



## **Intervention by Pavel Simancas representing the IFAP at the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Bonn, Germany on biodiversity and forestry management**

Thank you Madame Chair,

My name is Pavel Simancas, and I am speaking on behalf of the International Federation of Agricultural producers representing more than 115 member organizations around the world. Many of these farmers are also forest owners, managers or are in some way dependent on the forest.

Biodiversity is one of our organizations' major concerns, and forest biodiversity is very important in order to ensure a sustainable forest production taking in social, economic, and environmental aspects.

Like my president Mr. Wilkinson said in the earlier session on agricultural sustainability, one of the most important factors in order to ensure biodiversity is to make sure there is a constructive dialogue between policy makers, scientists and the people who actually live in, use, manage and own the forests. Only by actively involving all these crucial stakeholders - forest owners, managers, and indigenous people living in and of the forest - can we achieve biodiversity. At the end of the day, these families and persons are the ones who are to actually deliver what society needs. We need strong partnerships!

I'd like to emphasize that it is crucial that implementation of biodiversity measures must be properly rewarded. There must be both financial incentives and rewards for those services of protecting and enhancing biodiversity that forest owners and managers are implementing. Here we call upon national governments, aid donors, and international agencies to take action.

I'd like to mention something about bioenergy. Several delegates have so far given their view on it and quite often it seems a bit negative. We think it is important to acknowledge that a sustainable forest production is able to produce bioenergy in a sustainable way, not only reducing the effects of climate change, but also contributing to local economy and rural development. However, sustainable practices must be ensured and land owner rights respected and enforced.

Lastly, I would like to emphasize the importance of more research on what impacts climate change will have on the world's forests and their biodiversity, for example invasion of alien species. Climate change is probably the biggest challenge for food security and biodiversity.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give the world's farmers and forestry owners the opportunity to give our view in this intervention.

(This statement was prepared by Ingrid Ryberg from the Federation of Swedish Farmers (LRF).)