

Farmers Major Group RT6 Statement on Environmental challenges within sustainable development and the contribution of UNEP to Sustainable Development Goals; Promoting sustainable consumption and production

Thank you madam chair. My name is James B. Cole, a farmer from the south representing farmers at the Major Groups.

We are aware of the good work that our governments through our honourable ministers are doing to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in our respective countries but we as stakeholders are being left behind. Our interventions are as follows:

1. On Green Economy

We call on governments to engage all stakeholders, in particular Farmers, the most vulnerable communities and the private sector, in decision-making processes in relation to green economy, sustainable development and poverty eradication policies and initiatives through country-lead multi-stakeholder fora,

2. Means of Implementation

Furthermore, we call on governments, intergovernmental organisations, international monetary institutions and regional development banks to support farmer's especially small holder farmers in developing countries and to increase investment and support in the following areas;

- (i) humane and sustainable agricultural practices;
- (ii) rural infrastructure, storage capacities and related appropriate technologies;
- (iii) research and development on sustainable agricultural technologies;
- (iv) development of strong agricultural cooperatives, local markets and value chains;
- (v) the strengthening of urban-rural linkages.

Thank you madam chair.