General Statement

Thank you Madam Chair for your substantive draft declaration. On Behalf of PWESCR jointly with Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC) CSO in Nepal, I would like to draw your attention in following points on the draft general statement.

1. I appreciate the word included Food sovereignty on the draft to promote Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) which is also guarantee Nepal's constitution.
2. I want to draw your attention in following issues which are not included on the draft declaration

* Land grabbing and price rise on land and food are increasing and it has been making the life more vulnerable of smallholders, tenants and landless farmers in South Asia.
* Due to large development projects and urbanization, smallholders , sharecroppers and tenant farmers are evicted everyday and their life is getting worst and more vulnerable.
* Draft has not talked on the necessity of land reform to secure the rights of peasants and domination of market-oriented land reform
* In South Asia, Youth migration is increasing due to no secured rights on land and productive resources- draft has not talked on the lack of productive resources and youth migration.
* The word included on the draft, land water, seeds and other natural resource but left out the word forest. Forest is also important for the rights of peasants. Right of peasants is not enough in agriculture land but also the should rights in forest and public land.
* In South Asia, Peasants- means Kishan, is male not recognized women, in the context of South Asia still not recognize women as peasants. Also draft has not talked on the recognition of women as farmers and denied from rights.

Thank you.

Jagat Basnet

CSRC, Nepal on behalf of PWECR