

## **Farmers' Major Group – Dr.Sarala gopalan, IFAP.**

### **Statement on Waste Management**

#### **CSD-18**

Mister Chairman,

Models for sustainable development must involve proper management of waste from farming operations, animal waste. Options outlined by Magegas need to be introduced. This involves minimizing agricultural waste while maximizing environmentally sound reuse and recycling.

Too often farmers in developing countries lack resources, knowledge and information about techniques and waste management procedures. For instance, bio gas production from animal manure improves the value of agricultural and other residues and is beneficial for the environment. It also provides valuable electrical power. Humane, sustainable livestock production is achievable, with environmentally sensitive management of waste. However, the required investments and costs of maintenance remain prohibitively expensive to most farmers. Increasing the use of biogas as a bio energy remains dependant on Government incentive policies.

As we move along the production chain, reducing production losses and food waste are key elements for sustainable development.

Another issue concerns food waste during the production and consumption phases. This includes products that do not meet trade quality standards. Information and training on food quality standards is needed in order to change the food chain actors' behaviours, including the behaviour of consumers.

Recently in India, as already referred to by the distinguished Delegate from South Africa,- in the State of Kerala, Women's self Help Groups have organized themselves to collect household waste at the door of the households and deliver them at designated collection points of the Municipality for recycling in separate compartments according to the nature

of the waste. This systematic organization has been able to provide regular employment and decent incomes to thousands of persons throughout the State and has served as an important Poverty Alleviation Programme, along with making the cities clean, and environmentally safe. More intensified technology for better recovery of important elements from the waste, needs to be pursued.

Thank you.