

Statement by Farmers' Major Group- Dr.Sarala Gopalan

“Way Forward” May 14, 2010

CSD-18

Mister Chairman,

As farmers, particularly as representative of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, we feel very responsible for sustainable development and continuation of this planet to serve the swelling millions, and those yet to come, and ensure a better quality of life for all - in the present and in the future.

The most positive things we have noticed in this dialogue in CSD 18 is the abundance of knowledge around the experts and agencies and nations, the technologies that have emerged already and those in incubation, waiting to emerge. The way forward lies in taking practical steps to disseminate them widely and quickly. We have to learn fast to focus on doing more and better with less.

We look forward to strategies and policies at the global, national and local levels where farmers will be in focus of attention, whether in the developed or developing country. We look forward to building capacities in terms of skills and resources and provision of accesses in terms of infrastructure, transport and finance to perform this responsibility of conserving resources and producing and supplying more that the world needs to sustain itself more efficiently.

Thank you Chairperson