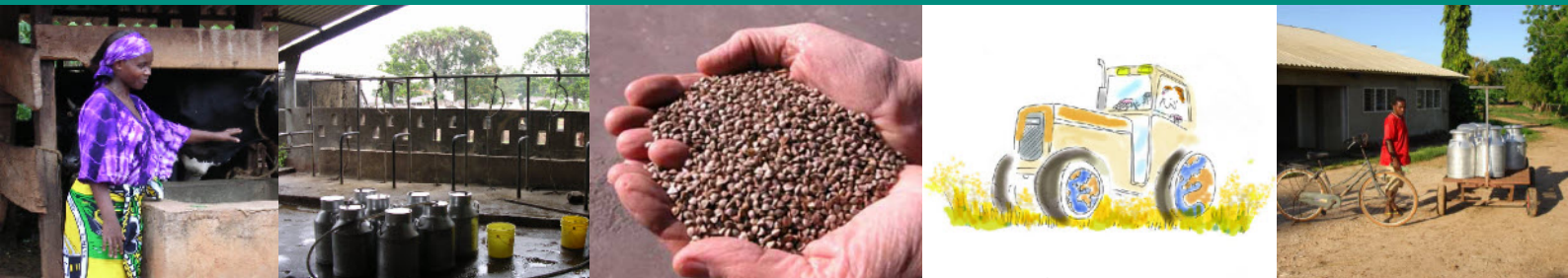


FARMERS DIALOGUE



A FARMER'S CHARTER

As a farmer

I commit myself to:

1. Produce food to the highest standards of taste and nutrition
2. Use sustainable farming methods to improve biodiversity, ensure healthy livestock and care for the soil
3. Make decisions on the basis of openness and honesty

I believe that technological developments need to include the following conditions:

1. The owners of technology must not be allowed to use it to control farmers
2. The balance of nature must be respected

I recognize that:

1. The relationship between farmers, consumers and agro-business must be established on a basis of giving a proper return for all in the food chain while meeting the needs of humanity
2. Each country ought, as far as possible, source its food close to the point of production
3. Exports at prices other than those of fair competition prevent balanced development of markets, and are very damaging to farmers in developing countries
4. Farmers earning a decent living will be better placed to effectively meet the nutritional needs of humanity

I affirm that:

1. Agriculture is central to the vitality of rural life
2. An economy geared to the needs of people will give greater priority to agriculture resulting in it becoming a growing and more stable source of employment
3. We need to seek a long-term vision for agriculture which embraces issues which go well beyond the farming world

I am convinced that a stable and economically viable food policy will become a major tool for peace in the world.