



GROUP OF FIFTEEN
The Summit Level Group of Developing Countries

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE G-15 JOINT STATEMENT TO THE
38th SESSION OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE;
Rome, 15-22 June 2013**

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Fifteen (G-15), a Summit Level Group of Developing Countries, comprising 17 member states¹. The fuller statement is available for collection at the Conference.

The Group notes with grave concern that over 850 million people today are chronically undernourished, mostly in developing countries. The Group encourages united global action on food security and undernourishment for this generation and posterity.

The Group welcomes the first version of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition and lends support towards its implementation so as to avert future food crises and hunger and ensure food security and nutrition for all human beings.

The Group fully supports the declaration of year 2014 as the International Year of Family Farming as it draws special attention to the small scale producers, family farmers and cooperatives in the Post 2015 development agenda on food security and nutrition.

The Group stresses the need for renewed, concerted, forward-looking and inclusive efforts to improve agricultural productivity and profitability in a sustainable manner. It recognizes the important role of agriculture trade for achieving food security and nutrition and highlights the negative effects of trade barriers and trade-distorting subsidies of developed countries.

The Group stresses on the need for taking urgent actions to assist developing countries in the field of education, capacity-building and adaptation to the effects of climate change on the agriculture sector particularly for small and medium holders, including through added investments, promoting, and harnessing of new technologies and innovation to enhance food supply, reduce food losses and wastes in developing countries.

In closing, the Group of Fifteen welcomes, recognizes and fully supports the ongoing global efforts towards contributing to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition². The Group thanks the Director-General and the Secretariat for the elaboration of the PWB and wishes the Conference all the success.

¹ Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

² FAO Medium term plan 2014-17 and Programme Work Budget 2014-2015