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# INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT **Governing Council – Twenty-Fourth Session**

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# PROGRESS REPORT BY THE POPULAR COALITION TO ERADICATE HUNGER AND POVERTY

#### I. SUMMARY

- The millennium year has been a decisive period for the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty (henceforth Popular Coalition). IFAD's investment over the previous four years is delivering clear returns in terms of: (i) concrete benefits to the rural poor; (ii) harnessing unique forms and types of knowledge; (iii) the emergence of new networks and partnerships; (iv) strengthened civil-society capacities; and (v) catalysing further donor interest and support.
- 2. The previous Progress Report and Forecast by the Popular Coalition, presented to the Sixty-Eighth Session of the Executive Board (document EB 99/68/R.37) and the Twenty-Third Session of the Governing Council, pointed up the emergence of a coherent programme. The report describes the consolidation of that programme during 2000 and the successful building of a robust institutional and programmatic basis for the continuation of the Popular Coalition.
- The year 2000 represented an important period of transition in which the vision that fuelled the creation of the Popular Coalition was converted into a concrete institutional structure and an integrated set of largely field-based programmes. Transition and progress during the period can be measured according to a number of metrics, many of which are discussed in detail below. These include:
- validation: concrete validation of the Popular Coalition model and the vision that underpinned its creation;
- field programme: consolidation of an increasingly integrated field programme in almost 30 countries, leading to direct empowerment of poor rural people;
- partners: involvement of a growing number of global, regional and national partners from government, intergovernmental organisations and civil society;
- **networks**: linkages with an increasing number of networks;



- **global player**: increasing influence on global events;
- **knowledge management**: identification of clear, measurable knowledge management goals and emergence of a viable process for knowledge collection and dissemination;
- **community empowerment**: development of effective institutional and technical frameworks for small community empowerment grants; and
- **governance**: emergence of a comprehensive governance structure.

### II. INTRODUCTION

- 4. The Popular Coalition was a direct outcome of the Conference on Hunger and Poverty held in Brussels in 1995. Its creation produced a unique institutional space for the coming together of diverse stakeholders from government, civil society and intergovernmental organisations. Its aim was to identify new and innovative methods of working and encourage new collaborative operations.
- 5. The Popular Coalition was given a specific overall mission that of empowering the rural poor through increasing access to land and other productive resources. This mission is served by the three related goals that drive its programme structure:
  - (a) increasing civil society's participation in decision-making processes;
  - (b) identifying new ways and approaches to working together at the local, national and international levels; and
  - (c) stressing the importance of the resource-access issue on international and national agendas.
- 6. As a specialised United Nations agency institution responsible for promoting "the economic advancement of the rural poor, mainly by improving the productivity of on and off-farm activities", IFAD has been at the forefront in supporting ways and means of improving poor people's access to productive assets. IFAD was instrumental in creating the Popular Coalition as a collaborative mechanism based on a vision, at the time unique, of a new form of equal partnership among civil-society and intergovernmental organisations. IFAD was visionary in unifying a multi-stakeholder constituency around the importance of land reform and access to productive assets. IFAD is credited with putting these issues back on national and international agendas with a level of priority that was missing. These issues had become marginalized until the Brussels conference in 1995. Understandably, access to assets is an important pillar of IFAD's Rural Poverty Report 2001. The Popular Coalition will be able to assist IFAD in building its knowledge base on access to asset issues through providing greater opportunities for collaboration with new and diverse stakeholders at local, national and international levels.
- 7. IFAD's institutional, financial and technical support has been the decisive factor in the development of the Popular Coalition and its programme. IFAD support (USD 2.75 million, including the USD 1.60 million contribution to the Community Endowment Facility (CEF) under technical assistance (TA) grant 416) have accounted for 49.1% of total revenues (USD 5.61 million) since the formation of the Popular Coalition in 1996. This TA grant has been of vital importance to the Popular Coalition, given the crucial catalytic role it has been able to play in initiating programmes and leveraging support; and because of the vital contribution it has made to covering the core operating costs of the Secretariat, and *ipso facto*, the Popular Coalition itself. The Popular Coalition's overall programme is now designed to reduce this dependence on IFAD. Expected resource requirements for 2001, for example, predict a relative decline in the IFAD contribution to less than 50% of core operating costs, a significant drop from previous levels that were often nearer 100%. This shift further demonstrates the catalytic nature of IFAD support in providing a basis for further funding from



external sources. The Government of Italy's continuing support for the Knowledge Network on Agrarian Reform (ARnet) (a further USD 400 000 contribution was approved in mid-2000) and their funding of an Associate Professional Officer position in the Secretariat, coupled with increasingly strong indications of substantial support from other external sources (most notably the European Union (EU) and the Government of Belgium), have provided the clearest demonstration of the catalytic function of IFAD support.

- IFAD has continued to provide vital support to the Popular Coalition throughout 2000. Within IFAD, the Economic Policy and Resource Strategy Department (ED) hosts the Popular Coalition, enabling the Secretariat to benefit from the other partnership-focused units based in the Department. The Communications and Public Affairs Unit has provided valuable support to the Popular Coalition in the production of a 20-minute documentary that was broadcast in the United States and transmitted in more than 40 other countries world-wide and (in collaboration with the Publications and Desktop Publishing Team) in the development of a series of reports and high-quality documents that have helped raise public awareness and understanding of the complex issues surrounding the question of increasing the rural poor's access to land and other natural resources. The documentary also demonstrated the joint benefits that can result from this type of collaboration as it focused on the Popular Coalition and the resource-access issue, directed considerable attention to IFAD's programmes and contained several interviews with staff members. Likewise, the Popular Coalition has benefited from continuing cooperation with other units in ED, including the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Civil-Society Partnerships Unit (e.g. participation in the Tenth IFAD/NGO Consultation (para. 38)); the Belgian Survival Fund (BSF) (para. 20); the Multilateral and Interagency Affairs Unit (e.g. participation in the Eighth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-8) – para. 35-36) and with the Resource Mobilization Unit – Replenishment and Supplementary Funds. A series of potential joint programme opportunities with the regional divisions of the Programme Management Department (PD) was identified during 2000 and could become operational in 2001. The main thrust of initial cooperation will be linked to the Popular Coalition's CEF (paras. 26, 29, 31).
- 9. During 2000, the Popular Coalition continued to produce an increasing range of direct and indirect benefits to IFAD. For example, IFAD participates in the Popular Coalition as a "first amongst equals". Throughout the Popular Coalition's history, IFAD's crucial contribution has been consistently and constantly recognised: thus, every achievement of the Popular Coalition is, by implication, an achievement of IFAD. The Popular Coalition's growing portfolio of successes and its increasing involvement in global events has generated very real benefits to IFAD. This recognition is well deserved.

### III. VALIDATION OF THE POPULAR COALITION MODEL

- 10. Achievements in 2000 have led to the clear validation of the Popular Coalition model, as evidenced by growing support, increasing activities at the field and international levels and deepening impact. Above all, however, the value of the Popular Coalition has been demonstrated by its capacity to induce concrete changes in the lives of the rural poor. It is important, too, to recognise that it is not just the Popular Coalition's programmes that have been validated during 2000: the whole concept of a coalition linking diverse institutional sectors meaning the Popular Coalition itself has also received validation during the reporting period. This was reflected by the decision of the Sixth Interim Steering Committee in June 2000 to approve a new long-term governance structure (para. 42) to oversee the future growth and development of the Popular Coalition.
- 11. Several of the activities with which the Popular Coalition has been involved in 2000 have reaffirmed the value of creating a neutral forum to bring together partners from civil society, government and intergovernmental organisations. The first meeting of the Land Policy Working Group that took place in Rome on 27-28 June 2000 (para. 38) was a direct outcome of the Popular



Coalition's earlier participation at World Bank Rural Week in March 2000 (para. 34) The decision to invite the Secretariat to convene the Working Group demonstrated the recognition by several bilateral and multilateral donors of the potential value of the Popular Coalition as a neutral forum for discussion and action.

- Likewise, many of the meetings that took place during Secretariat missions to South Asia, Central America, Southern Africa, West Africa and North Africa and the Near East during 2000 reflected the capacity of the Popular Coalition to increase opportunities for dialogue between civil society and both government and intergovernmental organisations. In Nepal, for example, Mobilization and Development (MODE-Nepal), the national node for the ARnet programme, was able to participate in meetings at the Department for International Development (DFID) in the United Kingdom, Swiss Cooperation and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and at the offices of a number of national and international NGOs. Likewise, ARnet partners participated in meetings with representatives of the EU and World Bank in Nicaragua, and of the EU and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Guatemala. In both cases (and elsewhere), the meetings were the first of their kind: the Popular Coalition created an opportunity for the dialogue to take place as a direct result of its cross-sectoral identify and membership. In each of these examples, the process of dialogue that began during the Secretariat's visit has continued, demonstrating the longer-term value of this approach. Likewise, in a wide number of meetings with NGOs and other civil-society groups, Secretariat officers were often in a position to articulate the positions and perspectives of both government and intergovernmental partners in instances in which those views might not otherwise have been heard. Similarly, in a complex and often tense situation in Zimbabwe characterised by limited exchange between government, civil society and the international community, the Popular Coalition, following IFAD's leadership, was able to encourage new dialogue in the search for a solution to the seeming impasse surrounding the resettlement issue.
- 13. The growing number of governments, intergovernmental organisations and civil-society groups that have sought to establish or strengthen partnerships with the Popular Coalition further validates the latter model. In addition, more than ten governments approached the Popular Coalition directly during 2000 seeking to identify new or extended collaborative opportunities, the EU, World Bank, World Food Programme (WFP), FAO, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, United Nations Environment Programme, the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and, of course IFAD, have all restated their support for joint activities with the Popular Coalition. An ever-growing number of local, national, regional and global NGOs and other Civil-society Organisations (CSOs) have also approached the Popular Coalition seeking, *inter alia*, to participate in its field programmes, establish linkages with networks, build new partnerships and share communication opportunities. In all cases, these partners have recognised the value of the Popular Coalition model, its potential to deliver concrete outputs and its increasing importance on the global stage.
- 14. The value of the decision to create the Popular Coalition was further confirmed by the growing effectiveness of its programmes, reflected, for example, in the continued development of the ARnet network, the completion of the CEF development phase and the Popular Coalition's growing influence on public awareness and international opinion.

#### IV. PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES IN 2000

15. The Popular Coalition's field programme has undergone considerable development during 2000. Foremost, perhaps, has been the continued growth of ARnet throughout the year.

#### A. Agrarian Reform Network

16. The ARnet programme delivered three distinct types of outputs during 2000: (i) positive local impacts; (ii) new or strengthened civil-society networks; and (iii) information and knowledge. The



first ARnet activities were started up in late 1999. By early 2000, 23 national nodes (in 22 countries – India has two nodes) and seven regional nodes had begun implementation and are scheduled for completion by mid-2001. Further details of individual programmes are provided in the appendix. Concrete outputs achieved in 2000 include a series of direct community development initiatives (India and Nepal), training workshops (India), publications and newsletters (Bangladesh and Nicaragua), website development (Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, The Philippines), reports and analyses (Bangladesh, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Nicaragua and Zimbabwe), awareness-raising initiatives (Guatemala, Honduras, India and Indonesia) and regional network-building workshops for national and regional nodes (in Belize for Latin America and the Caribbean, The Philippines for South and South-east Asia and for the Africa region, to take place in early 2001).

- 17. One of the core objectives of the ARnet programme concerns network building and the strengthening of the capacity of CSOs to contribute to policy-making and to the direct empowerment of the rural poor through increasing their access to land and other productive resources. In order to achieve this goal, ARnet activities have involved important learning and capacity-building elements through supporting, *inter alia*, the development of national networks and sharing information on successful approaches in order to build capacities.
- 18. The ARnet programme also focused on knowledge generation. Secretariat support has increasingly focused, in collaboration with other partners, on helping participant organisations to "capture" the knowledge contained in successful processes of change and to assist in the extraction, distillation and dissemination of this experience, lessons learned and information. In addition to the reports and knowledge briefs that will be produced in Phase III of the ARnet programme, the production of a number of "network newsletters" (Bangladesh, Nicaragua) and websites (Peru) has also provided evidence of the value of the ARnet programme. These newsletters and websites contain information on regional members. They also report on the activities of non-ARnet groups, attesting to the genesis of a new capacity and cooperative spirit within civil society on issues relating to access to land, and confirm the very real potential for sharing knowledge between NGOs and other CSOs.
- 19. **Interim reports** were submitted by nodes in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cameroon, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India (Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal nodes), Indonesia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Peru, The Philippines, Thailand, Yemen and Zimbabwe. The reports were universally positive regarding the value of the ARnet programme: new knowledge was being generated, innovative approaches were being tested and new constituencies reached.
- 20. **Regional network building.** A series of regional workshops, organised by both the Secretariat and the regional nodes, have taken place in South and Central America, South Asia, South-east Asia, North Africa and the Near East, and West Africa. They have each provided opportunities for network building, knowledge exchange and planning. A further regional workshop for Africa, scheduled for January 2001, will be held in collaboration with BSF and bring together Popular Coalition partners from Southern Africa, West Africa, North Africa and the Near East and potential partners from East and Central Africa and the Horn. A wide range of international, regional and national stakeholders will also be invited to attend the workshop.
- 21. **Website.** The website of the Popular Coalition was updated periodically during 2000. Full information on the ARnet programme is maintained and updated regularly on the site (http://www.ifad.org/popularcoalition).
- 22. As noted above, officers of the Popular Coalition Secretariat visited the regional and national ARnet nodes in 2000: Central America and South Asia during May and June; Southern Africa in September; North Africa in November; and West Africa in December. The missions were primarily intended to increase the Secretariat's understanding of partner needs and capacities in order to ensure more effective support and coordination. In addition, the visits provided opportunities to explore



future programme directions and possibilities for programme decentralization, and served a range of additional purposes, including: strengthening relations between the Secretariat and civil-society partners; building links between the Popular Coalition's civil-society, intergovernmental, bilateral and governmental partners at the country level; monitoring and backstopping ongoing activities; starting up pre-formulation activities for Phase III ARnet activities; supporting national network development; and, where possible, supporting the identification of possible CEF interventions.

23. **Future expansion.** Three dimensions of future expansion are foreseen: (i) new regions; (ii) new countries in existing regions; and (iii) new members in existing countries. A regional review has been undertaken in the Caribbean and a study was submitted in early June 2000 (summary versions are available from the Secretariat on request). The study provides the basis for the possible establishment of ARnet activities in the region in early 2001. Preliminary discussions have also taken place with a range of potential partners in East Africa. Attention has focused on Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda. The possibility has also been examined of linking an East Africa regional programme with nodes from the Horn of Africa. This could involve partners from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and The Sudan. It is expected that the regional workshop scheduled for January 2001 will lead to the finalisation of ARnet activities in the two regions involved. A number of new countries may join existing ARnet regional networks, including Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Namibia, Niger, Sri Lanka, Syria, and Viet Nam.

## **B.** Community Empowerment Facility

- 24. The CEF has been designed to provide co-support in order to address constraints that inhibit the capacity of the rural poor and their community organisations to gain and maintain access to land and other productive resources.
- 25. In June 2000, the Sixth Interim Steering Committee of the Popular Coalition approved the CEF Operating Framework and Guidelines developed by the Secretariat at the request of the Fifth Interim Steering Committee. This approval signified the conclusion of the CEF development phase and the beginning of its operational phase. It is expected that up to ten new CEF projects will be funded each calendar year for the first two years of the operational phase.
- 26. Two CEF projects were formulated in the development phase to test the CEF approach, namely:
- The Philippines, Capiz Province (CEF grant of USD 35 000): post-land reform beneficiaries from three sugar estates are receiving support and training to make the transition from agriculture labourer to smallholder farmer, including access to finance and credit, training in crop diversification and land restoration, knowledge and systems for marketing, and access to government services. The transition process is being documented by the CSO to capture lessons for dissemination.
- Zimbabwe (approved CEF grant of USD 100 000 under revision due to the present situation in the country): the Community-Based Resettlement Approaches and Technologies (CREATE) project, an IFAD-sponsored initiative, is supporting the increased engagement of CSOs and communities in the land resettlement process in Zimbabwe. The CEF is expected to contribute to testing a range of community-driven resettlement approaches in ten pilot schemes. The Secretariat, in direct consultation with IFAD's Country Portfolio Manager (CPM) for Zimbabwe, is reassessing the precise nature, focus and timing of the CEF project. The CEF formulation exercise has provided a direct bridge to increased collaboration between the Secretariat and IFAD's Eastern and Southern Africa (Africa II) Division. The Popular Coalition contributed the time of its Senior Programme Officer to assist on a mission to Zimbabwe with the CPM as part of the formulation of a larger programme of possible involvement. The lessons arising from both the



CEF and the increased engagement of the Popular Coalition with Africa II Division activities in Zimbabwe will be documented in collaboration with IFAD and distributed to Popular Coalition members and partners.

- 27. The Operating Framework and Guidelines established the necessary rules and procedures for the processing of grant requests from CSOs, including application procedures, decision-making criteria and processes, and funding criteria and modalities. The document also emphasised the extent to which the CEF is a catalytic mechanism, underscoring the conviction that, used strategically, small grants can make a significant difference (especially since the CEF can finance a range of activities that conventional donors are often unable to support directly). It also recognised that, while single grants may be of up to USD 100 000, grants at this level are expected to be the exception. The Secretariat also designed a "toolkit" for CEF partners to assist in the identification, design and submission of appropriate CEF proposals. Copies of both the Operating Framework and Guidelines and the toolkit are available from the Secretariat on request.
- 28. The Operating Framework and Guidelines also determined that a CEF project status form will be prepared for every ongoing CEF project. The CEF project status form should be completed and/or updated by the Secretariat at the end of each calendar year.
- 29. In addition, a CEF Approval Committee was established in 2000. This is the principal CEF decision-making body for the consideration of applications. Initial screening will be undertaken by the Secretariat, while all final decisions are the responsibility of the CEF Approval Committee. The latter will meet up to three times each year and consist initially of five representatives of the Executive Council of the Popular Coalition (IFAD/PD; FAO (Land Tenure Service), the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, the Latin American Association of Promotion Organisations and *Secours Populaire Français* (a French national assistance organization).
- 30. The first meeting of the CEF Approval Committee will consider proposals submitted up to the end of 2000, including, *inter alia*:
- **Honduras** a project to engage communities with their municipality (La Campa) in resolving boundary disputes, improving the land taxation system and educating the poor on the land-use plan. The concept for this CEF programme was conceived jointly by the communities and municipal leaders.
- **Nicaragua** an innovative approach to using a revolving fund to assist the rural poor to meet land registration, titling and other transaction costs, is expected to be presented as a CEF request.
- **India** a project to support fisher communities in Uttar Pradesh in terms of improved watershed management techniques, better fish stock management and the development of marketing channels, is expected to be presented as a CEF request in early 2001.
- **Bangladesh** a request for support to landless communities to increase access to land and water resources in Noakhali District is under formulation and is expected to be submitted in early 2001.
- 31. Discussions with PD also led to the identification of a number of possible areas and types of CEF activities for cofinancing in 2001. It is expected that a at least one CEF activity will be undertaken in collaboration with each PD regional division and with ED. Projects for 2001 are expected to include:
- Eastern and Southern Africa Division to establish and/or strengthen networks of farmer and peasant organisations as a vehicle for effective community involvement in both advocacy and programme implementation in the form of direct support and/or a potential network of partners



for IFAD's lending programme and further follow-up activities in Zimbabwe, in association with the IFAD-supported CREATE programme.

- Near East and North Africa Division assess sharecropping to determine its viability in terms
  of improving access to land in Yemen, with emphasis on the strengthening of farmer
  organisations and on the training of farmers to effectively negotiate sharecropping agreements. In
  addition, to examine possible activities to strengthen CSO networks on access to assets in Egypt
  and Morocco.
- Asia and the Pacific Division possibilities range from strengthening CSO networks in Nepal (as a follow-up to the Popular Coalition participation in the 1999 PD/Office of Evaluation and Studies evaluation workshop) through to potential CEF projects in Cambodia, India, Indonesia and The Philippines and training workshops on women's access to resources.
- Western and Central Africa Division the Director has assigned a CPM to plan possible joint activities in this region during 2001.
- Latin America and the Caribbean Division possibilities range from resettlement-related activities in Brazil to supporting future programmes and studies on resource-access-related issues.

#### V. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AND INCREASING UNDERSTANDING

32. The Popular Coalition has been involved in a wide range of partnership-based activities at various levels and in a growing number of awareness-raising initiatives. These activities constitute a core part of the Popular Coalition's programme, for its creation is based on the belief that networks and partnerships can deliver very real benefits in terms of increased efficiency, effectiveness and outreach. Likewise, these fora provide valuable opportunities to increase awareness and understanding of both the complexities and importance of increasing the rural poor's access to land and other productive resources. Some of the most important examples are listed below.

### A. Africa Land Policy Network Meeting

33. The Popular Coalition was invited to the DFID-sponsored Workshop on Networking on Land Issues in Sub-Saharan Africa that took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2000. In addition to providing useful insights into similar networking initiatives, the workshop provided a valuable opportunity to meet potential new ARnet partners and nodes and possible partners for programme development in East Africa and the Horn scheduled for early 2001.

#### B. World Bank Rural Week

34. As mentioned earlier, the Popular Coalition was invited to participate at the World Bank's Rural Week which took place in March 2000. The event, which was attended by more than 450 World Bank staff, including approximately 100 field staff, and 50 individuals representing governments, academia, the private sector and international organisations, focused on "Poverty or Prosperity: Rural People in a Globalized Economy". The Popular Coalition was invited to participate in a panel meeting on land policy and land administration that also included speakers from FAO, USAID, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), the Australian Agency for International Development, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, DFID and EU. The panelist from the Popular Coalition proposed that it should explore the possibility of providing an neutral institutional forum for identifying concrete opportunities for donor collaboration at the national level on land-related issues (para. 39).



### C. Eighth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

- 35. The Popular Coalition participated in preparations for the Eighth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and in the final meeting that took place at the United Nations in New York in April and May 2000. The Popular Coalition's document, "The Land Poor: Essential Partners for the Sustainable Management of Land Resources", was produced specifically for the final CSD-8 meeting and was widely distributed to government and non-government participants. The Popular Coalition was represented by participants from the Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales (CEPES) (the regional ARnet node in South America) and a member of the Secretariat.
- 36. The success of the Popular Coalition's participation can be measured by the importance given to land access and tenure issues in the report of CSD-8. In that report, improving the rural poor's access to land and other natural resources is recognised as one of the main priority areas for concerted action in support of sustainable agriculture and rural development. This represents a significant elevation in the importance attached to resource access issues with member governments of the United Nations.

#### D. Tenth IFAD/NGO Consultation

37. The Secretariat and a number of Popular Coalition members participated in the Tenth IFAD/NGO Consultation that took place in Pune, India, in June 2000. The meeting provided a valuable insight into the nature and value of evolving relations between international organisations such as IFAD and various types of NGOs. In addition to strengthening relations with existing partners, the meeting provided an important opportunity for establishing new relationships.

### E. Land Policy Working Group

38. Following requests from several bilateral and multilateral donors active in land-related activities during meetings that took place at the World Bank's Rural Week, the Popular Coalition convened a meeting in Rome at which individuals from the World Bank, FAO, USAID, GTZ, DFID, the Government of Italy and several civil-society members of the Popular Coalition's Interim Steering Committee sought to identify concrete country-level opportunities for increased donor collaboration on land-related issues and for heightening the participation of civil-society groups in donor activities. Country-level activities are expected to take place in early 2001 as a follow-up to that meeting. The Popular Coalition was selected for this coordinating role as a result of its neutrality, its technical emphasis on resource-access issues, its network linkages and its commitment to cooperation and partnership.

### F. Second Meeting of the Montreal International Forum

39. Four regional and national nodes and the Secretariat were invited to participate at the second meeting of the Montreal International Forum (FIM) which took place in Montreal, Canada, on 1-4 October 2000 (http://www.fimcivilsociety.org). FIM was established to strengthen civil-society participation in multilateral institutions. One of the four case studies prepared for the meeting and discussed in plenary dealt with the history of the Popular Coalition and its programmes. The Secretariat Officer spent a day at the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Ottawa to explore possibilities for further collaboration in Africa and elsewhere.



### G. Awareness-Raising Initiatives

40. A central goal of the Popular Coalition is to raise public awareness, bolster political will and marshal international commitment to establish policies and programmes to improve the rural poor's access to land and other productive assets. The Popular Coalition's Action Group on Public Awareness and Political Will has designed an overall framework for action. To date, awareness-raising initiatives have employed multiple media, the development of a website, the production of high-impact reports and briefing documents, and the production of two international broadcast films. The two films, *The Land Poor* (20 minutes, produced by the Popular Coalition with the assistance of the Communications and Public Affairs Unit and involving interviews with IFAD, civil-society partners and WFP), and *A Question of Responsibility and Resources* (37 minutes, produced for the Popular Coalition by the World Bank) were initially broadcast world-wide on 16 October 2000 - World Food Day. Copies have been distributed to partners world-wide for use in their awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns. Mobilising political will also involved participation in a select number of national and international events, including the CSD (para. 35), the FAO Committee on Food Security, Rome, in September 2000 and the World Farmers' Congress in Hanover, Germany, in May 2000.

### VI. DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

41. The experience and lessons learned since the founding of the Popular Coalition have led to a consultative process that reviewed the governance mechanism and resulted in the approval by the Interim Steering Committee of the Popular Coalition's official Governance and Operational Framework. This document refines the indicative structure used during the initial years, provides for a coherent approach to governance and operational decision-making and is expected to contribute to a stable basis for the long-term functioning of the Popular Coalition. The governance document is available from the Secretariat upon request.

#### VII. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

- 42. The Popular Coalition was established on the principles of shared opportunities, shared responsibilities and shared contributions to the resources necessary to implement the agreed activities. To date, the resource requirements have been highly dependent on the contribution of TA grants and supplementary funds by IFAD (Italy: USD 760 000, including USD 400 000 in 2000; Japan: USD 317 500; Denmark: USD 75 000), to which contributions have been made by the World Bank (USD 1.5 million), WFP (USD 100 000), CIDA (CAD 100 000 see below) and Switzerland (USD 35 000). As mentioned in para. 7, dependence on IFAD will be substantially reduced.
- 43. The achievement and practical results that are now emerging from the activities of the Popular Coalition have been found by donors to be very motivating, resulting in the following portfolio of donor resources under discussion or negotiation:
- Canada provided an initial grant of CAD 100 000, which has led to bilateral discussions for further funding;
- on 13 June 2000, Italy confirmed a new contribution of USD 400 000. Italy's assessment on the impact of the previous grant of USD 300 000 was favourable. The Italian authorities have expressed interest in entering into discussions regarding future funding directly through its bilateral and NGO programmes;



- discussions with the EU on funding of the activities of the CEF and ARnet are at an advanced stage. The EU has indicated that funding at the level of Euro 5 million is a reasonable planning figure;
- the Government of Belgium has shown strong interest in funding the programme proposal that was presented in mid-2000, and is expected to contribute approximately USD 2 million over a three-year period;
- meetings in Japan have been very favourable (the current grant is USD 197 500), with further contributions expected. The Japanese authorities have spoken of the potential for direct bilateral support to future projects;
- the International Development Research Centre has indicated that funding could be provided for the development of ARnet at an initial level of CAD 250 000;
- USAID has indicated its willingness to contribute, but the level has not yet been determined;
- the International Food Policy Research Institute is interested in becoming involved, as is the World Resources Institute;
- the Government of The Netherlands has expressed interest in providing funding, following collaboration in the Maastricht Conference and CSD-8 activities. This has been indicated in meetings with the Assistant President, ED, and with the Popular Coalition; and
- WFP has established a policy on access to assets, which provides a direct link to the mission of the Popular Coalition. At the close of the Steering Committee meeting of 26-27 June 2000, the WFP representative indicated his organization's intention of renewing its financial support.



# PHASE 2 ARnet SUMMARY TABLE

	Node Institution	Core Themes	Status May 2000
SOUTH ASIA	Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD), Dhaka, Bangladesh		Operational
Bangladesh	Association for Realisation of Basic Needs (ARBAN)	<ul><li>landless groups</li><li>income strategies</li><li>information dissemination</li><li>policy-making</li></ul>	Operational
India – Uttar Pradesh	Social Development Foundation (SDF)	<ul><li>indigenous groups</li><li>community mobilization</li><li>information dissemination</li><li>policy-making</li></ul>	Operational
India – West Bengal	Institute for Motivating Self- Employment	<ul> <li>post-land reform</li> <li>distribution changes</li> <li>women's access</li> <li>access to credit</li> <li>indigenous groups</li> <li>information (including videos)</li> </ul>	Operational
Nepal	MODE – Nepal	<ul> <li>landless groups</li> <li>land management</li> <li>income strategies</li> <li>forest leases</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational
SOUTH-EAST ASIA	Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), The Philippines	<ul><li>network-building</li><li>data collection</li><li>information</li></ul>	Operational
Cambodia	Co-operation Committee for Cambodia (CCC)	<ul> <li>post-conflict</li> <li>community empowerment</li> <li>organization-building</li> <li>law</li> <li>information</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational
Indonesia	Badan Pelaksana – Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria: (BP-KPA) (Consortium for Agrarian Reform)	<ul><li>community empowerment</li><li>resource inventory</li><li>information</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational
Philippines	PAKISAMA (on behalf of AR-NOW)	<ul><li>network-building</li><li>best practices</li><li>information</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational



Thailand	Thai NGO Committee for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (Thai NGO- World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD))	<ul> <li>knowledge-building</li> <li>resource-inventory</li> <li>information</li> <li>network-building</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational
NEAR EAST	Economic and Development Studies Centre, Ain Shams University, Egypt	<ul><li>success stories</li><li>network-building</li><li>information</li></ul>	Operational
Egypt	General Syndicate of Workers for Agriculture and Irrigation, General Trade Union of Workers in Agriculture and Irrigation	<ul><li>leasing</li><li>drylands</li><li>success stories</li><li>information</li></ul>	Operational
Morocco	Co-operative Amal Hay Fath	<ul><li>network-building</li><li>information</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational
Yemen	Southern Regional Agricultural Development Project	<ul><li>data-collection</li><li>network-building</li><li>information</li></ul>	Operational
WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA	International Agriculture, Peasant and Modernization Network (APM Afrique), Cameroon	<ul><li>customary tenure</li><li>law</li><li>success stories</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational
Cameroon	International Agriculture, Peasant and Modernization Network (APM Cameroon)	<ul><li>conflict</li><li>law</li><li>training</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational
Ghana	Natural Resource Management and Sustainable Agricultural Partnership (NARMSAP)	<ul> <li>landless groups</li> <li>land fragmentation</li> <li>land management</li> <li>conflict resolution</li> <li>network-building</li> </ul>	Operational
Senegal	International Agriculture, Peasant and Modernization Network (APM Senegal),	<ul> <li>landless groups</li> <li>land fragmentation</li> <li>land management</li> <li>conflict-resolution</li> <li>network-building</li> </ul>	Operational
SOUTHERN AFRICA	National Land Committee (NLC) Johannesburg, South Africa	<ul> <li>land distribution</li> <li>conflict-resolution</li> <li>capacity-building</li> <li>resource-inventory</li> <li>information</li> <li>network-building</li> </ul>	Operational



Mozambique	Associacao Rural de Ajuda Mutua (Rural Association for Mutual Assistance)(ORAM)	<ul> <li>secure land access</li> <li>forest areas</li> <li>sustainable resource use</li> <li>case studies</li> <li>best practice</li> <li>information</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational 2001
South Africa	National Land Committee (NLC)	<ul><li>land reform and economic development</li><li>network-building</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational
Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Environmental Research Organization (ZERO)	<ul> <li>squatting</li> <li>women's access and rights to land</li> <li>communal land areas</li> <li>poverty alleviation</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational
SOUTH AMERICA	Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales (CEPES), Peru (Peruvian Centre for Social Studies)	<ul> <li>law</li> <li>network-building</li> <li>capacity-building</li> <li>information</li> <li>resource-inventory</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational
Bolivia	Taller de Iniciativas en Estudios Rurales y Reforma Agraria (Fundacion TIERRA) (Workshop on Initiatives on Rural Studies and Agrarian Reform (TIERRA Foundation))	<ul><li>indigenous groups</li><li>forest areas</li><li>post-reform assessment</li></ul>	Operational
Ecuador	Fondo Ecuatoriano Populorum Progressio (FEPP) (Ecuadorian Fund: <i>Populorum</i> <i>Progressio</i> )	<ul> <li>law</li> <li>indigenous groups</li> <li>regularization of title</li> <li>land markets and access of the poor</li> <li>conflict resolution</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational
Peru	Grupo Permanente de Trabajo sobre Comunidades Campesinas (GPTCC) (Permanent Working Group on Farmer Communities)	<ul> <li>small farmers</li> <li>indigenous groups</li> <li>conflict resolution</li> <li>case studies</li> <li>best practices</li> <li>policy</li> </ul>	Operational



CENTRAL AMERICA	Asociación de Organizaciones Campesinas Centroamericanas para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo (ASOCODE), Nicaragua (Association of Central American Farmer Organisations for Cooperation and Development)	<ul><li>network-building</li><li>resource-inventory</li><li>information</li></ul>	Operational
Guatemala	Coordinación de ONG y Cooperativas (CONGCOOP) (NGO and Cooperatives Coordination)	<ul><li>conflict resolution</li><li>network-building</li><li>information</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational
Honduras	Consejo Coordinador de Organizaciones Campesinas de Honduras (COCOH) (Coordinating Council for Farmer Organisations in Honduras)	<ul><li>network-building</li><li>case studies</li><li>resource-inventory</li><li>information</li><li>policy</li></ul>	Operational
El Salvador	Ciudadaniá y Desarrollo (Citizens and Development)	<ul><li>case studies</li><li>resource-inventory</li><li>information</li></ul>	Operational
Nicaragua	Federación Nacional de Cooperativas Agropecuarias y Agroindustriales (FENACOOP) (National Federation of Rural and Agroindustrial Cooperatives)	<ul> <li>access to land</li> <li>regularization of title</li> <li>land distribution</li> <li>law</li> <li>community-building</li> </ul>	Operational