



**Intervention at the Morning Hearing on Sustained and Inclusive Economic Growth
Fifth Session of the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals
25 November 2013**

Thanks Mr Co-Chairman my name is Magda Lanuza from Nicaragua and I am part of the Women's Major Group. I want to emphasize what our panelist Nicole Bidegain from DAWN who mentioned the terms of redistribution of resources and the role states should play.

We have now the opportunity to move towards the sustainability of life and the planet. We urge nations to design and implement economic practices and policies that do not continue undermining people's lives and over exploiting natural resources but guarantee environmental protection and the well-being of large populations such as small and medium farmers. We do not believe in a model that locates all rights to the agribusiness sectors. We continue calling for the removal of the agriculture subsidies in the developed countries. We call for public institutions role in playing a more proactive role to guarantee the access to loans from national banks, access to water resources, encourage agro ecological practices, access to land for both women and men who live in rural areas.

This somehow is taking place in countries such as Nicaragua and El Salvador in Central America. But still more needs to be done to strengthen the ongoing efforts to consolidate food sovereignty initiatives so far implemented by some small farmers, women groups and few Latin American governments. It already has been proven that small scale agro ecological systems are more sustainable and long term positively impacting people's lives and benefiting nature, compared to the agri-business that continues fueling the machine of the nowadays economic growth. By taking steps with these reforms we will guarantee to move out of or prevent more food crisis, rural disasters, and ongoing rural immigration and farmers suicides.

Thank you very much Mr. chair.