of the CCIC presented the new website of CCIC. George Fernandez, Secretary General represented FIMARC in the Assembly 2016 of CCIC

20. CIDSE -FIMARC Workshop on *Move towards sustainable lifestyles for the people and the planet at the European Development Days June 2016*

On the occasion of the EDDs 2016 and in the follow-up of 2015 big political summits, FIMARC wanted to create a space together with CIDSE and other allies to share experiences and alternatives as part of thousands of people all around the world, in different countries and contexts, that are already living the change we are calling for and that political decision makers are late to deliver on. CIDSE in collaboration with FIMARC and other allies organized a brain storming lab on *Move towards sustainable lifestyles for the people and the planet at the European Development Days*, which was held at Tour and Taxis, Brussels from 15-16 June 2016. George Fernandez and Daisy Hermann (ACRF, national movement of FIMARC in Belgium) made contributions for this workshop. Along with CIDSE and FIMARC, the Fair Trade Advocacy Office, European Youth Forum, ActionAid, Caritas Europa, FIMCAP were also joined in this programme.

We wanted to work for a prophetic new narrative of human well-being within creation, gender equity, and solidarity, with an economy at the service of society within planetary boundaries. Key elements underpinning this vision for a just and sustainable world include: a fairer share and limits in use of global resources; governance systems in which power relations are democratized and global rules allow for the flourishing of local alternatives; and economies based on the commons with diversified, decentralized structures and actors. We are one humanity, sharing all of creation, and are globally interdependent. We need to move towards a just, equitable and sustainable use and distribution of global resources by citizens of the world. We aim to spark and enable a radical change in people's lifestyles by reducing overall consumption and limiting it to sustainably-produced goods that minimise environmental impacts, allow producers to gain fair livelihoods; do not violate human rights and are rendered affordable through adequate means. We consider individual/community choices as one of the pillar of the call towards a paradigm shift alongside with policy changes.

Objectives:

1. To create a space to exchange on the need to spark and enable a radical change in people's lifestyles towards living simply by reducing overall consumption and limiting it to sustainably-produced goods;
2. To highlight how lifestyles are a key pillar in the call for a systemic change and to move towards a just and sustainable world; aiming to a fair share and the need to cope with planetary boundaries;
3. To give the space to participants coming from different countries/organisations to share experiences, challenges and already existing alternatives;

4. To show how the different realities are inter-linked;
5. To highlight link between sustainable consumption and sustainable production

An alternatives' journey with below mentioned concrete experiences from movements and organisations in connection with sustainable lifestyles, community's experiences, alternatives models of consumption and/or production provided a space for learning and sharing of each other

1. *England - on the project "live simply parish"*
2. *Spain - Catalonia experience against food waste: <http://www.espigoladors.cat/?lang=es>*
3. *Belgium - on a project on waste management in the Flanders*
4. *Switzerland - Experience on living in a low-energy community in the centre of Zurich*
5. *Experiences on agro-ecology (by FIMARC)*
6. *Experiences on local economies and markets (Via Campesina)*
7. *Portugal - Experience of the project A terra*
8. *Peru - on Buen Vivir (CEAS)*
9. *Nigeria - experience on energy alternatives (WoMin)*

An experience from Fair Trade movement

21.FIMARC AT CIDSE Mid-Year Meeting June 2016

On 20-22 June, CIDSE held its Mid-Year Meeting of Directors in Lyon, France hosted by CCFD-Terre Solidaire. A special Mid-Year Meeting session took place on 20-21 June with the participation of Directors and members of the CIDSE Systemic Change group, together with some twenty partners and allies to further discuss the new CIDSE strategy and the implications on CIDSE future work. On 22 June, the Directors met separately, as did the Systemic Change group including several partners, with a joint session to discuss the outcomes of the 20-21 June special session and ways forward. FIMARC has been participating in the systemic working group of CIDSE from its inception and contributed to the finalisation of the strategic plan of CIDSE for 2016-2021.

This has been a key milestone in the process towards developing our Operational Plan to implement our new strategy. The meetings allowed for strategic discussions on defining CIDSE's future priority areas of work and struggles. The basis for the discussions was developed through consultation of CIDSE working groups in the first half of 2016, representing the plans and thinking for future work that members have discussed within the groups.

The meeting brought about important recommendations for advancing the development of the Operational Plan to implement our new CIDSE Strategic Framework and further build strong collaboration.

George Fernandez, Secretary General of FIMARC was invited for this important and special meeting of the CIDSE Directors to provide views on behalf of the social movements with catholic background and being a long time strategic partner of CIDSE.

22. CIDSE Workshop on Agro ecology-September 2016

FIMARC was actively involved in the preparation and organisation of CIDSE workshop on agroecology and climate sustainability as member of the CIDSE FAST Working group which took place in Brussels, Belgium, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st September 2016. The objective of the workshop was to build common understanding of sustainable food systems and to identify how this transition can be achieved (with a strong focus on agroecology). The workshop provided space to extract strategies and lessons learned from emblematic case studies covering the different key dimensions of the food system (natural resources, production, connecting smallholders to markets and sustainable consumption/citizen's driven food governance) that allowed/or hindered them from being adopted at a larger scale. This was helpful for the participants to identify recommendations and strategies that would support transition pathways within different areas (advocacy, programmes, projects ...) and at different levels (local to global). Climate adaptation, resilience and agroecology were the key topics discussed.

George Fernandez, Secretary General of FIMARC was a pannelist on Monday 19th September in the round table titled *"Agroecology or Climate-Smart Agriculture: two models for the future?"*. This event aimed to build an interactive and dynamic discussion and confront different views on agroecology and climate-smart agriculture. This panel offered the opportunity to confront the different perspectives and have a frank discussion on policy options to shape sustainable food systems.

23. Peasant Rights to seeds and Intellectual Property Rights-Prior to Monsanto Tribunal- Paris-October 2016

Monsanto is well known for its irresponsible and controversial corporate practices and it is no wonder that there is so much international consensus across the planet on the need to bring justice to the many issues that infringe upon the rights of individuals, groups and entire nations across the globe. The financial power behind the corporate lobbying for Monsanto results in decisions and policies implemented in countries across the world which do not endure to the benefit of the local population. Directly impacted are the often majority of the population being the peasant farmers.

There are many factors affecting peasant welfare in a negative manner and many are due to the result of unethical and irresponsible corporate practices of companies like Monsanto. This opposition to chemical dependent farming is growing across the world with louder calls from across the board for a return to more agro ecological farm practices to ensure the sustainability of the environment. Agro ecological techniques are already safely and inexpensively producing crops with increasing yields plus tolerance and resistance to environmental stressors. We should forget GMOs and concentrate on agro ecological agriculture. With this view FIMARC participated in the Conference organised by the Coordination SUD, France, on Peasant Rights to seeds and Intellectual Property Rights, Monsanto Trial and "New GMOs" which was held on 12 October 2016 at CIRAD France. This meeting was of civil society actors from France, Europe and Southern Countries for the preparation towards Monsanto Tribunal. George Fernandez, Secretary General of FIMARC was a pannelist on the topic of seed rights in India.

24. FIMARC Asian Annual Workshop for review of progress on PLDP -October 2017

FIMARC Asian Annual Workshop for review of progress on PLDP was held in Manaragala, Sri Lanka from 07th -11th October 2016. The programme was hosted by our local partner organisations CEC, CRPC, UWWO. Review of the activities/ actions planned and accomplished in relation to the PLDP process in the piloting countries was the main objective of the Workshop. This was also a space to help in identifying good practices within the groups which could be learning for other countries. Queries and confusions that would arise during the implementation was addressed also during the review process. Participants from Philippines, Thailand, Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka attended the workshop. General Secretary of FIMARC Mr. George Dixon Fernandez and FIMARC Asian Coordinator Mr. Rony Joseph facilitated the entire event in association with Kali Charan Marandi (Coordinator of PLDP platform in India).



PLDP progress : a womens meeting in Sri Lanka and with a social worker in Indonesia

25. FIMARC World Food day campaign-"Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too." October 2016

World Food Day is a day of action against hunger. On October 16, people around the world come together to declare their commitment to eradicate hunger in our lifetime. Because when it comes to hunger, the only acceptable number in the world is zero. World Food Day celebrates the creation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on October 16, 1945 in Quebec, Canada. First established in 1979, World Food Day has since then been observed in almost every country by millions of people in order to heighten public awareness of the problem of hunger in the world, to strengthen international and national solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty, and to encourage the participation of rural people, particularly women and the least privileged categories, in decisions and activities influencing their living conditions. FIMARC has been actively involved in supporting this call for many years. The global message for World Food Day 2016 was "Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too". During this world food day of 2016, FIMARC requests all its member movements to have deep reflections, actions to raise the debate on Climate change and its effect in Agriculture all over the world and to lobby for the policies that support a family based peasant agriculture which effectively adapt and mitigate the effects of the Climate change and we urge all the members to organise a common action day to raise awareness on this topic

What FIMARC proposed to the movements?

Everyone has a role to play in mitigating the effects of climate change. Countries need to invest in smallholder farmers and sustainably increase food production, but there are also a number of actions that we can take to help. This World Food Day is an occasion to focus the world's attention on the effects of climate change in Agriculture.

Some actions proposed by FIMARC in line with the theme of the World Food Day 2016 are mentioned below but each movement can organise activities based on their own reality.

- Organise a common campaign for afforestation in all member countries with a slogan - One FIMARC member -ONE TREE"
- Organise sessions with a view to raise the debate on effect of Climate Change in Agriculture
- Organise meetings with politicians and local self-governments to demand support for the climate mitigation and adaption initiatives of the small scale farmers
- Organise Corner meetings ,press conference , press release or demonstrations on the topic to raise the awareness of the society
- Organise one day volunteer work to save money and to support hunger eradication projects in your own places or send to the FIMARC World Food Day fund to support other people who are in need around the world
- Make any solidarity action like fasting to collect money to support the needy or to provide one nutritious meal to the hunger
- Make awareness raising activities against wasting of food or eating less meat
- Organise local food fair to raise awareness to consume more locally
- Share the best practices and knowledge on climate adaptation and mitigation techniques and local seed varieties that resist climate change among the members of our grass root groups

Different actions were developed by FIMARC movements in their respective countries :

Bangladesh -BSDF Member Sonar Bangla-Observed World Food Day activities at grass root levels. RRF Bangladesh had a workshop on the theme. RRF,Sonar foundation and Sushamaj Foundation will organize the activities of WFD 2017 in rural areas.



Seed exhibition on the World Food Day

Kenya- Government organise activities on WFD in villages, counties, regions, National levels and DESECE participated in it. Desece organised Field day activities which was even filmed by media. Desece received award for traditional cooking
WFD materials are useful and normally discuss with people in local languages.
Organised the exhibition of organic food and the deputy governor visited the office of the movement



Decese activities in Kenya for World Food Day Preparation of Organic Manure

France -WFD is celebrating as International day of solidarity by CCFD/CMR and topics related to farming are discussed. Held evening conferences, films and manifestation on food production and food waste. Some local solidarity Actions for Africa was organised

India-Circulated the material to all levels of the movements

Local /State level actions organised -Seed Exhibition, Traditional Food fest, Work with schools, Participated in different Government agricultural office initiatives.

El salvadore -Human Rights organisations had a meeting in El Salvador demanding for the human right to food

Sitting Manifestation was organised at the Provisional HQ of Central America

Disseminated the materials to the groups

Organised seed events, Food fests

Organised awareness raising campaign to value the work of the Farmers

Paraguay-Useful to raise the awareness among the family on disappearing varieties and seeds and questioned cash crop priority

Local fairs has been organized

Participated in the meeting of Oxfam (Decidamos-Let us decide) -

Argentina-Disseminated the message in the media and linked with cultural centre and trained the people on the topic

26. FIMARC Participation in the CIDSE Joint Action and Campaign on sustainable Life styles

CIDSE, together with its members, launched on 1st July 2015 a three year (2015-2017) campaign on sustainable lifestyles: "Change for the Planet, Care for the People." As of November 2015, the International Federation of Rural Adult Catholic Movements (FIMARC), the Jesuit European Social Centre (JESC) and Caritas Europa joined the campaign as partners. In addition, since April 2016, the International Federation of Catholic Parochial Youth Movements (FIMCAP) became a partner of the campaign. Other external supporters of the campaign are the Focolari Movement and ICMS Pax Romana

International events in which the Campaign Change for the Planet- Care for the People has been involved with workshops and various activities:

- UNFFC -Paris 2015

- European Development Days, Brussels, Belgium, 2016: organization of the workshop "Move towards sustainable lifestyles for the people and the planet".

- World Youth Day, Krakow, Poland, 2016: participation within the delegation of the Global Catholic Climate Movement.

- World Social Forum, Montreal, Canada, 2016: organization of events in the Forum's Youth Space."

The campaign builds on the work CIDSE carries out with its member organizations towards social justice, doing so by promoting sustainable ways of living. The global over-exploitation of natural resources puts people and planet at risk- and it starts with vulnerable people living in poverty.

"Change for the Planet - Care for the People" calls for a radical change in people's lifestyles towards living simply by reducing overall energy consumption and making environmentally-friendly food choices. This can be done by limiting consumption to sustainably-produced local foods that minimize environmental impact, allow producers to gain fair livelihoods, do not violate human rights, and are also affordable.

Through social media activities and the organization of events we challenge people to make a difference through their daily choices, and to contribute this way to building a better world. Cut the amount of the energy you use, buy local food, place priority on taking public transport, and eat less meat- are examples that we worked on collective consensus

We believe that several succesful models of sustainable living all around the world already exist, and our campaign also aims to be a platform for these alternatives to resonate and be tried out by other people. We want to show people's power to bring about the change we call for, and which policy makers are not delivering. We believe that we can make a difference if we act together.

Wolfgang Scharl, president of FIMARC participated in the evaluation and Planning meeting of the Joint Action campaign which was held on 15-16 February 2016 in Brussels and George Fernandez, Secretary General of FIMARC participated in the follow up meetings that was held in Lyon on 22 June 2016 and later in Brussels on 19 September 2016

27. United Nations Intergovernmental Working Group for Peasant Rights Declaration - 16-20 May2016

FIMARC Participated in the United Nations Intergovernmental Working Group for Peasant Rights Declaration -which was held from 16-20 May 2016 in Geneva

The session was started with the Opening address by Jyoti Sanghera, Section Chief of Human Rights and Economic and Social Issues at OHCHR and the Video statement by Mr Graziano da Silva (Director General of FAO) was presented on 17th May and by Ms Vandana Shiva (Navdanya Foundation) on 18th May 2016

A Panel discussion was held on the importance of the declaration with the following key speakers on 17 May: Ms Sophia Monsalve Suarez (FIAN International), Ms Sue Longley (International Union of Food and Agricultural Workers IUF), Ms Elizabeth Mpofu (La Via Campesina), Ms Sangeeta Shashikant (Third World Network)

Ms Naela Gabr (Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women) made a presentation on the article on Rights of Women and Mr Cristophe Golay (Geneva Academy for Humanitarian Law and Human Rights) made a presentation on the legal aspects of the declaration. Wolfgang Scharl (President of FIMARC), Gabriel Falchun, Elsabeth Pariat, Marcelle Favre and Gerard Bonoin (members of FIMARC Human Rights Group) represented the movement in this important negotiation process to prepare the articles of the declaration ;We have made a collective lobbying and advocacy together with CETIM, Via Campesina, FIAN etc.

28. More and Better General Meeting-Rome- October 2016

Rony Joseph (India) and George Fernandez (Secretary General of FIMARC) participated in the More and Better General Meeting held on 11 October 2016 in Green Room of FAO HQ in Rome. FIMARC is a member of the More and better Network and we work with this network regularly on SDG and its implementation and follow up as well as food and agricultural governance issues



More and Better meeting.
Rome 2016

29. FIMARC European Coordination Meetings -July 2016

FIMARC Europe Coordination meeting was held in Wursburg on 25-27 July 2016. Wolfgang Scharl (President of FIMARC) and Jean Claude Germon (Treasurer) participated in this meeting. The main objective of the meeting was to plan the activities of FIMARC Europe in the framework of Erasmus Plus initiatives of FIMARC in different countries



30. Meeting with Pontifical Council for FAMILY-October 2016

The newly elected chaplain of FIMARC Fr.Tomas Jose Spanghero had a meeting with the Pontifical Council for Family on 20 October 2016 to discuss about the challenges of social actions and the life of the movements in the contemporary societies

31. Participation in FAO, CFS (Committee on world Food Security) and CSM (Civil Society Mechanism)

FIMARC participated in the CFS 43 Session, CSM annual forum and Coordination Committee Meetings which were held in FAO Headquarters in Rome in October 2016. It is an important forum for lobbying towards world leaders on the governance of food and agricultural policies and systems.

The CSM Annual Forum. Each year the CSM holds its Annual Forum prior to the CFS Plenary Session and it is open to all interested civil society participants of the CSM. This two-days forum is a fundamental moment and space for the CSM. At the Forum, CSOs are able to debate, consolidate, articulate and finalise their positions that will be shared and brought to the CFS Plenary Session. Prior to the Annual Forum the CSM CC holds its annual meeting. The Forum is as well a space for accountability, where CC members report to all participating CSOs about their work, performance and activities. Finally the CSM forum is the space to assess the past processes, to consolidate the common positions for the present and to identify the key challenges and steps forward for the future

The CSM is the largest international mechanism of civil society organisations (CSOs) seeking to influence agriculture, food security and nutrition policies and actions - nationally, regionally and globally. It works exclusively in the context of the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS). As a result of the Reform Process of the CFS in 2009, a proposal for the establishment of the CSM was endorsed by CSOs at the Civil Society Consultation held in Rome in October 2010 and acknowledged by CFS Member States during the 36th Session of the CFS in the same month. The CSM is reaching out to hundreds of CSOs in all continents, sharing information with them on global policy debates and processes, promoting civil society consultations and dialogue, supporting national and regional advocacy and facilitating the participation of a diverse range of CSOs at the global level, on all CFS related issues. The Annual CSM Forum is the apex of their work, where two days prior to the CFS plenary session, civil society gather in Rome to discuss, strategize and finalise messages for the negotiations ahead

150-200 CSO participants attended the CSM forum which was held in from 15-16 October 2016 at FAO HQ in Rome. The main elements of Agenda of the forum are the following:

- a. Focus on Women's rights and the struggle for the human right to food and nutrition (dedicated to the International Day of Rural Women, 15 October)
- b. Focus on a political assessment of the CFS today, and discussing our visions for the CFS internally and with others (internal discussions and public dialogue, in occasion of World Food Day 2016 (16 October) and 20 years after the World Food Summit 1996)
- c. Sharing information on CFS workstreams in 2016 and finalizing CSM contributions to CFS 43 and beyond
- d. CSM internal reporting, accountability and planning exercise 2016/2017
- e. Consultation on civil society priorities for the CFS MYPOW 2018-2019

Participants represented a broad and diverse range of marginalized groups including, farmers, fisher folk, Indigenous Peoples, pastoralists, agricultural workers, urban poor, youth - echoing the CSM's mandate to prioritize the voices of those most affected by food insecurity and malnutrition. Honorary guests, Director General of FAO, José Graziano da Silva and CFS Chair, Ambassador of Sudan, also welcomed participants. Before splitting into working groups, the morning Plenary sessions focused provided an introduction to the agenda of the 43rd Session of the CFS, Annual report from the Coordination Committee to the CSM Forum, and then, CSM working group coordinators gave brief presentations on the policy issues of the CFS 43 agenda - what is at stake, and what are the controversial issues? This was followed by a *Public Panel discussion in occasion of the International Day of Rural Women: "Women's rights and the struggle for the human right to food and nutrition - what role for the CFS?"*. Then Parallel working groups on the following topics were held to finalize contributions to CFS 43, nominate spokespersons, discuss advocacy strategy for CFS 43 and strategies beyond

- Sustainable Agricultural Development and Livestock
- SDG
- Monitoring
- Urbanization and Rural Transformation
- CFS evaluation
- Nutrition
- Smallholder to Markets
- GSF
- Women's empowerment
- Forestry

The Annual CSM Forum was ended with a Public Panel Debate on "The CFS at the crossroads, 7 years after its Reform" with the speakers Ms Amira Daoud Hassan Gornass, (CFS Chair), [Kostas G. Stamoulis](#) (Assistant DG of FAO), George Dixon Fernandez (Secretary General ,FIMARC), Alberta Guerra (Action Aid International) and Member country representatives , *in occasion of the WFD 2016*

Wolfgang Scharl (President, FIMARC), George Dixon Fernandez (Secretary General), Jean Claude Germon (Treasurer), Rony Joseph (FIMARC ASIAN coordinator) and Fr.Tomas Jose Spanghero participated in the CSM Annual forum on behalf of FIMARC. FIMARC was also participated in the

CSM coordination committee meeting which was held prior to the CSM forum. George Fernandez represented FIMARC in the CC meeting. FIMARC also had a meeting with Jean Vettraino of secours-catholique France to discuss about our engagements in CFS and CSM



FIMARC delegation at CFS 43 and CSM Forum

32. CFS 43 Session; 17-21 October 2016, FAO, Rome, Italy

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) held its 43rd Session from 17 to 21 October 2016 at FAO Headquarters in Rome. The Session was attended by delegates from 116 Members of the Committee; 8 non-Member States of the Committee and by representatives from:

- 10 United Nations Agencies and Bodies;
- 123 Civil society organizations¹;
- 2 International agricultural research organizations;
- 2 International and regional financial institutions;
- 86 Private sector associations and private philanthropic foundations²; and
- 45 Observers.

Wolfgang Scharl (President, FIMARC), George Dixon Fernandez (Secretary General), Jean Claude Germon (Tresurer), Rony Joseph (FIMARC Asian Coordinator) and Fr.Tomas Jose Spanghero (Chaplain) participated in the CFS 43 on behalf of FIMARC

Opening statements were delivered by Mr Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General, United Nations (video); Ms Amira Daoud Hassan Gornass, Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security; Mr José Graziano da Silva, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Mr Kanayo Nwanze, President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Ms Elizabeth Rasmusson, Assistant Executive Director, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP); and Dr Patrick Caron, Chairperson of the Steering Committee of the HLPE. The statements are available as CFS Information documents at <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/cfs/cfs43/en/>

POLICY CONVERGENCE ROUND TABLE

In line with the CFS role to promote policy convergence, a round table on Sustainable Agricultural Development for Food Security and Nutrition, including the Role of Livestock was organised.

At CFS 41 in October 2014, CFS requested the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) to prepare a report on this theme. The HLPE Report, published in July 2016,

provides the scientific and evidence based input for this item. The report focusses particularly on the livestock component in agricultural systems, given its role as an engine for the development of the agriculture and food sector, and as a driver of major economic, social and environmental changes in food systems worldwide. It reviews trends, drivers and projections for future food demand, including animal-sourced food. The report also explores pathways towards sustainable crop and livestock-based systems and options for enabling and managing the transition to sustainable systems.

Connecting Smallholders to Markets: special event

Following the CFS High-Level Forum on Connecting Smallholders to Markets in June 2015, a decision was taken to follow-up with the preparation of a set of policy recommendations. The recommendations contribute to achieving a number of goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development by addressing key barriers and highlighting opportunities to engage and include smallholders, thereby improving overall food security and nutrition. These have been negotiated and agreed by CFS stakeholders and presented to the Plenary for endorsement.

CFS Engagement in Advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Since CFS 42 an Open Ended Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals has been looking at how CFS can support the advancement of the 2030 Agenda and what useful role it can play. The proposal, presented to CFS 43 for endorsement, outlines how CFS, within its mandate, vision and roles, can best contribute to advancing the 2030 Agenda. The proposal, includes the decision for CFS to contribute to the 2017 meeting of the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) held under the theme "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world", CFS members and stakeholders will be invited to discuss and issue broad guidance on the scope of the contribution of CFS. This discussion could result in a mandate from CFS Plenary to the CFS Bureau to finalize the contribution in the 2016-2017 intersessional period, based on preparatory work in the Open Ended Working Group.

Monitoring the implementation of CFS Decisions and recommendations -Terms of Reference for Sharing Experiences and Good Practices

As an inclusive platform, CFS is a place to share the experience of different stakeholders when using CFS products and to highlight and share good practices as a contribution to monitoring the effectiveness of CFS. In such a multistakeholder environment it's important to hear experiences from national, regional and global levels. To that end, the Open Ended Working Group on Monitoring developed Terms of Reference for holding thematic stocktaking events on CFS products, which will be presented for endorsement.

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure - Global Thematic Event

Guided by the Terms of Reference for Sharing Experiences and Good Practices (CFS 2016/43/7) developed by the Open Ended Working Group on Monitoring, the global thematic event aims at sharing experiences and taking stock of the use and application of The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). It will contribute to monitoring progress towards VGGT implementation. It will enable an interactive multistakeholder dialogue based on the experiences and good practices documented in the contributions received from CFS stakeholders which are available on the CFS 43

web page. The lessons learned from this thematic event made available to CFS stakeholders

CFS Engagement in Advancing Nutrition

A proposal for CFS engagement in advancing nutrition which has been prepared by an Open Ended Working Group on Nutrition was presented to the Plenary and endorsed.

Multi-Year Programme of Work

The OEWG will continue its work developing a MYPoW for the biennium 2018-2019, which will be presented for endorsement at CFS 44 in 2017. The report to be produced by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) in 2018.

Forum on Urbanization, Rural Transformation and Implications for Food Security and Nutrition

Rapid urbanization and the transformation of rural spaces are creating challenges and opportunities for ensuring food security and nutrition. CFS will organise a forum on this topic next year. The objective of the Forum will be to reach a better understanding of the issues at stake, identify key areas of policy attention and possible roles for CFS. The Forum's outcomes will be reviewed and analysed by CFS participants in a one-off open ended working group format and its results presented for endorsement at CFS 44 in 2017.

STATE OF FOOD INSECURITY IN THE WORLD AND THE 2030 AGENDA

As of 2017, the Rome-based agencies will recommence publishing a newly conceptualized report to replace the former State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI), focusing on monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For 2016, a stand-alone report will be produced to table the issues and challenges posed by monitoring the SDG2 (Zero Hunger) indicators. The report will be organized around three chapters focusing on: 1) an overview of the global trends for indicators relating to food security and nutrition; 2) analysis of information gaps and measurement challenges regarding the proposed indicators; and 3) the linkages between targets and goals.

EVALUATION OF CFS

The Evaluation Manager of the independent evaluation of the effectiveness of CFS Reform made a brief presentation of progress in the evaluation, with time for questions and discussion.

33. Latin American Regional Congress on "Peasant Agriculture and Solidarity Economy, The Great Hope of our people". El Salvador November 20-23, 2016

FIMARC Latin America organised a regional congress on "Peasant Agriculture and Solidarity Economy, The Great Hope of our people" November 20-23, 2016 in El Salvadore. Delegates from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvadore participated in the meeting.

AGREEMENTS

- 1- Go back to the territories and start with small groups the idea of building community.
- 2- Start with small steps in each country that encourage little by little

- 3- Share the theme in their groups, and especially the methodology
- 4- Next meeting: GUATEMALA, OCTOBER 2017



Visit to Contreras Family, example of Production in the approach of Solidarity Economy, onion and cucumber cultivation

Luis Enrique and Álvaro Antonio speak about their adventures with the production of honey, milk and that the work of the countryside is not valued by consumers

34. Chaplains Meeting of MIACS-December 2016

During the session at Sassone, Rome (29-30 april 2016), the decided to create a space for theological reflection and acc such a reflection meeting was organised on thusday 13 decem of ACI (MIAMSI). Chaplains + 1 member from the Secretariat of all the catholic social action movements were invited. The meeting discussed about the present situation of MIACS, actual activities with difficulties, backgrounds, targets and the work done since 3 years between MIACS. It was then followed with the discussion on accompaniment. Why to accompany? How? what mutual support? which kind of work with the national chaplain? With the bishops? With the Holy See?. Then, defined the topic for an another session : which theological contribution? Jean Claude Germon (FIMARC Treasurer) participated in this meeting along with the chaplain of CMR, France

35. FIMARC at Human rights council

HRC 30 and HRC 31 - FIMARC participated in the 30th and 31st sessions of the human rights council in Geneva in 2016 to strengthen our engagement and follow up on right to food and Farmers rights. As usual we made oral and written statements in the sessions to support the peasant rights process and strived for the approval of the resolution by the governments of the human rights council to continue the work on UN declaration on the rights of farmers and other people working in rural areas.

36. FIMARC Human Rights Working group (GTDH)

FIMARC Human Rights working group is composed with the Secretary General, militants of our movements. It is a support group of FIMARC within the ECOSOC and especially in Human Rights Council in Geneva. For a few years, the group centred its efforts on all that related on the Right to food. With the constant work of FIMARC and of the other organisations, little by little the suggestion of the food Sovereignty as basic right is now more accepted than before. FIMARC continues its work on food sovereignty issues with a human rights approach.

4 meetings of the Human Rights Working Group of FIMARC took place in 2016 in Geneva/Annecy Region of France to prepare the written and oral statements to the Human Rights Council Meetings and the work in relation to the UN declaration on Rights of Peasants and Other rural workers. The secretary General participated in two meeting of Human Rights group that was held on 1 February and 28 November 2016 respectively. This group also is working closely with Via Campesina, FIAN Catholic Centre, CETIM and other organisations in Geneva who are involved in Human Rights issues and makes the follow up on farmer's rights discussions and debates in Geneva.

37. Meeting with Partners 2016

In 2016, George Fernandez, Secretary General of FIMARC had meetings with Sébastien Murras

from CCFD, Vincent Melis from Entraide et Fraternite as well as Anja Martinette from MISEREOR and Nicolas Bullard from CCFD. Jean-Claude Germon (Treasurer of FIMARC) and George Fernandez (Secretary General) had meetings with Jean Vetraino (Secours Catholique, France) and Sarah Scheider (MISEREOR, Germany) in october 2016 in Rome

38. Participation in the FAST Group of CIDSE: 2016

This group is important for FIMARC as it is a resource group that treats many subjects related to our preoccupations. As international organisation, FIMARC brings the concrete expertise of the grass root movements that it federates and the preoccupations that they carry to the CIDSE WG. Secretary General of FIMARC participated in the CIDSE FAST working group meetings held in Bruxelles as well as in Portugal (By online). We also joined in the manifestation against the TTIP which was held in front of the European Commission last year FIMARC also carry out joint lobby actions with CIDSE on different issues. FIMARC also support the campaigns of CIDSE on issues of common interest. We are participating in the working group effectively. FIMARC will continue this strategic partnership with CIDSE on food and agricultural governance. We join our hands with CIDSE in Geneva on the process of the binding regulations for the Transnational Corporations.

39. Follow up with national movements

Wolfgang Scharl, FIMARC President participated in the national board meeting of KLB, Germany held on 13/06/2016, Delegate meeting of KLB in February 2016 and made a presentation on Peasant Rights. Wolfgang also participated in the KLJB national meeting and spoke about Family Farming. Jean Claude Germon, FIMARC Treasurer Participated in the CMR General Assembly in Paris from 16-17 April 2016 and made presentations on the main objectives of FIMARC as well as the Erasmus +Project.

Jean Claude also made a presentation about FIMARC in the CMR Administration Council of 2016.

Rony Joseph had a meeting with Thailand Movement of FIMARC in March 2016 together with CCHD RTRC Agricultural Training centre responsible's. George Fernandez, Secretary General of FIMARC and Rony Joseph (FIMARC Asian Coordinator) visited the national movements of FIMARC in Asia such as INAG (India), CEC (Srilanka) ,PKMP (Philippines) and SPSTN (Indonesia) to support and orientate our work on People led development process (PLDP). Manuel Moran (Latin American Coordinator of FIMARC visited Honduras, Guatemala to make solidarity to the communities who are effected due to river blockage by sugar cane factories.



40. FIMARC Europe Kick off meeting for ERASMUS Plus Activities - Bad Honnef Bonn, November 2016-

FIMARC Europe Worked on European Erasmus plus project with objective of better networking between movements- Family Farming, Food Sovereignty, organisational development, Communication etc. are the elements of this proposed project. Italy, Spain, France, Germany,

Poland, Belgium + Slovakia, Bulgaria and Romania are partners of this project of 2 years.

41. Letter to the Movements (LMR)

FIMARC published a reflection letter and message for Christmas 2016 . Fr .Tomas Sphangero wrote the reflection note of this LMR

42. International Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in relations with UNESCO and Election of NGO Liaison committee.

International Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in relations with UNESCO took place at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris (France) from 12 to 14 December 2016. Jean Claude Germon, Treasurer of FIMARC participated in the meeting

Opening remarks of the conference were made by Mr Eric Falt, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for External Relations and Public Information, Mrs Martine Levy, Chairperson of the International Conference and of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee and the theme of the conference was introduced by Mr Eric Sadin , Writer and Philosopher and Mr Frank La Rue , UNESCO Assistant Director - General for Communication and Information.

Further the Activity Report and Financial Report of the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee was presented and adopted. The elections for the Presidency and for the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee was held and a new committee was formed in this regard. The second day was mainly dedicated to the thematic discussion on the topic "The challenge of access to digital information" - "The digital revolution and its impact on the diversity of cultural expressions". UNESCO Bureau for Strategic Planning presented the main content of 39C/5 and this was followed by the discussion to make Collective contribution of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO to the preparation of draft 39 C/5 .The final day was dedicated for the Brainstorming on the work programme for 2017-2018 and followed by an interesting and in depth debate on two key topics ie, "Does e-learning address challenges of education systems worldwide?" , "Science and the digital revolution: which ethical implications ?"

43. FIMARC Publication -VMR -Voice of the Rural World

Voice of the Rural World (VMR) is the review of the movement, published four times a year in four languages (English, French, Spanish and Portuguese). It has been sent to around 1500 people as well as to all the national movements. It is a popular and useful tool of FIMARC as it is focusing on one special theme linking with the challenges of our era. It contributes to the information and formation of national and local leaders on the different topics of FIMARC's work. It is also a forum to share ideas and experience between the continents/Movements. FIMARC is supporting the movements to share and showcase best practices of family farming and agro ecological initiative through VMR. We think that VMR serve as tool between the movements of the FIMARC from the experiences which promote viable alternate development of the rural people and particularly peasants. This also helps us to reach out to the vast network of organizations that fight in the same perspectives and/or with similar objectives. FIMARC underlines the importance of this publication and the need to continue the same. We received many positive feedback from different people and organisations about the

use of VMR. We even received a recent message of appreciation from the retired Bishop of Chile on the Editorials and topic of VMR on Rural Migration.

FIMARC dealt the following topics through VMR editions of 2016

1. VMR 119: "Principles for responsible investment in agriculture and food systems"
2. VMR 120: "Voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security"
3. VMR 121- TTIP
4. VMR 122- Rural Migration

44. Regional Newsletters 2016:

Regional newsletter has an objective to facilitate the exchanges and the knowledge of the member organizations of the same regions. This information bulletin is compiled by the regional coordinators for the movements and member organizations of their region

During the year 2016 FIMARC Europe Published 3 News letters on rotational basis by different national movements on specific themes and activities of the particular countries France, Belgium and Spain contributed for the News Letters of 2016. Roberto Calvo of MRC Spain released the EU Newsletter No 18 of March 2016 on TTIP, FIMARC newsletter N° 19 of July 2016 on Agroecology, a way of (r) evolution in Europe and a message of Pope Francisco to the European leaders was released by Jean Claude of CMR, France and the EU newsletter N20 of November 2016 on Living Together was published by Daisy Herman of ACRF Belgium. Newsletter allows a good contact between the movements.

45. FIMARC Publication on FAMILY FARMING and CAMPAIGN Follow up 2016

FIMARC Published a campaign material on Family farming in French /Spanish and English to give orientation for the movements and grass root groups to engage systematically in their context to promote and strengthen family farming initiatives. For the follow-up of the campaign of FIMARC on family farming, a team was set up by the Executive Committee, specifically responsible for the mobilization of members. This team includes the following persons:

Modesta Arevalos from Paraguay
Rony Joseph from India
Jean Claude Germon from France
Meyanga Ayong Médard from Cameroon
George Dixon Fernandez-Secretary General, FIMARC

46. FIMARC Participation in Various Meetings 2016

FIMARC Participated in the meeting of World Food Program Innovation Accelerator held in Munich on 11/07/2016

FIMARC participated in the seminar on Human Rights of Indigenous people organised by Justice and Peace, Germany

Rony Joseph from India participated in the FABC Consultation meeting on Climate change in Bombay 2016

Anne from INAG, India participated in the AYA meeting in Thailand 2016

George Fernandez participated in the exploratory meeting on development finance, corporate power and agriculture lead by CIDSE with various organisations in March at Broderlijk Delen Office in Brussels

FIMARC Participated in the KLB Germany National Assembly meeting as well as in the CMR France General Assembly



Conclusion

In the face of the alarming rise and mainstreaming of populism and frontal assaults on basic rights and values, we must do more: we need to build deeper solidarity and mobilize more resources to support movements on the frontlines of the fight for people and the planet. We've come this far because of the unwavering support from allied members and partners and dedicated -donors like you.

Thank you for all that you do to support and share our vision of a world without hunger, poverty and environmental degradation.

Thank you!
