



Mozambique: The Nampula Declaration

(Nampula, May 1st 2014) The União Nacional de Camponeses (UNAC), is the Mozambican peasant movement which for over 25 years has fought for the social, economic and cultural rights and food sovereignty of Mozambican men and women peasants. With the presence of 100 men, women, youth and peasant leader delegates and invited guests from across the country, they came together for one more General Assembly, referring to the 2014 associative exercise, from the 29th of April to the 1st of May, at Quinta Nasa, in the surroundings of Nampula City, Nampula province. The Nampula Assembly took place with the country immersed in political and military tensions which have reached alarming and profoundly threatening proportions for national reconciliation and Peace consolidation, and for the deepening of the democratic process. These tensions have severe impacts on thousands of men and women peasants, especially those living in the areas where the conflict is physically taking place. On the other hand, the marginalization and total exclusion of peasants from the definition and prioritization of national development policies, particularly those with an agrarian focus; the systematic violations of peasants' land rights by mining, hydrocarbons and agribusiness megaprojects and other private and public

investments; the successive attempts by certain sectors of government and others of increasing profitability and privatization of land, represent to us peasants a national emergency, for which we are called to position ourselves and toughen our resistance and struggle agenda. [Read more ...](#)

Israeli Violations Against Palestinian Farmers

(Palestine, May 5, 2014) The Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) followed up intensively on the Israeli violation against Palestinian farmers, in order to expose the brutality of the occupation to the local and international world. In addition, UAWC supported the Palestinian farmers to strengthen their land - the land of their parents and grandparents. The main Israeli violations against the Palestinian farmers during April/2014 were as follows: The Israeli occupation uprooted more than 1400 olive trees and saplings. [Read more about this violations](#)

March 8: Special Report on the International Women's Day

By RadioMundo real

(May 2, 2014) March 8th is considered as a day of feminist struggle in the entire world. Thousands of women from all around the globe mobilize around this day to continue fighting for advances in equality and justice, and unfortunately in some cases to combat setbacks. On this special Real World Radio edition, we gathered the voices of rural and urban activists from different parts of the world, who told us about their mobilizations and actions around this important day of popular struggle, and about their main demands and local/regional banners in the context of these struggles. Leaders of Via Campesina and the World March of Women (WMW) from the Middle East, Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia talked about the mobilizations around March 8 in their countries and regions.

[Read more: March 8: Special Report on the International...](#)

The Jakarta Call

(Harare, April 10, 2014) The International farmers' movement La Via Campesina launched a new documentary on April 17 to celebrate the international day of peasant's struggle. "The Jakarta Call" is a 38 minute long film featuring the exchanges, debates and reflections of the movement's VIth International Conference that took place in Jakarta in June 2013. This new documentary highlights the cultural diversity and the values of solidarity and unity converging in this political project. It reflects the multitude of local struggles for the defense of a food system made by and for the people. [Click here to watch the documentary](#)

In the Year of Family Farming: Food Sovereignty is the Framework for Family Farm Resilience

Press release of La Via Campesina North America

(Quebec city, April 9, 2014)- La Via Campesina members: the National Farmers Union of Canada, the National Family Farm Coalition and Union Paysanne represented the voices of women, minority, and smaller scale farmers in the U.S. and Canada on April 7th and 8th at the North American Dialogue on Family Farming in Quebec City. They are concerned about the many voices which are pushing corporate interests within the consultation process in the name of family farming. But the majority of the world's peasants, including the locals in Quebec, know that truly sustainable agriculture lies in small-scale production, one that is having a massive impact on mitigating climate change and preserving biodiversity while feeding communities. However, the land concentration in North America has caused internal displacement and migration forcing many farmers into agricultural wage-labour in the U.S. and Canada, sustaining the industrial food chain under highly exploitative conditions. La Via Campesina North America members emphasize that their vision of family farming is free of farm worker labor exploitation. [Read more ...](#)

"Sunflower Revolution" in Taiwan: STOP Police Brutality, NO to Free Trade Agreements NOW!

Appeal for international solidarity of Taiwan Rural Front (TRF) and Taiwan Farmers Union (TFU)

(March 25, 2014, Taiwan) Taiwan Rural Front (TRF) and Taiwan Farmers Union (TFU), members of La Via Campesina in East and Southeast Asia, launched an emergency appeal for international solidarity against the current administration's rush for a cross-strait free trade agreement and excessive use of police force. Pressure on the Ma administration has been mounting since the ruling Chinese Nationalist party (KMT) pushed to bypass full legislative review of the controversial Cross Straits Service Trade agreement (CSSTA) on March 17. Enraged by the politicking of the ruling party, nearly three hundred young Taiwanese stormed the legislature on March 18 and declared indefinite occupation of its main chamber. The occupy movement quickly gained momentum as over ten thousand Taiwanese flocked all sides of the legislature building in support of students' cause. The students, lawyers and civil organizations forming the alliance of the movement has since demanded that: (1) the CSSTA be retracted, (2) a formal monitoring mechanism for all cross-strait agreements be established, and (3) negotiations of any sort between Taiwan and China be halted before such a monitoring mechanism is brought into existence. [Read more ...](#)

International Statement on the current situation in Mozambique

(03 April 2014) An International statement signed by various organizations was issued to express concern about massive displacements and widespread violence in the Mozambican countryside and called upon the Mozambican government and the international community to respect and protect the rights of the Mozambican peasants. The statement follows a [press release on February 13, 2014](#) by National Union of Mozambican Peasants (UNAC) condemning killings, massive forced displacements and a general climate of violence facing the Mozambican rural population. The international organizations, in support UNAC, call upon the armed parties to immediately stop all hostilities and forge an inclusive and democratic mechanism of dialogue to resolve conflicts. [Read more...](#)

Call to Action in Solidarity with the Bolivarian Revolution and the Venezuelan Peasant Movement

(Managua, the 29th of March, 2014) We, Vía Campesina Internacional, the international peasant movement that brings together over 200 million families in 77 countries, express our solidarity with the Venezuelan people, and the peasant movement of the Bolivarian Revolution – currently the victim of an imperialist crusade that, together with reactionary right-wing forces, conspires within Venezuela and abroad in an attempt to retake the power they lost democratically, and repeatedly at the ballot box. Those of us who struggle for social justice, land reform, and food sovereignty consider the Bolivarian Revolution a reference for social transformation and inclusion. As women, youth, rural workers, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, and migrants, we reject all media-backed attempts at coup d'états that look to place into the collective imagination a set of demonstrators that are frustrated with the consequences of an economic war being imposed on Venezuela by powerful oligarchical, fascist, and imperialist sectors, all aimed at destabilizing the government of President Nicolás Maduro. [Read more...](#)

International campaign to define Forests by their true meaning!

(26 March, 2014) La Via Campesina, Friends of the Earth International, Focus on the Global South, World Rainforest Movement and more than 120 organizations from around the world sent a letter to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, FAO, in Rome, (and later to national and regional FAO offices) on the occasion of March 21st, the UN International Day of Forests. The letter demands that the FAO change its present definition of forests. It appeals to FAO to reflect in its definition what makes a forest a forest for the communities who depend on them: "In contrast to the existing process within FAO, a process of elaborating a new and more appropriate definition of forests must effectively engage those women and men who directly depend on forests. An appropriate forest definition must support their modes of living, their networks and organizations." The organizations are committed to continue the campaign to move the FAO and all concerned institutions to initiate a process led by forest communities to formulate a new definition of forests. [Read more ...](#)

Declaration of Agadir

(Agadir, March 15, 2014) Union organizations, peasant movements and social movements from Morocco, Tunisia, France, Palestine and Senegal met as part of the international peasant movement VIA CAMPESINA at Agadir on the 13-15th March, under the slogan: "For the land and the sovereignty of our peoples! In solidarity and in struggle!" They discussed the escalation of the multidimensional capitalist crisis and, the rise in popular resistance and strikes held by the workers of the land and sea in many countries. The related food crisis, resultant land grabbing together with free trade agreements have contributed to the destruction of peasant agricultural production. The unions, social and peasant movements issued a declaration in which they committed to continue to work together to stand up to neo-liberalism, imperialism, patriarchy, industrial agriculture and exportation which worsens the climatic crisis and corporate monopoly over nature. They called for the reinforcement of local, national and international solidarity and for the establishment of collective negotiations, and the guarantee of the rights of Sub-Saharan migrants, ending racism towards them. The participants express their support for the peoples' struggle for liberation, freedom, dignity, social justice and equality. [Read declaration](#)

Youth and agriculture

The new edition of the Nyéléni Newsletter is now online! [Click here to read the English edition](#). In this edition, the Youth of La Via Campesina call to the youth of the world to urgently educate, mobilize and organize for Food Sovereignty. It offers a new perspective about the struggles and visions of young people for building a radical new society.

Palestine: UAWC celebrates International Women's day in the Jordan Valley

(Ramallah, March 8, 2014) The Union of Agricultural Work Committees celebrated international women's day in the Jordan Valley in the presence of 150 women from all the Palestinian Governorates who support the Palestinian resistance against the Israeli occupation of 1948 that try to forcibly transfer the Palestinians from their land. [Read more and see photos of that day here](#)

Japanese Government should Issue an Official Apology to the Victims of Military Sex Slavery

(Tokyo, March 8, 2014) The La Via Campesina of South East and East Asian issued a declaration on International Women's Day (8th March) calling on the Japanese government to issue an apology for its military sex slavery during the Asia-Pacific War in the early 1930s. The Japanese forcefully mobilized women to the battlefield for sex slavery purposes for the Japanese empire such as China, North and South Korea, Taiwan, Japan, Indonesia, Timor Leste, Myanmar, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, Guam, etc, and thus violated their human rights. These women, after the war, were either slaughtered or abandoned in the battlefield and left to die, and those who survived were not recompensed and have been forced to live silently and endure their suffering for more than 60 years. This declaration is part of many campaigns for the Japanese government to acknowledge these war crimes and take immediate actions such as issuing an official state apology and providing legal reparations for the survivors. This movement has now expanded to enact a memorial day for the victims in order to remember the painful history of war and humankind. [Read declaration](#)

Thailand: "Undemocratic means shall not serve democratic ends"

Appeal to social movements in Thailand from La Via Campesina South East Asia and East Asia

(Bangkok, March 6, 2014) La Via Campesina South East Asia and East Asia, supports its member, Assembly of the Poor (AOP), concerning the political situation in the last five months in Thailand. Social movements in Thailand are among the strongest of those that have been actively struggling for peace, justice, democracy and human rights in the Southeast Asia region. As social movement activists in other countries, we are concerned about the violent events taking place in Thailand. We all share the same feeling of outrage when injustice happens to our people. We share the same aspiration to establish a better society for our people. We are concerned that such destructive political disputes between ruling elites will invite more violence, and a possible coup d'état. The recent case of death and injuries occurring in the blocking of some polling stations in the early voting in Bangkok on 26 January 2014 intensifies our concern. We urge the social movements and their grassroots membership in Thailand to refrain from feeding the violent confrontation on behalf of one or the other of the wealthy elites. Supporting elections seems to be the correct thing to do in this case, even if we have no illusions about any of the candidates or parties. [Read more ...](#)

Stop Land Grabbing in the Philippines!

(Bangkok, March 6, 2014) La Via Campesina issued an international solidarity statement in support of the small-scale farmers struggling against land grabbing in Plaridel, Sumalo, Bulacan province, in Macabud, Rizal Province and in many parts of the Philippines. The land grabbing by Vista Land Properties, owned by former Philippine Senator Manuel Villar to develop real estate has severely affected local farming livelihoods by damaging installed irrigation systems, causing flooding to nearby farms as well as disrupting farmers' planting and harvesting routines in the area. This happens despite the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms (CARPER) prohibiting the land use conversion of all irrigated and irrigable lands. This international solidarity statement calls upon the Philippine Government to give sufficient attention to the incident in Culiainin, Plaridel as well as other cases of agricultural land conversions. It also demands the Philippine Government to take full responsibility for the implementation of the agrarian reform law and safeguard the rights of the farmers in Philippines. [Read more on this](#) and to access the Report on the Solidarity Mission to Stop Land Grabbing in the Philippines [click here](#)

New videos on Via Campesina TV



UAWC- International Peasants day: On the Day of Peasants' Struggle (April 17th) the Palestinian peasants representing Via Campesina Palestine raises their voices to save the local seeds and abandon the genetically modified seeds in a small village in the city of Hebron. Watch the video [here](#).

Feeding Europe: food sovereignty and agro-ecology: The global food system is broken. This film demonstrates how people and Europe are re-organising their food supply chain — re-connecting producers and consumers and re-localising agriculture and food distribution in a sustainable way. Watch the video [here](#).

Corporations celebrates green scramble for Africa : Executives from companies including Monsanto and Unilever visit the UK government to thank ministers for their support in carving up the African continent for their profits. Watch the video [here](#)

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