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CSD 17th Session 3rd Meeting

Intervention by
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Madame Chair,

Indonesia would like to associate itself fully with the statement made by Sudan on behalf of the G77 and China. I should also like to take this opportunity to thank to the chairman of CSD-17 for putting forward chair's negotiating text. This text is a good basis for our deliberation and negotiation for the two weeks later.

Madame Chair,

The section on agriculture, rural development and land on your text provides a forward looking action oriented approach. However, the section has not fully captured the current condition, situation and difficulties of the agriculture and rural development sector as well as land management in developing countries.

The situation of urgency resulting from the food crisis and price instability is not fully reflected. The section also has not address the distortion of the agriculture sector in developing countries resulting from the monopolistic practices of large agricultural multinational companies.

Important elements such as the issue of trade and market distortions, financing, capacity building, role of small farmers in developing countries, vulnerable population, establishing conducive economic and market environments, international support towards national actions, and the important role of the Rome based organizations such as the FAO, IFAD, and WFP were not or insufficiently addressed.

Greater emphasis should be made in the draft decision on the urgent need to rebalance the global food economy. Addressing the structural problems in the food and agricultural and rural development sectors including agriculture protectionism and subsidies in developed countries is central in this regard.

Madame Chair,

The recent food crisis has shown that the current global food and agriculture economy needs to be reformed. For reform to succeed there must be a mobilization of political will and commitment from all relevant stake holders to revive agriculture and rural development in developing countries through coordinated short, medium and long term measures at the national and international levels.

Such reform must also take into account the impact of climate change and ensure sustainable agricultural practices.

A global framework to help developing countries revitalize their agricultural and rural development sectors needs to be established. This is an important step towards reform of the global food and agriculture economy, and should be reflected in the CSD decision.

adequate financial resources, comprehensive capacity building and technology transfer to assist developing countries farmers effectively adapt to climate change.

Finally Madame Chair, the production of biofuel in a sustainable manner is important not just for the environment but also in improving the livelihood of the rural population. Indonesia's biofuel production has been based on using non-grain agricultural products and making use of semi arid land. We are of the view that such biofuel production practices should be supported and encouraged.

In closing, the challenges facing the global food and agriculture economy are great. There is a need for us to embark on a new green revolution that would not only enable us to overcome hunger and malnutrition, but to do so in a way that supports the three pillars of sustainable development. Indonesia is confident that this is achievable. Our own experience in revitalizing agriculture and rural development has allowed us to achieve self-sufficiency of our staple food.

Thank you.