



Oral statement of FIAN International during the fourth session of the inter-governmental working group for a UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas.

Comments on Article 22

May 2017

Thank You Madam Chair and Namaste to all,

I am Ammar Air from FIAN Nepal.

We strongly support the content of article 22 on the right to social security as mentioned in the draft declaration of peasant rights.

In the context of my country, the majority of the farmers are small and marginal and do not get sufficient food from their own production. They are also suffering from dumping of foods and open markets and do not get the prices for their production. Alternative sources of income and livelihood do not exist, which is the reason why those peasants who produce food have to suffer from hunger. This has also led to the dissatisfaction towards agriculture as a profession in general causing an increasing trend of migration of the youth to urban areas and outside the country in search for alternative livelihood opportunities.

Therefore, madam chair, based on the principle food sovereignty, we reiterate the importance of providing social security to peasants in terms of grants, subsidies, compensation, pensions and minimum support prices.

It is the state obligation to guarantee the right to social security in order to guarantee the right to adequate food and nutrition and therefore food sovereignty.

Thank You.