2008 High-level Segment Thematic Debate on Rural Development

Roundtable 2:

3:00 – 5:30 pm, ECOSOC Chamber

Harnessing the current boom in agricultural commodities for poverty eradication and sustainable development: the case of small-scale farmers

Co-organizers: DESA, IFAD, FAO, WFP, UNCTAD, UNEP, UNDP and UN-Habitat

Chair: H.E. Peter Msola, Minister of Science, Technology and ICT of Tanzania

Moderator: Annika Soder, Assistant Director-General, FAO

Panelists:

H.E. Mr. Frank Mwenifumbo, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Malawi
"Malawi's Efforts in Harnessing Increased Agricultural Production for Sustainable Food Security and Socio-Economic Development"

Robert T. Watson, Chief Scientific Adviser, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom
"How to make small scale farming more profitable"?

Steven Schonberger, Lead Operations Officer in Agriculture and Rural Development, World Bank
"Building Empowering Value Chains; Integrating Smallholders into the New Opportunities in Agriculture"

Sandra Polaski, Senior Associate and Director, Trade, Equity and Development, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
“Food prices, poverty, and small-scale farmers: Getting the global trade regime right”

James Borel, Group Vice-President responsible for DuPont Crop Protection and Pioneer Hi-Bred
"Market accessibility through improved inputs, information and infrastructure: A proposal to enable small-scale farmers to compete globally and contribute to food, economic and political security"

Lead discussant: Ms. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-Habitat