

**NGO Major Group
Comment on the Draft Negotiating Text**

27 February 2009, PM

Gaps and Omissions:

We are concerned about the largely technology solution-slant of the document, thus missing the social and economic dimensions of such farmer-centered alternatives as ecological agriculture and organic agriculture.

Stronger presentation of the rights-based approach, to food, land, water and productive resources

Biofuels failed to capture the seriousness of the threats posed by biofuels to local and global food security as shown in last year's food price crises. The reference to further research and development on 2nd and 3rd generation biofuels must properly reflect this caution.

Livestock references should include humane treatment of animals which is directly linked to health and environment.

On Africa:

Recognition of the role of structural adjustments programs in damaging Africa's agriculture as a starting point of discussing the problems in African agriculture

Scaling up of pilot home grown school feeding programs under the NEPAD

Managed grazing

We look forward to a more focused document that can provide clear and concrete directions to urgently address the multiple crises where Agriculture plays critical role.

We look forward to an exciting and stimulating CSD-17.