



# La Via Campesina

International Peasant Movement  
Movimiento Campesino Internacional  
Mouvement Paysan International

## International Operational Secretariat

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Dear Dr Qu Dongyu,

On behalf of La Via Campesina and its member organizations, let me express our gratitude for our highly constructive meeting last Friday, the 22nd of July.

We were pleased to have a deep, direct, concrete discussion with you. We strongly believe this meeting will strengthen the relations between peasants' organizations worldwide and FAO for the benefit of peasants and other people working in rural areas and the general interest of all FAO Member States.

We have reached a better mutual understanding of the necessity to foster meaningful and effective participation of peasants' organizations in all FAO spaces where food and agricultural policies are being discussed. From our side, we'll engage to guarantee inclusive and constructive participation of our peasants' members from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas.

We hope that FAO will be able to create the necessary conditions and support for this participation.

We also agreed that interpretation and translation in different languages is a crucial issue for the effective participation of peasants. Therefore, it is vital that all FAO working documents and other relevant texts be accessible in all UN official languages.

We will work closely with the Partnership Division to overcome the difficulties limiting the effective participation of peasants in the FAO spaces, particularly after these two years of the Covid19 pandemic. The first step in this sense will undoubtedly be the revision and improvement of our Exchange of Letter.

We greatly appreciate your support of the UN Decade of Family Farming, in which La Via Campesina is currently holding the second vice-presidency. We are looking forward to increasing UN Member States participation in this crucial space, as mentioned in the recommendations of COAG 28, and to reaching consistent innovative results at the national and international levels.

We were also glad to hear that the FAO is committed to better implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and other people working in rural areas. The active participation of FAO national offices will be precious to fostering the UNDROP implementation at the national level.

We had the chance to exchange and hear your analysis on various issues such as peasants' revenue, digitalization, agrarian reform, peasants' seeds, and international trade of agricultural commodities, among other topics. Such dialogue is undoubtedly valuable to reach a better-shared understanding about which public policies are better suited to ensure a decent livelihood for peasants and access to sufficient and quality food for people.

Finally, we are very enthusiastic about your proposal for an FAO-led event for peasants and family farmers to be organized in 2023. This could significantly impact peasants' and rural workers' participation at the highest levels of global food and agricultural governance.

We look forward to continuing this constructive work with you and all FAO Divisions!

Best regards,

Morgan Ody