

**United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-sixth session
27 February – 9 March 2012
New York**

INTERACTIVE EXPERT PANEL

**The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and
hunger eradication, development and current challenges**

Focus: Economic Empowerment of Rural Women

**THE REPORT OF THE EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON:
ENABLING RURAL WOMEN'S ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT:
INSTITUTIONS, OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTICIPATION**

by

**MALIKA ABDELALI-MARTINI
Socio-Economist, Community and Gender Analysis Specialist,
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
Algeria**

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates and keynote speakers, Dear colleagues, Honorable Ministers and representatives of Member States, Ladies and gentlemen:

Rural women in agricultural and non-farm work: Farmers, producers, workers and entrepreneurs

Agriculture

commercial land acquisition

'land grabbing

Rural women's access to research and technology

access to new technologies

needs, interests, and constraints

differ from men's

public sector

Ladies and gentlemen, allow me now to highlight the main recommendations adopted by the Expert Group Meeting:

Recommendations

- **multi-dimensional and dynamic**
- **agents of change**
- **leaders**

- **Diversity of rural women**
- **Full enjoyment of indigenous women and men to land**
- **human rights of rural women and men**
- **Violence against women**
- **M rural economies**
- **nequalities and challenges**

- **Economic marginalization**

Therefore

rural development frameworks **risks and**
opportunities **rights, aspirations and**
needs **inclusive economic**

growth strategies **decentralization**
green economy
sustainable development and help mitigate climate change

recommendations

1. Economic policies, growth and equality

economic policies fully prioritize decent work and employment generation

institutional and policy environment that promotes decent work

Increase investments in infrastructure

Develop and implement policies and programmes that support women

Promote rural and indigenous women's knowledge, products and services

**policies, programmes and incentives
effective engagement in the global value chain**

Introduce tax systems and other fiscal and macro-economic measures that redistribute wealth

measures that offset the negative impact of global and regional trade agreements

Emphasize channels for development, testing, application and dissemination of frameworks and tools

2. Equal access to and control of land and other rural productive resources

national laws and policies guarantee women's right to land

Ensure that laws and policies on land are implemented and known

gender-sensitive land and property

laws

Promote changes in customary law

joint titles

consent of each spouse for the sale of land, or its use as collateral;

registration of land for collective use

limit the quantity of national land that foreign countries and corporations can buy _____

_____ protect the rights

changes

do not

cause environmental damage, do not destroy the ecosystems

Prepare resettlement plans

Enable small-holder farmers

women as actors in climate change adaptation and mitigation

environmental service payment schemes

access to productive resources and inputs

facilitate uptake of technology by rural women

3. Provision of and entitlement to services

education and training **women's access to information,**

empower rural producers' and women's organizations

South-South exchange

access to essential service

5. Monitoring and evaluation

data collected at all levels is disaggregated

time-use surveys

**economic growth includes the contribution of
rural women and men in paid and unpaid work**

data and information is widely disseminated

Develop the capacities of rural women and their organizations

training in participatory methods

6. Resources

adequate financial resources in national budgets

financial support for rural women's organizations

7. UN system

gender equality and diversity commitments

improve gender statistics and data disaggregated

9. Conclusion