

**Closing Remarks
by the Chairman of the Committee on World Food Security
Yaya Olaniran**



Federal Minister Ilse Aigner (BMELV)

Federal Minister Dirk Niebel (BMZ)

Permanent State Secretary Dr Robert Kloos Chair of Conference, Dr Maryam Rahmanian
Ministers, Delegates, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen

Chairperson of Conference allow me to thank the Government and People of the Federal Republic of Germany, Organizers of the 10th Policies on Hunger Conference, Berlin 2013 under the able leadership of Minister Aigner, for inviting me to be part of this epoch making event. The warm welcome and lavish hospitality, without food waste in the beautiful city of Berlin is well appreciated.

This 10th Policies against Hunger Conference 2013, tagged Land ahead and titled: Applying the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the context of National Food Security is unique and pro-active for the realization of effective paradigm process of land governance. We all heard with delight, Minister Aigner quoting an African Proverb: ' If you want to walk FAST, you walk alone but if you want to walk FAR, you walk TOGETHER! This proverb is apt to effectively execute this globally adopted document for local usage. Hence the multi-stakeholder and multi-sectorial approach of the Committee on World Food Security is being domesticated in country and local government levels. To achieve success, government, UN Agencies, Private Sector, Civil Society, academia, land experts, surveyors etc must work together so as to walk far.

Chairperson, It is therefore essential to ensure a clear understanding of the spirit that underpinned VG GT, with the main aim of making land available especially to women, youths, indigenous people, landless farmers etc in accordance to the laws and acts of each country. There is need for a strong and systematic dissemination of VG GT documents both formally and informally as communication is strategic in ensuring practical usage of VG GT. Be assured that the commitment of the German Government on this silent revolution in improving the right to land which will consequently lead to right to adequate food, livelihoods, economic and social Transformation will be recognized and appreciated. Undoubtedly, though the VG GT was based on best practices, yet to popularize it universally still requires not only human capacity building

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but also financial resources. In the same vain, CFS needs the two elements too, however member nations should go the extra mile in these provisions.

In conclusion, CFS should have a small dedicated secretariat with subject specialists and Secretary that are full-time. I acknowledge the commitment of the German Government in nurturing VG GT along with other partners. Finally, a Latin-American warns that Success is a series of small victories, it however require PATIENCE which is the attitude that all implementers must have!

Thank you for listening and God bless you all.