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Industrial Development - Conf. Room 4 from 15:00 – 18:00

FARMERS GROUP STATEMENT

by

Ms. Maria Christina Pacheco

The International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)

My name is Maria Christina Pacheco. I am a sugarcane grower from Brazil and my organisation is a member of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP).

FARMERS - Faces with barriers that prevent them sometimes, from adapting to the now globalized world. We face climate change effects and also have to use sustainable sources of energy. We have market problems - The price of our products is the smaller share on the price the consumer pays for it.

There are many barriers to face:

Farmers LACK THE FINANCIAL CAPITAL to invest in new sustainable practices.

It is need to continue to EXPAND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH – and make it available to the farmers.

It is essential to recognize the **important role of farmers and growers** both representing one of the most affected sectors by climate change, but also as a sector with a huge potential in the design of instruments and tool to address this problem.

FARMERS - should become producers of bio-energies and not just providers of cheap raw materials to energy companies. We, as FARMERS have to be key players in the entire value chain from production to distribution.

With the arrival of the 21st Century the relationship between INDUSTRY and FARMERS must move to partnership. A new concept of how farmers should be paid has to be implemented. Farmer's should receive a percentage of the bio-energy production revenues. Since 1998 Brazilian sugarcane growers receives for the biomass delivered to the industry a percentage of the price of sugar and ethanol in local and external market through a system of parametrical formulas. This system has enable a better income to farmers, more jobs and wealth to rural community.

WE FARMER ARE THE SOLUTION AND NOT THE PROBLEM