



More and Better Newsletter

N 3, April 2010

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1. **Towards the MaB Global Meeting: “Trends in development aid and the role of MaB”**

As you may know, every two years MaB holds its global meeting, the last one took place in Accra, Ghana, in September 2008. For 2010, we plan to meet in Rome the 10th October and link our reunion to the 36th session of the FAO Committee on Food Security (CFS), 11-14 October. Along with the discussion on the institutional agenda we will launch a political debate focused on “Trends in development aid to agriculture and the role of MaB”. Your contributions to the debate are the most welcome. A tentative agenda for the meeting and documents will reach your email box in June.

2. **Strengthening cooperation with the IPC**

While looking at ways for strengthening cooperation, the [International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty](#) and MaB have agreed, during the general assembly of the IPC (20-22 March 2010), to set up a working group and prepare a work plan by the end of April 2010. The responsible persons for the working group are Aksel Naerstad (International coordinator of MaB) and Karim Akrouf (Focal point North Africa IPC/MaB); membership is open to all IPC /MaB members.

3. **The CSOs involvement in CFS reform**

In accordance with the reform document, CSOs are autonomously preparing a proposal for a global mechanism to facilitate their engagement with the CFS at all levels. This mechanism for food security and nutrition will function as a facilitating body for CSO consultation and participation in the CFS, including at regional level. The deadline for comments on the first draft of the CSO-mechanism is the end of April. You will find the proposal at www.foodsovereignty.org. Discussion has started regarding possible CFS agenda topics and the format for the 36th Session which will be held from 11-14 October 2010. To read more about the CFS and its reform please go to: <http://www.fao.org/cfs/en/>

4. **MaB at the CSOs consultation for Asia and Central Europe**

The MaB secretariat will take part to the FAO-CSOs/NGOs Consultation in Yerevan (Armenia),

10-11 May 2010. The meeting will address crucial issues for the Region Europe (EU and other European countries) and Central Asia, including the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States). The consultation will take place just before the Regional Commission for Agriculture (May 12) and the Regional Conference (May 13-14). The outcome of the Consultation will be presented officially during the Regional governmental Conference. Here are some of the most important issues that will be discussed: the situation of food security in the Region in the light of the recent crises and the appropriate response to it; sustainable improvements in livestock production for a better rural livelihoods in the Region; improving (and secure) the access to land of family farms and, how can the CSOs/NGOs of the Region contribute to the global mechanism that is actually designed to allow them to bring the input of the European and Central Asian organizations to the reformed World CFS (Committee on Food Security).

For more information about the Yerevan consultation please visit:

<http://www.csa-be.org/spip.php?article678>.

For information on FAO regional conferences all, please go to:

http://www.fao.org/unfao/bodies/regconferences/rc2010/index_en.htm

5. Revision of the Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA)

The High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis (HLTF) is organising a conference in Dublin, Ireland on May 17-18th to get input from civil society on their revision of the CFA. The HLTF and the Irish government provide funding for some participants from developing countries. If you are going to take part in the conference, please e-mail the international coordinator of MaB, Aksel Naerstad (aksel@utviklingsfondet.no). He is invited to the conference and will take part in it. You will find more information about the conference at www.updatecfa.com

6. Welcome!

We would like to welcome our new member organization from Kirgizistan: Kyrgys Sheep Breeders Association (KSBA). For more information on KSBA please contact Akylbek K. Rakaev, General Manager, at ksba@elcat.kg. Our welcome also goes to the new contact person for MAELA (*Movimiento Agroecológico de América Latina*): Maria Noel Salgado Spinatelli, coordinator for Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

This newsletter is meant to reach the More and Better members and friends by the 15th of each month. Information or contributions that you may want to see published here should be sent to secretariat@moreandbetter.org by the end of the month.

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