

Mouvement International de la jeunesse agricole et rurale catholique (MIJARC)

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Annual Report 2010 of MIJARC/IMCARY

Mouvement International de la Jeunesse Agricole et Rurale Catholique
International Movement of Catholic Agricultural and Rural Youth

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INTRODUCTION

Last year humanity suffered a lot from natural disasters and other catastrophes mostly in connection with climate change. The major earth quakes in Haiti ,Chile and China ,Volcanic eruption in Iceland ,heavy rain and floods in Mexico and Australia really showed the incapability of human beings to such disasters and revoke the thoughts at least among few people and countries the immediate need to live climate friendly and to adapt measures to mitigate the effect of climate change. MIJARC extended the solidarity to the victims of the earth quake in Haiti by providing some small financial assistance from the emergency fund which is collecting from our member movements (especially KLJB,Germany).

2010 came to an end with a lot of global issues and events. As usual MIJARC as a voice of the voiceless in the rural world was quite committed, engaged and intervened timely on these issues and events .The main focus of our movement during last year was on the topic of Biodiversity and land grabbing . Due to food ,fuel and financial crisis ,deep social tensions related to poverty, hunger, struggles for land and water, which pose higher risk to mankind more than ever. Recent trends for land grabbing by powerful actors from the most vulnerable communities demand new policies of access to and management of land and other natural resources in order to find new modalities that allow the reduction of inequalities and guarantee basic rights for people all over the world. Land rights for the local communities and producers . The reinforcement of the various peasants' and rural workers' organisations is a need to achieve it .

MIJARC's ongoing campaign against land grabbing which was launched in July 2010 in Kerala ,India is quite significant to maintain the momentum of the debates on land issues in various levels. The International seminar and symposium on bio diversity which took place in July 2010 in Cochin was another remarkable event organised by MIJARC last year.

The Year 2010 marked with the tremendous engagements of MIJARC for the global governance of food and agricultural systems and policies .George Dixon Fernandez ,the president of MIJARC who has been actively involved and engaged on food agricultural issues at global level and representing MIJARC at FAO since 2005 has been selected as one of the 4 members of the CSO representatives to the advisory group of the renewed world committee on Food security is an historical achievement and great recognition for MIJARC by the CSO's and governments. MIJARC also played a vital role in coordinating the youth forum in Rome in the context of Civil Society Mechanism to the CFS. During the course of last year MIJARC played a vital role together with other civil society organisations for the organisation of parallel Civil society forum to finalise the establishment of the Civil society mechanism and of the preparation of the CFS 2010 .We can state that civil society achieved at least a small victory over the corporate global interests and has become an important reference point in the area of international discussions on food security ,nutrition and global governance on food and agricultural systems and policies.

Another bench mark of our actions of the year was the release of our World Food day Material on land grabbing and the publication of the pedagogical document on Food sovereignty (Prepared by the International Food Sovereignty Commission of MIJARC). Posters and information material which was distributed to the member movements and local groups have been motivated them to take up actions during the world food day 16th of October .Indeed we have

strengthened our work with various political actions, representation, trainings, campaigns as well as networking and lobbying and had a significant impact at various levels and institutions

Access to farming for young people is key for the future of agriculture and rural areas. The needs and challenges of young people must be reflected in the agricultural and rural development policy, nationally and internationally. Hence MIJARC has prepared a pilot project last year in collaboration with International Fund for Agricultural Development in order to develop the key recommendations and policy proposals to encourage and motivate governments and institutions in order to invest more in rural youth. This pilot project will be implemented in collaboration with IFAD and FAO in 2011.

2011 has begun. Let's engage ourselves in 2011 to make a difference for Food Sovereignty and poverty history.

The World Team, Brussels April 2011

2. ACTIVITIES

2.1 The FAO International Technical Conference on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Developing Countries (ABDC-10) -Mexico

Context:

The FAO International Technical Conference on Agricultural Bio technologies in Developing Countries (ABDC-10) was hosted by the Government of Mexico and co-sponsored by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), the International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) and the World Bank were major partners in this initiative.

Objective:

A major objective of the Conference was to take stock of the application of bio technologies across the different food and agricultural sectors in developing countries, in order to learn from the past and to identify options for the future to face the challenges of food insecurity, climate change and natural resource degradation.

Activity:

The FAO International Technical Conference on Agricultural Bio technologies in Developing Countries (ABDC-10) took place in Guadalajara, Mexico from 1 to 4 March 2010. Plenary sessions during the four days were dedicated to issues such as how to target agricultural bio technologies to the poor; how to enable research and development (R&D) in agricultural bio technologies; and how to ensure that the benefits of R&D are accessible in developing countries. During the Conference, 22 different organizations, including international and national research institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, also participated in the 'Knowledge Share fair' to promote good knowledge sharing practices in the field of agricultural bio technologies.

Results and Impacts:

The Conference brought together about 300 policy-makers, scientists and representatives of intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations from 68 countries, including governmental delegations nominated by 42 FAO Member States. George Dixon Fernandez, President of MIJARC, Herman Kumara, Secretary General of WFFP, delegates from AFA, CENESTA Iran etc were the few invited for this conference from the civil society.

The Conference was dedicated to "agricultural bio technologies", a term covering a broad range of bio technologies used in food and agriculture for a variety of different purposes such as the improvement of plant varieties and animal populations to increase

their yields or efficiency; characterization and conservation of genetic resources; plant or animal disease diagnosis; vaccine development; and improvement of feeds and the safety of foods. The Conference was cross-sectoral, covering crops, livestock, forestry, agroindustry and fisheries and aquaculture.

George Dixon Fernandez made intervention arguing for the support of public funded and community based agricultural research. He also highlighted the fact that bio tech research funded by private investors and companies have profit motivation and not all useful for the vulnerable communities to meet their needs and to face their challenges.

Key conclusions:

Conference very strongly noted the need for participatory approaches in the development and use of any bio technologies and research. Farmers, Farmer organizations, producers, local communities and other stakeholders need to be fully involved in the processes and scientists need to better understand farmer needs and production conditions in undertaking biotechnology research.

The conference also stressed that the engagement of small holder farmers and producers in developing countries is necessary to understand their particular challenges and needs and determine appropriate research. The conference emphasized that the intent is for farmers and small holders to benefit from any technologies.

The conference noted the importance of integrating modern technologies with traditional knowledge's and practices and that the new tools, policies and approaches should help farmers and producers remain resilient, independent and to continue their ecologically sustainable practices.

It noted the need for public research to continue to be supported in order to develop biotechnology tools, products and best sustainable practices and that the national and regional centers of excellence should be the potential mechanism for collaboration and to better focus biotechnology research on the needs of farmers. Conference also demanded that national bio technologies strategies should be prepared within the overall development strategy context of the country

The report of the conference is available in the homepage of the ABDC-10 website (<http://www.fao.org/biotech/abdc/>) or as document ABDC-10/REPORT from the documents web page (<http://www.fao.org/biotech/abdc/backdocs/en/>).

Out look:

MIJARC is not against the research but we are very much cautious about the priority given for bio tech promoting GMO's with the support of private investors and companies. We stand for people-led participatory and need based public agricultural research respecting the needs of farmers and other producers.

2.2 Public meeting and rally on "land grabbing: stop land grabbing- this soil is our future" in Chalakkudi / India

Context:

Land grabbing is an emerging phenomenon which badly hits farmers and rural poor in many parts of the world. State and private investors are leasing or buying up millions of hectares of farmlands in Asia, Africa and Latin America for food and fuel production or for investments. This is a new way for the "foreign investors" to exploit the local population with less economic and political risks.

One of the clear consequences of the global land grab is that workers, farmers, rural women, youth and local communities will inevitably lose access to land for their food production. And it is not only the questionable issue of giving foreigners control of domestic farmland but also the restructuring of the farming sector that this process entails. Lands will be transformed from smallholdings or forests or whatever they may be into large industrial estates connected to far-off markets throwing out the real farmers from their own fields.

Objectives:

- To give public awareness on the emerging crisis on land grabbing
- To protect the land rights of the vulnerable groups
- To fight against the exploitation of the profit motive investors
- To ensure access to land for young people
- To have a dialogue with political leaders
- To create public opinion

Activity:

The International Movement of catholic agricultural rural youth (MIJARC) organized in collaboration with its member movement Kerala catholic youth movement (KCYM) an international public meeting and a rally on "Stop land grabbing - this soil is our future!". This was in connection with the Launching of MIJARC International campaign on land grabbing and took place on July 24th in Chalakkudi/ India. Over 5000 young people participated in the public demonstration. Members of parliament, Members of legislature, Vice chancellor of Agricultural university, Chairman of the Municipal corporation, Bishop Andrews Thazhath (Archbishop of Trissur) and Bishop Pauly Kannookkadan (Bishop of Irinjalakuda) etc.... were some of the few of 21 important guests on the panel during the public meeting.

Results and Impacts:

The public conference highlighted, that land grabbing is a serious problem for small-scale farmers and badly hits the food security and sovereignty in the countries and called the public to be aware of this emerging crisis. MIJARC members all around the world contributed to the land grabbing campaign through decentralized activities.

2.3 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON "LAND GRABBING AND THREATS TO BIODIVERSITY" IN AROORMUZHY

Context:

The MIJARC focus theme of the year 2010 was Biodiversity and Environmental protection. We had organized an International Seminar in connection with the world coordination meeting which held in Kerala ,India from 20July to 2August 2010. Increased competition over land discouraging the settlement of young farmers; a degradation of food security for the host country; and has a negative impact on environment (deforestation, destruction of ecosystems, over exploitation of water resources, spread of phytosanitary products, monoculture. The land ownership by the small scale producers is a prerequisite to ensure biodiversity on the planet land grabbers promotes massive mono cultivation and destruct the environment

Objectives:

- To discuss about the threat for biodiversity in the context of land grabbing
- To share and analysis of the different view points and experiences on development and biodiversity
- To give awareness on the need to protect Biodiversity

Activity:

The International Movement of Catholic Agricultural Rural Youth (MIJARC) organized an international symposium on "land grabbing and threats to biodiversity" in collaboration with its member movement, Kerala Catholic Youth Movement (KCYM). Around 200 people from all over the region gathered on, 24th July in Aroormuzhy to take part in this symposium. Since MIJARC has launched its World Food Day campaign on land grabbing in the afternoon, the organizers took the occasion to discuss this topic with people and members of KCYM from the region. Mr.P. P. James, deputy editor of the "Kerala Koumudi Daily" and former Asian coordinator of MIJARC Asia, moderated the symposium. The panel was composed of Dr. C.R. Neelakandan, the famous Indian environmentalist, Mr. P.C. Cyriac IAS, the former chairman of the Indian Rubber Board and the Secretary General of MIJARC, Carolin Grieshop. George Dixon Fernandez, the president of MIJARC introduced the topic.

Results and Impacts:

The panelists gave a statement on their view about land grabbing and its impact on biodiversity and the participants of the symposium had a good and interactive discussion on this topic.

Panelists gave a clear message about the need of an effective national land policies and land tenure systems for a sustainable land management as well as a consultation and participation of local small-scale farmers and vulnerable groups in this regard .

Out look:

MIJARC is actively involved in the topic on the protection of Biodiversity; We see that ongoing trend of land grabbing have a great impact in the life and livelihoods of the rural people and thus we will continue our political and lobby work on land grabbing issues. MIJARC is actively involved also in the consultation process related the formulation of the Voluntary Guidelines on land tenure, preparing by FAO which will be adopted by the CFS in 2011.

2.4 . BRUSSELS DEVELOPMENT BRIEFINGS- 16TH JUNE 2010

Context:

The Brussels briefing of 2010 was on the theme "*Youth and rural development in ACP countries*". MIJARC was invited to Brussels development briefings conference No 19 which took place in the European Commission building (Borschette Center) on the 16th June 2010.

Activity:

Anthony Saina national leader of CARYM- Kenya was invited to give a presentation on the successful income generating projects implemented by CARYM in Kenya and also on the advocacy work done by MIJARC. There were over 120 participants including ACP-EU policy makers, representatives of EU member states, European Commission services, members of European Parliament, civil society groups, European research networks researchers & development practitioners, and other international organizations based in Brussels.

The briefing had two panels:

The first panel discussed the challenges and opportunities for future ACP young farmers and the potential of rural youth in terms of employment, income generation, access to financial services, investment, ICTs and provision of formal and non-formal agricultural education and social services.

The second panel which included Anthony Saina of MIJARC (presenting "Successful agricultural economic initiatives of the rural youth: lessons learned") discussed the policy options favorable in support of young farmers and their contribution to development thinking

The objectives :

- To raise awareness on existing and emerging key challenges for the youth in rural areas;
- To Promote exchange of information and expertise
- To Contribute to the debate various perspectives on policy options

Results and impacts:

Thanks to this activity, MIJARC gained in visibility and recognition. An important dialogue with the decision makers took place to strengthen young people's capacities, agricultural knowledge and skills through education and training and to enable them to become productive farmers and contribute to rural development. This briefing was a interesting space to share best practices and initiatives.

Out look:

The issue of youth and rural development has long been neglected by policy makers, therefore the topic of the Briefing is pertinent and has to followed in future.

2.5.The first Asian Lay Congress -Seoul, Korea

Context:

The Asian Lay congress is the gathering of lay leaders from Asia organized by the Pontifical Council for Laity and the catholic church of South Korea. 400 people, including representatives and bishops from 20 countries from within the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences and delegations from 35 different Asian Catholic lay associations, movements and communities attended the conference.

Objective:

One of the main aim of the congress, was to discuss the challenges to evangelisation and ways of proclaiming the Gospel in Asia.

Another objective was to share the different realities, experiences and work of the lay organizations and movements.

Activity:

The Asian lay congress, which had the theme "*Proclaiming Jesus Christ in Asia Today* " took place in Seoul ,South Korea from 31 August until September 5th. George Dixon Fernandez, the president of MIJARC attended the meeting. Conferences, panel presentations and extensive discussions took place on the topics such as formation of laity, Christian witness in society, religious freedom and the role of women, young people in the Church etc. Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko , the president of the [Pontifical Council for the Laity](#) opened the Congress of Asian Catholic Laity in Seoul with the mass on 1st of September. The Holy father gave the blessings and message to the congress. The first Congress of Asian Catholic Laity ended with a call by Cardinal Nicholas Cheong Jin-suk of Seoul for a "fearless" witness to Christ.

Results and Impacts:

This congress helps to strengthen the role of lay people in the church and create a network with other lay organizations. It was also possible to meet various church leaders and bishop conferences.

Outlook:

There is a need to strengthen the lay movements and organizations and most especially the catholic social action movements which can be the bridge between church and society.

2.6. World Food Day 2010 campaign against land grabbing



Context:

From 2001 to 2004 MIJARC worked on the Campaign "MIJARC for food for all". Different topics like the right to food, dumping, IMF, World Bank and food security, women and food sovereignty have been dealt. The objectives have been to inform the public and the members of MIJARC movements and to advocacy for the right for food.

The World Coordination 2005 evaluated the campaign "MIJARC for food for all" and decided to start another campaign related to food sovereignty from a young people's perspective. The focus of the previous years campaigns were: access to Productive resources. Therefore in 2006 the campaign focused on access to land, in 2007 on access to water and in 2008 on access to seeds followed by the campaign on agro fuels and climate change in 2009. In 2010 the topic was on land grabbing "This is soil is our future".

Each time the International Secretariat elaborated posters and information material which was distributed to the member movements and local groups. A lot of movements translated the material in their local languages. The local groups have been called upon doing actions during the world food day 16th of October and each year a lot of activities took place.

Objectives:

- To strengthen activities towards lobby policy makers
- To make active networking projects with other NGO's

- To work with local communities in their struggles for land
- To let the national movements analyze the situation of access to land in their country and continent
- To let members to take up concrete actions to protect their land and land rights
- To inform the public about the threats to land in the context of ongoing land grab and initiate or strengthen activities to advocacy for more and easy access to land

Results/Impact:

With this campaign focusing on land grabbing, MIJARC supported local groups and communities fighting against land grabbing and improve their capacities in advocating for their land rights. In the meantime, awareness was raised among the public opinion on land grabbing and lobby work for the implementation mechanism and policies ensuring the protection of land for the rural communities took place. The campaign also contributed to create a networks together with other organizations against land exploitation.

Activities :

The posters were sent out to politicians, partners and MIJARC members all over the world via mail, 500 editions in Spanish, 500 in French and 1000 in English were printed. Additionally MIJARC released a call for action in English, French and Spanish, which was distributed through the MIJARC member's magazine "MIJARC News", the homepage www.mijarc.net and was send out to all MIJARC movements, partners and politicians and international institutions via E-Mail.

Local rural youth have understood the issue of land grabbing and its effects in the rural communities. They organized various meetings and local actions in different parts of the world to raise awareness on this topic. Through various actions, such as press releases, demonstration, public panel discussion etc. rural youth of MIJARC informed the public about the need to be cautious about the land grabbers and their projects.

The international Campaign was launched in Kerala, India with a big public manifestation of around 5000 young people and a public conference with the participation of various political ,social and religious leaders the press release was published in various media by the international secretariat.

Outlook:

We see that Land grabbing is increasingly going on and thus our campaign has to continue with other stakeholders of the society. MIJARC will organize an International seminar on land grabbing prior to the world coordination meeting in 2011 in Africa. Campaign is a good instrument to enhance MIJARC's internal and external visibility but it is necessary to motivate with various dynamics to encourage the movements to take up actions at various levels. The topic for 2011 campaign will be on critical consumption

in the context of changing eating habits around the world and its link and effects to production systems.

2.7 MIJARC at the World Youth Conference 2010 in Leon, Mexico

Context:

The World Youth Conference (WYC) was an initiative of the Mexican Government with the support of the United Nations and other organizations to open a space for discussion and reflection about the role of young people in development, with special emphasis on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Activity :

The world youth conference took place from 23-27 August 2010 in León, Mexico. Carolin Grieshop, SG of MIJARC took part in the NGO Global meeting as well as in the Governments Forum. The Conference was divided in to 3 fora: The Social Forum or NGO Global Forum, the Governments Forum and the Global Interactive Village. In the framework of the World Youth Conference, the Legislators Forum which involved high level members of Governmental ministries individually convened in Mexico City. This conference brought together young people from over 100 countries.

Objectives:

- To discuss youth issues and to engage in dialogue with policy makers in this regard
- To prepare the 'Youth Declaration' to be presented to the Legislators forum
- To raise awareness among governments about young people concerns and specific needs and bring them at policy level.

The recommendations are also to be presented to the United Nations General Assembly and the Millennium Development Goals Summit in September.

Results and Impacts:

There were no big political promises or changes but it was a good occasion brought by youth leaders from over 100 countries to share their perspectives related to the challenges and reality of young people around the world. Youth declaration and NGO statement were two other outcomes of this conference which was further referred for the UN meeting in New York.

Outlook:

MIJARC should continue work with other youth organizations to make the voice of the young people heard at different levels. There is a need of preparation for the participation in the next world youth conferences to have more result oriented work.

3. ORGANS OF MIJARC

3.1. World Coordination

The MIJARC World Coordination takes place every year. The world coordination is the decision making body in between two World Assemblies. It takes the important decisions for the good running and the improvement of our movement. 2010 world co-ordination was held in July 2010 in Kerala ,India.

Current members of the World Co-ordination:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Asia: | Sarita Minz, Anil Jose |
| Africa: | Melanie Fayé, Hona Tiboshoboka |
| Latin America: | Absent due to not obtaining the visa |
| Europe: | Johanna Schiller, Jürgen Westermann |
| World Team: | George Dixon Fernandez, Carolin Grieshop |

Objectives:

- Evaluation of the activities (training sessions, consolidation and/or extension of movements, political work, women work etc.) at continental and world levels
- Financial reporting and planning of MIJARC
- Checking the fulfillment of criteria set up for the distribution of the solidarity fund
- Enforcing the role of women within MIJARC
- Reinforcement of the internal networking of MIJARC
- Evaluation and planning for the next International Campaign on critical consumption
- Revision of action plan

Results/Impact:

The year 2009 was evaluated and the financial statement of the last year has been discussed and adopted as well as the financial planning for 2010. The different commissions explained their activities and presented their future planning. An evaluation of the activities of MIJARC was made as well as plans for campaigns in 2011. The world coordination had a long discussion about the financial situation due to the ongoing reduction of support for the functioning from the traditional donors and notified the urgency to act on it ; World Coordination accepted that George would work Part time for MIJARC from September onwards. Carolin Grieshop informed the coordination she would stop work for MIJARC from February 2011 onwards and the world coordination decided to replace this post first by the person from the same continent. If nobody is proposed until end of November the post will be open for all the continents from December 1st onwards.

Outlook:

The next world coordination will take place in Africa. Besides the normal tasks of the coordination, we should discuss about the future functioning structure of the secretariat as well as the development and organization of MIJARC based on the fact that the subventions have been reduced enormously in the last years and that there is a big uncertainty about the future financial support from the donors.

3.2. Food Sovereignty commission (FSC)

The World Co-ordination 2003 decided to adopt the concept of « food sovereignty». And then in 2004, the General Assembly decided to work more deeply on the concept of food sovereignty. Member movements of MIJARC are working on the specific objective since Food Sovereignty is accepted as a national political proposal.

As part of the activities, the General Assembly decided to create a commission on food sovereignty which should follow up in a regular way the work on food sovereignty of the overall network. This commission started its work in January of 2005 after the World Social Forum and meets at least once a year since then. It is constituted by one person from each continent, one person of the world team. This commission is in charge of discussing about food and agricultural issues faced by movements, and defining strategies of action for MIJARC. It aims to defend and promote the concept of food sovereignty within and outside of MIJARC, through the elaboration and diffusion of papers to the movements, as well as partners and other related institutions. The commission is also in charge of lobbying and advocacy on this topic in international organizations, (mainly FAO), and participates in continental and world meetings, forums and platforms, such as the International Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty (IPC).

Food Sovereignty Commission Members:

| | 2008-2012 |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Asia | John Sunil Palashery (India) |
| Africa | Melanie Faye (Senegal) |
| Europe | Claire Quintin (France) |
| Latin America | Nivaldo Ramos Silva (Absent) |
| World Team | George Dixon Fernandez |

The FSC objectives:

- Update with the current local, national and global realities and policies that affect the FS
- Think tank, animation and pressure group about FS inside the movement and in the society
- Defining political orientations and strategies on FS and to declare positions of MIJARC
- Provide new contacts to enable others to build up networks with regard to FS
- Info-sharing to orientate the national movements and the mission to motivate the national movements to face the challenges and threats of FS

Activity:

The annual meeting of the Food sovereignty commission was held from 27-29 July 2010 in Kerala, India .

Results and Impact:

The FSC shared their activities of the last year on continental and world level such as World Food Day, participation in activities of the International Planning Committee (IPC) on continental and world level and FAO meetings. The FSC mainly worked on the foreseen MIJARC pilot project on access to farming for young people in collaboration with IFAD and FAO as well as the foreseen project Food Sovereignty Challenge Badge in collaboration with YUNGA at FAO. There was a field visit to know about the local realities of the farmers in Kerala and also a practical session to know about the preparation about some local products

Outlook:

The Food Sovereignty commission will closely work with FAO and CFS mechanism at global and regional levels to continue our governance work on food and agricultural topics. The Commission will also assist the world team to do the follow up of the Mijarc International campaign on land grabbing. In 2011 FS commission will support the MIJARC pilot project with IFAD on access to farming for young people and also work on the FS challenge badge with FAO.

3.3.Solidarity Economy Commission (SEC)

Background:

MIJARC movements are not only focusing on the education of young rural people but also encouraging youth in rural areas to put into practice and to set up alternatives to the problems collectively discussed. As a consequence, members of MIJARC movements have been creating small projects on micro finance, are collectively farming and are engaged in the production and marketing of handicrafts etc.

Besides this, MIJARC member movements are constantly in the reflection regarding the economic model dominating the world and the alternatives to it. Therefore the World Assembly 2004 decided to focus on solidarity economy and created a commission which is working on this issue. In the 2008 world seminar and General Assembly, held in Uganda, this was one of the main topics discussed by the participants and they altogether agreed on the necessity to foster economic initiatives that allow small producers organizations to adapt to trade and economic liberalization, rural exodus, and to improve the standard of living of their families and communities.

Objectives:

- To raise awareness among Young people about solidarity based economies
- To let the movements analyze productive projects from a gender perspective
- To make proposals in order to improve the functioning and the impact of the organizations
- To set up an organization of cooperatives and women's groups within the national movements

Activities:

The SE Commission meeting took place simultaneously along with FS meeting from 27-29 of July 2010 in Kerala , India.

Results and Impact:

The SEC worked on the database of economic projects, which shall be published on the homepage of MIJARC. Each commission member from Asia, Africa, Latin-America and Europe presented the projects which are already running in their continents. On the last day SEC had a practical sessions in an institution to learn how to make some useful products to make some viable economical projects.

Outlook:

It is necessary to work more on the concept of solidarity economy by also giving value to the initiatives which already exist. There are some strong initiatives implemented by the national movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America but still other movements also can take such initiatives in their countries.

3.4. International Women Commission (IWC)

Background:

The World Assembly in Madras decided to create an international working group on women and the world assembly in 2004 in Germany reaffirmed the need to have women commissions at the local, national, international level. Moreover the new statutes recognize 2 world coordinators, including one woman with the same responsibilities. The international commission of the women is composed of one women of each continent, plus a member of the world team.

Goals:

- to enable women living in rural areas to take responsibilities in the movement
- to enable women to analyse gender differences, especially in the movement and in rural areas
- to provoke changes with regard to stronger participation of women within the movement, in the villages/society and in development projects
- to enable women to elaborate plans of action with groups and organize the follow up

Activities:

IWC met in Kerala, India from 17-19 July and analyzed the past work of MIJARC in women and gender issues and planned, on the basis of discussions, the activities to be done in the next years. During the first day of the meeting the activities at continental and international level were shared and a speaker of the IWC was elected, which will alternate each year among the continental representatives. The members worked mainly on the preparation of a training manual on Civic Education of Women with a focus on

women and food, Women rights declaration, Finances, Political Participation, Health, and Millennium Development Goals. With this training manual, group leaders can organize seminars in order to train young rural women.

Results/Impact:

The "International Women commission" contributed to evaluate the past activities of MIJARC related to gender and planned for 2011. The first draft of the training Manuel on civic education of women was also prepared.

Outlook:

It is necessary to integrate the gender perspective in all the topics, in this regard the IWC should play the role of the watchdog. It is also necessary to reinforce networking with other organizations which work with rural women in order to have closer cooperation. It is necessary to animate more the women's groups as well as the national women's commissions so that they are more active. The training manual can be used for this purpose.

3.5. World Team

The World Team consists of the President (since August 2004, George Dixon Fernandez who was re-elected during the last GA in Uganda 2008) and the Secretary General (Carolyn Grieshop who was elected in May 2008). Carolyn stops working for MIJARC from February 2011 and we are in the process of replacing her by a new person . FR. Florencio Dube who was the chaplain, finished his mandate in 2009 and we have organized a postal election for a new chaplain last year and submitted the names to Vatican. The World Team meets regularly and most often once in a month. The President is working part time since September 2010 and General Secretary has been working on a full-time basis.

3.6. General Secretariat

Last years were crucial for MIJARC. The subventions have been drastically reduced in 2009 and in 2010. MIJARC is now confronted with a more pessimistic situation regarding structural support. The situation in 2011 and 2012 will be worse. The "contrat cadre" with the catholic donors ended in 2006 , Since then only a few agencies gave structural support to MIJARC. It is difficult to manage the international secretariat with the tremendous reduction of support from CCFD as well as the plan of BD to stop their support completely in 2012

With some meetings in 2008 and in 2009, MIJARC and FIMARC took initiative to discuss with CCFD and thus managed to maintain at least to get the same 50% support. We have really no idea on how the situation will be in the future. The only information

that we have is that CCFD employed an interlocutor for the movements to discuss these problems and evaluate to have new evolution of partnership based on project.

One of the outcomes of such situation is that *George* decided to work as part time. But in reality has to do a full time work .The situation of the International General Secretariat in 2011 will be as follows :

- *George Dixon Fernandez*, Part -time, President
- *Secretary General* , full-time and
- *Nubia Alvarez*, 10h/ week bookkeeper.

The World Coordination in 2011 will seriously discuss about the structure and functioning of the international secretariat.

4. MOVEMENTS AND CONTINENTAL COORDINATION

4.1. Situation and activities of MIJARC Africa

Situation of the movements:

MIJARC has member movements in Western Africa (Togo, Senegal, Mali, Burkina-Faso, Benin), in Central Africa (Cameroon, R.C.A, Congo Brazzaville), (Congo Kinshasa: associative movement) and in East Africa (Zambia, Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar).

Situation of Pan African coordination:

Hona Tibashoboka (Panafrikan Coordinator) from Uganda and Melanie Faye (Panafrikan Coordinator) from Senegal were elected during the African General Assembly 2008. The plan for 2009 was to find a common office, since the former office of MIJARC Africa was in Yaoundé/ Cameroun and closed because of the call back of the former coordinator. But both coordinators decided in 2009 to work from their place and not to establish a new office. Both of the coordinators are working on a voluntary basis.

Financial crisis, lack of statutory meetings at the continental levels and lack of training are the major issues facing in terms of our work in Africa. The activities are taking place at national levels. The continental coordinators have been trying to get some finances for the activities at sub-regional and continental levels but did not get much positive result from the donors. The panafrikan coordinators organized some visits to the national movements.

MIJARC African partnership with MIJARC World:

Tibashoboka Doreen Hona and Melani Faye (African coordinators) participated to the "World coordination meeting of MIJARC World" which took place from 20 of July to the 2nd of August 2009 in cochin, Kerala, India. Tibashoboka Doreen Hona (from CARYM Uganda) participated to the "women commission" ; Charles Dramane (from JARC ,Benin) participated to the "solidarity economy commission" and Melani Faye (UJCRS, Senegal) participated in the Food Sovereignty commission

Outlook:

There is a possibility to have an African level gathering in 2011 in connection with the MIJARC pilot project in collaboration with IFAD. The world coordination meeting and the International Seminar on land grabbing will also take place in Africa and can give some motivation and support for actions in Africa. MIJARC Africa has to put its energy and synergy to build up alliances with like minded organizations working at national and continental levels as well as to join in various networks and platforms which are having the similar objectives. Considering the past experiences of two coordinators working at different and distant places, it is essential to have an active communication and commitment. It is important to have better operational strategies to ensure a good work and continental coordination.

4.2. Situation and activities of MIJARC Latin America and Caribbean

Situation of the movements:

At present there are eight member movements belonging to MIJARC in Latin America: Brazil, Ecuador, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Martinique, Paraguay, Nicaragua and Peru. In Bolivia we had some local groups working in the spirit of MIJARC but there is no national level. Other contacts exist to rural youth groups Chile, Uruguay and Argentina, but are still not at a level to be affiliated to MIJARC.

Situation of the Latin American coordination:

Luz Mery Orrillo from Peru and Nivaldo Ramos Silva are the continental coordinators for MIJARC Latin America and Caribbean. As MIJARC Latin America hasn't had a permanent office in the past years, they settled in beginning of 2009 an office in Lima/Peru. Luz Mery Benavides Orrillo is working in this office as full-timer. Nivaldo Ramos Silva is working in Brazil with groups, who are starting economic projects. The coordination in Latin America and Caribbean is also faced with difficulties to find finances for their continental projects.

Luz Mery ,the Latin American coordinator had visited NICARAQUAY in connection with an exchange programme of KLJB

Luz Mery visited the movement of Ecuador.

MIJARC Latin America has launched two economic projects in Peru and in Brasil

MIJARC Latin America has participated in various meetings of the partners and Networks in Latin America

Outlook:

Latin America has installed an office in Lima,Peru .Luz Mery who is working as full timer in this office is developing some important projects .Coordination with the national movement has still to be improved .Lack of structural meeting is another issue to be tackled .Anyhow this year there is a possibility of organising a continental meeting in Latin America in connection with the Latin American regional consultation meeting with regard to the MIJARC International pilot project in collaboration with IFAD. Some other training programmes are also foreseen by the Latin American coordination. IJARC Latin America will apply membership in 2011 for the IBERO American Youth Space.

Even though a continental office has started functioning with a full timer, the continental coordination still has to be strengthened. A structural meeting is planned for 2011. The regional consultation meeting in connection with MIJARC Pilot project will be also an occasion to bring Latin American movements together.

4.3. Situation and activities of MIJARC Asia

Situation of the movements:

10 affiliated member movements are part of MIJARC in Asia: India (Tamilnadu, Kerala, Andra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, North-East, Karnataka, Orissa), Sri Lanka, Nepal and Pakistan. The movement from Philippines participated in the last Asian Assembly held at Colombo, Srilanka and been approved as an associated member of MIJARC. Because of the political reasons the contact and participation of Pakistan movement is not often positive. Even for last meetings in 2010 they have denied visa to travel .

Situation of Asian coordination:

Anil Jose, Sarita Minz and Fr.Sunny Uppan (Chaplain) are the three team members of MIJARC ASIA. Asian Team works in the MIJARC continental office in Chennai. The three team members shared their tasks with regard to functioning, projects; follow up of the movements, communication etc. financial management is done by three of them together with the support of an internal management committee. Fr. Kuriakose Mambarakatt, Daniel Clement Royan and Irandie Vishara Thamel are the members of the management committee. The Asian office is functioning at the house of MIJARC Asia in Kodingayure, Chennai since last year.

Activities 2010

- MIJARC ASIA organised Chaplains and Animators formation and Exchange (CAFE) programme in Bangalore in December 2010
- Asian coordination meeting ,Continental commissions on Food Sovereignty ,Solidarity Economy and Women held in Cochin, Indian in July 2010
- Asian training session on climate change and models of production took place in Chennai in May 2010.George Dixon Fernandez president of MIJARC participated in all these Asian Programmes
- Asian team visited Philipines Tamil nadu,Kerala,Orissa ,Karnataka movements and participated in some of the statutory meetings of the national movements in 2010
- Sarita Minz ,Asian coordinator partcipaated in the IPC south Asian meeting held in Kolkatta
- Anil Jose ,Asian Coordinator participated in the FAO civil society consulatation meeting in Philippines.
- Sarita Minz ,Asian coordinator partcipaated in the IPC south Asian meeting held in Nepal
- MIJARC Asia completed the renovation work of the MIJARC house and the office is now functioning there

MIJARC ASIA partnership with MIJARC World:

Anil Jose and Sarita Minz (Asian coordinators) participated to the "World coordination meeting of MIJARC World" which took place from 20 of July to the 2nd of August 2009 in cochin, Kerala, India. Sarita Minz (from CARYM Orissa) participated to the "women commission" ; Jose Pallath (from MIJARC Kerala) participated to the "solidarity economy commission" and Sunil John (MIJARC ,Karanataka) participated in the Food Sovereignty commission. MIJARC Asian team had two meetings with the President of MIJARC in Chennai .Asian Team together with MIJARC Kerala organised a big public demonstration and Public conference with the participation of more than 5000 young people in the context of Launching the MIJARC International Campaign on Land Grabbing

Outlook:

MIJARC Asia is now working closely and efficiently with FAO regional bodies. MIJARC Asia has been invited for different civil society consultation meetings organised by FAO Asia Pacific Region. MIJARC Asia has foreseen training sessions for rural young women in 2011 at national levels and also a core team meeting of the women leaders to prepare a training manual on gender issues with the support of CCFD.

4.4. Situation and activities of MIJARC Europe

Situation of the movements: JARC (Portugal),MJRC (Spain),JARC (Catalonia),MRJC (France),KLJ (Belgium), Plattelandsjongeren.nl (The Netherlands),KLJB (Germany),EiR (Poland),YMDRAB (Bulgaria),Romania are the 10 member movements affiliated to MIJARC Europe. Contacts also exist with movements NAUK (Croatia)-KJÖ (Austria), KIM (Hungary), APSD-Agenda 21(Romania). The continental assembly of MIJARC Europe took place in Bavaria, Germany in June 2010.

Situation of the European Secretariat and European Team: Jürgen Westermann (KLJB Germany), Lyubomir Todorov (Bulgaria) and Claire quintin (France) are the team members of MIJARC Europe. Since July 2010, there are two new staff members for MIJARC Europe Ana silva from JARC Portugal has been started working as the MIJARC European General secretary in Brussels replacing Emilie Durochat and Yordanka Petrova Botevgrad (Bulgaria).Their main tasks are Fundraising, Communication (internal & external), preparation of seminars, External Representation and advocacy.

Activities:

European team had 4 Team meetings in 2010 as well as regular skype meetings. They have participated in KLJ Kick-off event in Belgium and visited KLJB (Germany) ,MJRC (Spain).

MIJARC Europe organised a Summer Camp in Poland with 28 participants from 6 countries on the topic « Sustainable development and climate change » Field visits, workshops etc also were also part of the camp.

The European Coordination took place in Portugal with 11 Participants and finalized Food Sovereignty Political Paper of MIJARC Europe and discussed about Sponsorship opportunities, Mission Statement and Slogan for the same .MIJARC Europe launched the campaign on Food Sovereignty in Madrid Spain during the European Coordination Meeting.

Information Campaigns "You(th) Can make the Europe of Tomorrow!" ; MIJARC Europe's 6 objectives for Europe and its 13 best practices were translated in 8 languages submitted to the elected MEP's.

MIJARC Europe participated in the Via Campesina Training session and youth Assembly as well as in the discussion on CAP in the European Parliament, Preparation of TS for young farmers.

MIJARC Europe attended the General Assembly of Rural Youth Europe and prepared a seminar on Youth Employment.

MIJARC Europe participated in the European Youth Forum activities such as the GA; participation in the working group of cooperation in the EEC region etc.

MIJARC Europe participated in Environmental Human Rights training and networking session of the council of Europe and organized its own seminar on natural resources in 2010.

MIJARC Europe also participated in other activities such as European Commission on-line consultations, Stakeholders forum for the future programmes of Financial Support of Youth Projects; European Development Days, Civil society meeting of FAO, Joint press conference with Food Sovereignty CAP platform, Nyeleni Forum preparation etc

MIJARC Europe partnership with MIJARC World:

Jürgen Westermann and Johanna Schiller (European coordinators) participated to the "World coordination meeting of MIJARC World" which took place from 20 of July to the 2nd of August 2009 in cochin, Kerala, India. Ana Silva (from JARC Portugal) participated to the "women commission" ; Johanna Schiller (from KLJB Germany) participated to the "solidarity economy commission" and Claire Quintin (MRJC, France) participated in the Food Sovereignty commission. MIJARC European team had a meeting with the President of MIJARC in Brussels to exchange the information about the activities.

Communication :

MIJARC Europe regularly publishes Newsletters (7 issues) to provide Information about the life and activities of the movements. Another communication tool Info-Europe was published twice for 2010 on specific topic each time (e.g. non-formal

education, interculturality). MIJARC Europe has an updated website and facebook account.

Outlook:

MIJARC Europe has succeeded in bringing the hungarian movement KIM to the MIJARC family. But at the same time the Netherlands movement had some problems in terms of its collaboration at European level. MIJARC European Assembly will takes place in Ostand Belgium in 2011 where Jurgen Westermann will stop his service as team member and there will be elections to find the new team members. A one week seminar on human rights also planned with the partcipation of various movements in 2011 which will lead to a political paper on Human rights.

5. PUBLICATIONS

5.1 MIJARC News

MIJARC News was published 3 times in 3 languages in 2010. This review is used as instrument of formation and information, contacts and relations with our member movements, our partners and of the institutions with which we come into contact. There is always a central article on a topic of thought written by an external person. The topics of 2010 were:

- 01/ 2010: World Food Summit and FAO conference
- 02/ 2010: Migration
- 03/ 2010: Biodiversity

One also finds in the review reports of the movements and continental coordinations as well as articles of thought or work in the grass root levels on the broad topics that MIJARC works: food sovereignty, gender, solidarity economy and finally activities of lobby and advocacy undertaken by the world team. The testimonials and agricultural practices etc were published also in 2010

Results:

- Formation and information of our movements members
- Presentation of the concrete activities of the MIJARC at our partners and donors
- Networking between movements and partners
- Creation of a spirit of unity and solidarity through MIJARC News

Outlook:

It is fundamental to continue to publish the review and it is necessary to have hard copies as the movements especially in Africa , Asia and Latin America have problems to download and print MIJARC News while receiving it by email. We have been receiving good responses from the movements, as well for the sending of articles and also for the comments on the articles published.

5.2. MIJARC INFO

MIJARC Info is an electronic instrument of communication between the world office and the movements and continental coordinations. It explains in 2 or 3 pages the activities of the world office, which have been done, what we are preparing, and recalls to the movements the tasks they must undertake and the documents they must send to the world office, etc. In 2010, 2 numbers have been sent. It is a good instrument of communication allowing an improved relationship with the movements through a timely communication.

5.3. Website

The website is a good medium to spread current issues of MIJARC easily. The content management system allows the world team and also the continental coordinators to

regularly publish new information and we use it quite well. The quality of the website has improved in 2010 and statistics show the frequency of visits, which has been increased in 2010, too.

The following News were published on the website by MIJARC World level

| DATE | TITLE | ENGLISH | SPANISH | FRENCH |
|------------|---|---------|---------|--------|
| 15.01.2010 | WWFF: Prize for Women's creativity in Rural Life | x | x | x |
| 17.02.2010 | Call to civil society | x | | |
| 19.02.2010 | New FAO Database, gender gap in land rights | x | | |
| 8.03.2010 | MIJARC World is looking for a chaplain | x | x | x |
| 8.03.2010 | "Equal Rights, equal opportunities, Progress for All" | x | x | x |
| 10.03.2010 | MIJARC News 1/10 available on line | x | x | x |
| 18.03.2010 | Award for Christine Brandmeier | x | x | x |
| 27.04.2010 | MIJARC annual report 2009 is online | x | | |
| 30.06.2010 | MIJARC News 2/10 available on line | x | x | x |
| 1.07.2010 | Anthony Saina participated at Brussels Developing briefing on June 16 th (video) | x | x | x |
| 23.07.2010 | Public Campaign on Land Grabbing in India on July 24 th 2010 | x | x | x |
| 25.07.2010 | International Symposium on "Land grabbing and threats to biodiversity" in Aroormuzhy | x | x | x |
| 28.07.2010 | Public Meeting and rallye "Stop Land Grabbing, the soil is our future" in Chalakudi, India | x | x | x |
| 20.08.2010 | World Food Day: Call for Action | x | x | x |
| 10.09.2010 | World Youth Conference in Mexico | x | x | x |
| 09.10.2010 | Call for Action on October 15 th : International Day of Rural Women | x | x | x |
| 15.10.2010 | October 16 th World Food Day and International Day of Rural Youth | x | x | x |
| 05.01.2011 | MIJARC News 3/10 available on line | x | x | x |

5.4. Publication of Pedagogical document on Food Sovereignty

In 2010 MIJARC published a pedagogical document on Food sovereignty .The Book is available in English, French, Spanish . Thanks to the KLJB Germany and Fasten Hopfer Swiss for the support to make this publication.

6. COOPERATION WITH PARTNERS

6.1. Cooperation with Vatican

The second Vatican Forum of the Catholic inspired Non Governmental Organizations (NGO's) took place in Rome from 12-14 February 2010. It was organized by the Holy see to allow the INGO's to meet, to exchange and to construct a network while sharing common catholic values and references. George Dixon Fernandez, the president of MIJARC participated in this meeting.

Objectives:

- To work together on common issues based on the catholic values
- To build up constructive actions /lobby and advocacy work at UN head quarters
- To share experiences and build up networks and alliances

Result/Impact:

- Identified key working areas and common themes.
- MIJARC along with FIMARC raised the concerns of the farming community and rural people in the context of food crisis and stressed the need to work on this aspects.

Outlook:

MIJARC will link with organisations who are working with Rome based agencies.

Meeting at Apostolic Nunciature in Brussels

George participated in the meetings organised by His Excellency Mgr. Andre Dupuy, Apostolic Nuncio to European Commission at his residence in Brussels. Most of the Brussels based ICO's were present for this meeting.

6.2.Cooperation with CIDSE

CIDSE is the international coalition of Catholic development organisations. CIDSE agencies aim at coordinating their advocacy and lobby work in the following key policy areas: Food, Agriculture, sustainable trade, social justice, resources for development and global governance. This work is being done in partnership with Caritas Internationalis, Centre of Concern and international Catholic movements such as MIJARC.

MIJARC is always participating actively in the Working Group on Food, Agriculture and Sustainable Trade (FAST). This group meets 3-4 times a year to discuss advocacy work on Food and agricultural governance, Trade ,WTO Agreement on Agriculture, TRIPS, Common Agricultural Policy etc .It also coordinate advocacy and lobby work towards the EU institutions.

George Dixon participated in the first FAST group meeting in 2010 and later Carolin Grieshop participated in the meeting held in Brussels as well as in Rome prior to the CFS meeting in October 2010.

Outlook:

We will continue our work in hand with CIDSE for the follow up of CFS and lobby work on food and agricultural governance. Since MIJARC has a special consultative status and long experience in working with FAO, we can further support the CIDSE involvement with regard to FAO Advocacy and lobby work.

6.3.Cooperation with IPC/FAO

Cooperation with IPC

IPC /International Planification Committee for Food Sovereignty

The International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) is a self-organized and autonomous mechanism to facilitate the cooperation of the social movements and NGO/CSO's that are fighting for food sovereignty. It is a platform that was created in the follow up process of the WFS/NGO Forum 1996. Its main task was the preparation of the NGO Forum on Food Sovereignty in June 2002. After the NGO Forum/WFS, it defined its new role as a kind of catalyst for strong NGO/CSO representation towards FAO and for powerful actions of NGOs in the field of world food.

About 500 organisations working on food sovereignty are member of IPC. The IPC has focal points of 6 regions, thematic focal points (right to food, agri-ecological model, GMO's) and the focal points of the constituency farmers groups, rural workers, fisher folk, indigenous people and youth. MIJARC is the International youth focal point within the frame work of IPC. For the last 6 years, being the spokes person of the youth focal point George Dixon Fernandez (President, MIJARC) has been committed to the work of IPC on a regular basis and doing the follow up of IPC and FAO related issues and events.

In Latin America Nivaldo Ramos Silva, continental coordinator of MIJARC is the Latin American Youth focal point for IPC; Anil Jose and Sarita Minz, MIJARC Asian coordinators had contact with IPC east Asia and South Asia respectively.

IPC meetings 2010 Rome, Italy

George Dixon Fernandez participated in the special meeting of IPC which held in conjunction with IFAD farmers forum in February 2010. George contributed much for the drafting and formulation of the Civil Society Mechanism document. The meeting discussed also about the need to find out potential leaders who can work as the representative of the Civil Society in the advisory group of the World committee on Food Security.

The second extraordinary meeting of IPC held soon after the 36th session of the CFS in October 2010 at Hotel Villa Beneditta, Rome to discuss about the future role, functioning and challenges of IPC in the new context of Civil Society Mechanism of the CFS. IPC Coordinator Mr. Antonio Onorati moderated the session. In 2010 various institutional meetings and discussions also took place with Thomas Price from OCE, FAO and with Jean-Philippe Audinet from the Policy Division, IFAD.

George Dixon Fernandez -ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER OF THE World committee on Food Security

The annual meeting of IPC 2010 as well as the meeting of the Civil Society organisations who are working with FAO held in Rome in March 2010 in order to select the Civil Society representatives to the advisory group of the renewed world committee on Food Security (CFS). George Dixon Fernandez (MIJARC, India) was selected as one of the 4 CSO representatives to the advisory group of the CFS along with Mammadou Cissako (ROPPA, Senegal), Chris leather (Oxfam International, UK) and Beatrice Gasco (IPC, Spain). It is indeed a great recognition of the hard work rendered by George for the last 6 years in FAO. The advisory group is the key organ of the renewed world committee on food security for the global governance of food and agricultural systems. The advisory Group is composed of 11 governments, 4 CSO members, 2 representatives of the private sector and 5 Intergovernmental agencies (WFP, IFAD, WB, UNHLTF coordinator, the UN reporter on right to food and the UN standing committee on Nutrition).

Cooperation with FAO

MIJARC has a special consultative status in FAO and is invited as an observer to the FAO Council and Committee Sessions. As rural development and the eradication of hunger in rural areas are the main goals of MIJARC, the MIJARC team decided to make stronger efforts to lobby for the interests of rural youth and established a permanent representative of MIJARC towards FAO. The representation towards FAO is accompanied by the participation of the representative in the meetings and activities of the NGO community such as the IPC (International Planning Committee on Food sovereignty) and the ad-hoc group of International NGOs. During the last 6 years, George Dixon Fernandez has been the permanent representative of MIJARC towards FAO.

World Food Week 2010

FAO organized a World Food Week this year with various programmes in Rome. The Committee on World Food Security: 36th session of the FAO Committee on World Food Security was held from 11-17 October in Rome. George participated in this meeting and actively involved in the preparation and organisation of the official meeting as the AG member of the CFS. The CFS had been redefined to act as an authoritative global policy forum deliberating on food issues, including the global and national governance of food and agricultural systems and thus to defend the Right to Food of the world population.

MIJARC delegation for the CSO forum and CFS meeting 2010

Members of the MIJARC's world commission on food sovereignty took part to the first full session of the Committee on world Food Security (CFS) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The renewed CFS made a big step for the global governance by providing participant space to the civil society with the freedom to organize its autonomous representation to the CFS. After this reform, the organizations of the civil society made a great effort to build up a mechanism to take part to the CFS in the most transparent and inclusive way, giving the priority to the most vulnerable people who suffer from hunger in the world.

B) World Food Day 2010- The theme of the World Food day 2010 was "United against Hunger". The WFD was inaugurated by the president of the Republic of Rwanda. Other major leaders and world famous celebrities were also participated in the function. FAO has appointed new ambassadors of its mission from the celebrities

FAO-Civil society workshop

FAO together with Civil society organisations organized a side event on 16 October during the auspicious occasion of the world food day at IRAN room in FAO on the theme united against hunger. This year also George Dixon Fernandez (President of MIJARC) was invited as one of the panelists to speak on the theme in the context of 1 Billion hungry campaign of FAO. This year again, workshop was moderated by Sergio Marelli from FOCSIV Italy. Hundreds of people including Country delegations, Civil society organisations and FAO staff attended in this workshop.

Outlook :

MIJARC look forward for closer collaboration with FAO in its actions to eradicate hunger and poverty in the world and committed ourselves for a true and real partnership proposed by Bellagio meeting and thus we will do the follow up in this regard.

Forum of the civil society from 8th to 10th of October 2010.

The first session of the reformed CFS took place at the headquarter of the FAO in Rome from 11th to 17th of October 2011. Georges Dixon, Caroline Grieshop, Mélanie Faye and Claire Quintin took part to this session which was crucial for the global food governance. Prior to the official meeting a civil society forum was held from 8-10 October at the IFAD Head Quarters in Rome to validate a mechanism's proposal to represent the civil society in the CFS and prepare for the CFS matters with a common voice. The forum discussed also the 4 major themes of the CFS 2010 which are global agricultural governance, access to land and natural resources, price volatility on agricultural commodity markets, protracted crisis. The forum approved the Civil Society Mechanism and prepared the process and guidelines for the selection of the

coordination committee members from various constituencies and regions . The new structure of the CSM will be as follows.

- An yearly general assembly, called "**yearly forum of the civil society**".
- A **coordination committee** made up of 40 people, representatives of the most vulnerable
- groups (small farmers, smallholder family farmers, artisanal fisherfolk, herders/pastoralists, landless, urban poor, agricultural and food workers, women, youth, consumers, Indigenous Peoples, and NGOs),
- representatives of the 16 regions of the world, as defined by the FAO.

From this coordination committee, 4 people will be nominated to represent the civil society in the **advisory group** of the CFS.

The 36th session of the CFS:

Contrary to the world food summit in 2009, the civil society was completely free to take part to the CFS sessions in the FAO premises. As the civil society was well prepared, the members took the floor in a very relevant and constructive way. Regarding access to land and natural resources especially, the youth group denounced the land grabbing and demanded to think about the kind of investment we want, to promote a more agro organic production, especially toward young people and women. During the debate, the representatives of the national government were forced to shift their position because of the demands of the civil society and of other allied governments. This experience was a great lesson about negotiation, diplomacy and democracy! George Moderated the session on Civil Society Mechanism which was an official agenda item of the CFS 36.

The youth process of CSM

MIJARC members were very committed in the selection process of the 2 youth representatives for the coordination committee: Mélanie Faye was the contact for Africa and Claire Quintin for Europe. George was the overall coordinator of the youth group.

Meeting with FAO youth focal point

MIJARC delegation had a meeting with FAO youth focal point and coordinator of Yunga project Mr .Reuben Cesa at FAO head quarters to discuss about the possible MIJARC - FAO food sovereignty challenge badge

FAO Conference - November 2010, ROME

The FAO conference has been convened from 30th November to December 4th 2010. George Dixon Fernandez participated in the conference representing MIJARC.

Results and Impact:

- More visibility, involvement and participation from MIJARC
- MIJARC took leadership in organizing youth related process and activities
- Close contact and network with new youth organisations working on food issues
- George Dixon Fernandez, the president of MIJARC was selected as AG member to the CFS and played a vital role in the formation of CSM and organization of the CSO forum 2010
- Raised the voice and perspectives of the most vulnerable groups and young people in the context of CFS discussions

Outlook:

George Dixon Fernandez (India- MIJARC) and Kalissa Regier (Canada), from the youth of Via Campesina were selected to coordinate the youth participation to the CFS process in 2011 and thus MIJARC will have to continue its work in this regard. We will continue raising awareness of the issues of the right to food and food sovereignty, and advocate on behalf of those affected. The regular participation in FAO related activities gave MIJARC especially in the last years good recognition of being the voice of young people in rural areas. The role of MIJARC is quite vital in the coming years regarding the governance of food and agricultural issues.

6.4.Cooperation with UNESCO

Background:

MIJARC has consultative status in UNESCO and MIJARC was very much involved in different committees and activities of UNESCO. Contacts have been established to the Youth Section of UNESCO, to the programme "Education for all", to the gender section, to the NGO liaison committee and to the Catholic Centre gathering all International Catholic Organisations working with UNESCO.

Moreover MIJARC is one of the founding members of the Joint Programmatic Commission on Youth (JPC on Youth). The JPC on youth was created during the International Conference of NGOs that took place from 14th to 16th December 2005 in Paris, with the explicit support of the UNESCO Youth Section. In UNESCO, the Joint Programmatic Commission on Youth of the UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee federates youth organizations in official relations with UNESCO.

Activities:

Carolin Grieshop did the follow up with UNESCO in 2010; unfortunately the involvement of MIJARC was not much during the last year. We have received a small support from UNESCO for our international seminar on Biodiversity in Kerala ,India.

Outlook:

MIJARC has to invest little bit more in UNESCO to continue our work for an education for food sovereignty, fostering youth involvement that guarantees better education for rural population and especially better vocational training in agriculture.

6.5 Cooperation with ICMYO

International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations (ICMYO)

Background:

The International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO) is an informal network of membership-based, democratic, representative and accountable. MIJARC is one of the founding members of ICMYO together with International Youth NGOs (INGYOs) and Regional Youth Platforms (RYPs). Since its inception in 2004, ICMYO has gained international credibility with UN agencies, the World Bank, and other international institutions; and its successes have included ensuring youth voices are heard in high level policy frameworks such as the World Development Report 2007 and the World Programme of Action for Youth.

Objectives:

The main objectives of ICMYO is the strengthening of cooperation among youth organizations at the regional and global levels and the coordination of political inputs to global youth policy processes .

Activities:

ICMYO meets at least once a year. Due to some communication problems in the mailing list MIJARC did not get the invitation in time for the yearly meeting of 2010. But we were actively involved in the preparation of the World youth Conference in Mexico where ICMYO was involved a lot.

Results and Impacts:

- Face to face meeting with UN sections and authorities
- Share information about ongoing global youth issues and processe
- Exchange information and best practices
- To influence political processes and decisions of international institutions working/impacting youth issues
- To work together in common thematic priorities
- To Increase access to international institutions working/impacting on youth issues

Outlook:

For ICMYO network MIJARC is the focal organization to the Rome based UN agencies thus as a task updates on food and agricultural issues has to be disseminated to the

other members. In July 2011 a UN special session on youth will take place in New York where ICMYO will take a key role in the organisation of this important conference.

6.6 Cooperation with IFAD

Background:

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is a specialized agency of the United Nations. It was established as an international financial institution in 1977 as one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference to finance agricultural development projects primarily for food production in the developing countries". IFAD's Mission is to enable poor rural people to overcome Poverty. Working with rural poor people, governments, donors, non-governmental organizations and many other [partners](#), IFAD focuses on country-specific solutions, which can involve increasing rural poor peoples' access to financial services, markets, technology, land and other natural resources. IFAD's goal is to empower poor rural women and men in developing countries to achieve higher incomes and improved food security.

MIJARC and IFAD:

MIJARC started to contact and collaborate with IFAD since 2006 onwards. International food sovereignty commission of MIJARC organized a short workshop in IFAD on the issues of young farmers and rural youth and the actions of MIJARC in this field. Later MIJARC was invited for the Governing body meeting of IFAD in 2007 to be an Intervient for the round table on employment opportunities in Rural Areas. George Dixon and Christine Brandmeir made a visit to IFAD to discuss more closely about the possible collaboration of MIJARC with IFAD on rural development and poverty eradication in rural areas. Gaetan Valle from France participated in this meeting on behalf of MIJARC. MIJARC was invited for first time for the global farmers forum organized by IFAD in February 2008. George Dixon Fernandez represented MIJARC in this great event and given much contribution in the working groups on land reform and climate change and was able to include a small text on rural youth in the final synthesis of deliberations submitted to the IFAD governing council. George also had various meetings with Sappho Haralambous, Jean-Philippe Audinet of the Policy Division and with Maria Hartl of the gender division to convince the need to get the IFAD small grant for our General assembly in Uganda 2008.

Objectives:

- To improve networking and collaboration between MIJARC and IFAD
- To deepen the involvement of MIJARC in IFAD farmers forum to have more collaboration with other farmers and rural producers organisations
- to look for resources for our actions related to rural youth

Activities in 2010:

MIJARC started to contact and collaborate with IFAD since 2006 and then onwards we have been invited for various governing body meetings and farmers forum processes. We also gave feedback on the preparation of rural poverty report of 2010. George Dixon Fernandez has been doing a regular follow up with IFAD for the last 5 years
Third Global meeting of the farmers forum

The third global meeting of the Farmers forum took place at IFAD headquarters from 12-14 February 2010; George represented MIJARC in this meeting. The IFAD president, in his opening remark, stressed the need to invest more in rural youth. George made a written intervention about the proposals of relevant youth activities in the forum which was further recognised by IFAD governing council. MIJARC was also invited for one day session on women. Carolin Grieshop represented MIJARC in this meeting. George also had various meetings with Jean Philip Audinet, Philippe Remy and Laura Jalasjoki of the Policy Division to discuss about the follow up of the youth proposals and to find the possibility of a MIJARC pilot project on access to farming for young people. Finally with months long hard work we have received an IFAD grant which is one of the biggest support that MIJARC ever received from the donor.

Results and Impacts:

- Financial support for a Pilot project of MIJARC
- Good collaboration with IFAD is existing
- MIJARC become the member of IFAD farmers forum and participated in the third global farmers forum
- MIJARC is invited for different meetings organized by IFAD
- Recognition of rural youth in IFAD policy discussions

Outlook:

MIJARC has received a good support from IFAD for the MIJARC pilot project on access to farming for young people. This project will be implemented in 2011 with the collaboration with IFAD and FAO. A mapping of young farmers organisations, a world wide survey on the needs and challenges of young men and women to enter in Agriculture, 3 regional consultation workshops in Asia, Africa and Latin America will prepare the key recommendations and policy proposals to be finally presented in the next global farmers forum in 2012. With this project MIJARC had the possibility of appointing one project coordinator in our Head Quarters in Brussels as well as a technical consultant who is based in FAO, Rome. There is a great work has to be done in 2011 for the best implementation of this project.

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