1. On 22 December 2011 - after more than 3 years of intense campaigning from the Civil Society coordinated by the World Rural Forum-WRF and supported by an unanimous resolution of the FAO Conference, 2 July 2011, by the IFAD and by different countries like the Philippines, Brazil, Argentina, Uganda, etc- the United Nations General Assembly approved, without any opposition, the declaration of the 2014 International Year of Family Farming-IYFF-2014.

2. The UN General Assembly Resolution highlights Family Farming's important contribution to food security, recognising its relevance in every continent and the necessity of gaining more public support, with special emphasis on small-scale farmers and women farmers.

3. At the request of the UN General Assembly, the FAO assumed the official preparation of the IYFF-2014 in close collaboration with different social and institutional sectors represented in the International Steering Committee-ISC.

4. The Civil Society, actively present in the ISC, has maintained its own performance at national, regional and international level, concentrating specifically on the push to create National Committees, based on three pillars: women and men farmers organisations, rural associations and development cooperation agencies, as well as governments and international organisations.

5. After the implementation during 2013, of the various FAO Regional Conferences, set up in collaboration with women and men farmers organisations and the cooperatives movement, the participants of the Global Dialogue, grouped into 5 sectors: governments, women and men farmer organisations, and others from the Civil Society, private sector, agricultural research and development cooperation entities, they all share the following conclusions and recommendations:

6. The IYFF-2014 has represented - through multiple initiatives that have taken place in institutional areas like governments, parliaments and international organisations as well as in the Civil Society framework, agricultural research, etc. - a great opportunity to promote and
to agree together upon better public agricultural policies in favour of Family Farming, specially to small-scale farmers, fishers, etc.

7. In the area of communication the IYFF-2014 has promoted a greater public and private awareness about the large contribution to Humanity by the more than two billion men and women farmers as well as and other food producers. This contribution is encapsulated by the official IYFF-2014 logo: “Feeding the world, Caring for the Earth”.

8. Within this context, we particularly appreciate the declaration of the farmers organisations from the 5 continents in Abu Dhabi, 22 January 2014; the declaration of 32 ministers of agriculture from Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe in favour of Family Farming, at the Paris Agricultural Fair February 2014; the declaration of the Andean Parliament, of the United States Senate, etc.

9. Family Farming - a concept that integrates mainly small-scale farmers, indigenous peoples, traditional fishing and pastoralists - produce 70% of the food consumed on the planet and employ 40% of the world population. It represents a sustainable model in need of important public and private support to maintain and to strengthen its potentialities of food production, job creation, and, being closely linked with those who suffer from Hunger and Malnutrition in the rural areas, of eliminating both of them in the most effective way.

10. The right to food, acknowledged globally, cannot be effectively implemented if food is not available and accessible at national level. Every country should produce a substantial portion of its food, which is essential to reach Food Security in the way to Food Sovereignty.

11. Earth, water and other natural and financial resources represent important factors for the correct development of Family Farming, specially smallholders, traditional fishers, etc. Thus, it is necessary to implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forest in the context of National Food Security, approved by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2012.

12. Governments should allocate in an adequate and transparent manner, enough resources into national budgets in order to give public support and investments to Agriculture and Rural Development, with priority to smallholders.

13. Men and women Family Farmers must have equal rights with regards to possession or tenure of land, access to resources, training and technical support, credit and different forms of public health protection.

14. Support programmes for the integration of young farmers into Family Farming should be a high priority in all countries. This would facilitate its establishment with specific policies that
would make the diverse world of Family Farming an attractive option and a source of rural employment.

15. The IYFF-2014 has contributed to the recognition of the work of more than two billion male and female farmers and has created new expectations and challenges to continue promoting all their remaining demands.

16. The members of the ISC, aware that supporting Family Farming is part of a medium- and long-term process, agree to explore - according to their various functions and possibilities - avenues to maintain the present collaboration in favour of Family Farming beyond the IYFF-2014.

17. Amongst the diverse subjects that remain open to future consideration, efforts and answers, the members of the ISC have identified the following priority areas:

18. Progressive regulation and improvement of the legal access and control of land, water and natural and financial resources of family farmers, with a special concern for the smallholders, while taking into account the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines, mentioned above.

19. Innovations adapted to Family Farming/Smallholders that take into account agro-ecological improvements in food production, reduction of the most difficult tasks, and preservation of employment and sustainability of this model of production.

20. National policies in favour of Family Farming, Women Farmers and Rural Youth that improve food security, giving priority to local production and to local markets, and legal protection against land grabbing.

21. Improvement of international laws to regulate the international food market, so that they promote a concept of trade based on search for equity and agricultural development in all countries.