

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Ligue Internationale de Femmes pour la Paix et la Liberté

Liga Internacional de Mujeres por la Paz y la Libertad

Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC, UNCTAD and UNESCO; Special Consultative Relations with FAO, ILO, and UNICEF.



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WILPF STATEMENT FOR FAO CONFERENCE

ROME , JUNE 25 - JULY 2, 2011

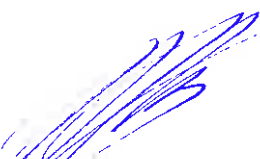
WILPF, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, longterm NGO at FAO, addresses on a continual and committed basis, the issues of Women - The Right to Food, Food Security & Food Sovereignty, on a policy and a civil society action format. WILPF monitors, women and food, the food crisis, the economic crisis, hunger, malnutrition and related health issues, land rights, women in agriculture, rural women.

WILPF, in our commitment to peace, focuses on the INTERSECTIONALITY of issues impacting food, women in agriculture, nutrition, and the human rights dimensions all of which frame the current crises, polarization of power and wealth, and increase of women, including women food producers, and their children, among the majority of the refugees, displaced, victims of natural disasters, and the poor, homeless, and disempowered. We look behind the documents and aid, to the vital need for creation of agriculture programs of/by/for/with the women producers, small landholders, many desparately trying to create sustainable food for family survival.

As part of this INTERSECTIONALITY of women and the right to food, food security, and food sovereignty, WILPF wishes to highlight additionally:

- *Health, including Maternal & Infant Mortality
- *Education - Hunger, poverty, families not able to afford to send children to school, child labour to help pay for family food +
- *Water and sanitation as related to food, agriculture, and hunger
- *Forced marriages of girls as barter for land debts and lack of food for families
- *Minority, ethnic, and indigenous issues related to food
- *Impacts of war and conflict on food production and adequate consumption
- *Women's rights to land and poverty; Land grabbing and forced evictions
- *Climate change issues and agriculture, right to food, hunger
- *Natural disasters affecting food production, adequate food, malnutrition
- *Ageing populations
- *Widows issues accelerated by war and conflict, HIV/AIDS, poverty, discrimination
- *Globalization, corruption, disrupting lives of small farmers and fisherfolk, land for food production, rights of women in agriculture

WILPF sees the protracted food crisis as part of the multiple crises that have caused more women, children, people, to be in extreme hunger and poverty; and WILPF supports substantive efforts for food security, food sovereignty, and human rights.


Madeleine Rees
WILPF
Secretary General