



International  
Land  
Coalition

**ILC Africa Regional Workshop, October-November 2007**  
**'Putting a pro-poor land agenda into practice in Africa'**  
*Concept Note*

**Background to regionalisation process of ILC**

The International Land Coalition is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organizations working together to promote secure and equitable access to and control over land for poor women and men through advocacy, dialogue and capacity building. ILC works for landless people and those with the most insecure land rights and the greatest vulnerability to landlessness:

- Small and marginalized farmers, especially women
- People reliant on common property resources, including: water, forests, pastures, rangelands and indigenous territories
- People negatively affected by extractive industries, conservation and tourism
- People affected by land-related conflicts

The Strategic Framework for ILC 2007-2010 proposes an important shift in the way on which the Coalition operates. The basis for this shift is that the membership, rather than the secretariat, becomes fully central to decision making and prioritising within the coalition. This a fundamental shift in the operations of the International Land Coalition, whereby the role of the Secretariat will be transformed from one of centralized coordination to decentralized facilitation. Under the new modus operandi, certain functions within ILC will be decentralised to the three main regions of operation (Africa, Asia and Latin America).

By early 2008, it is anticipated that each region will have defined regional strategies, which are intended to allow each region to determine priorities and modalities for regional operation as a coalition. This will also involve a greater level of decision making at the regional level on the allocation of funds in order to achieve regional objectives.

A regional meeting for this purpose was held in Philippines for Asian members and partners in October 2006, and for Latin America, the regional meeting is scheduled for October 2007 in Nicaragua.

It is expected that regionalisation will create the following advantages for operation of ILC:

- A greater ability to define focus of ILC activities and analysis according to specific land contexts of the region
- Closer and more regular follow up to national/regional processes and contact with decision-making institutions at national/regional level
- A more appropriate face to the ILC as an institution with regional relevance, rather than representation primarily by a 'remote' secretariat

- Improved ability to respond quickly to requests and opportunities as arising in the region
- Stronger links to inter-governmental institutions at the country/regional level
- Better information and improved information flow, at the different levels that ILC operates

The regional meeting for members and partners of ILC in Africa is proposed for 30<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2007 in Nairobi.

### **Goal of regional meeting**

To develop, as an alliance of members and partners of the International Land Coalition, priorities, strategies and modalities for working together in Africa to support pro-poor land tenure reform.

### **Objectives of regional meeting**

- To identify key emerging issues and trends as well as challenges and opportunities in the area of access to land by the land poor (on a per country basis, and on a sub-regional clustering basis)
- To define optimum strategic roles for ILC in Africa
- To formulate the framework for a 3-year action plan to align with regional priorities and ILC Strategic Framework.
- To develop operational modalities for functioning of ILC in Africa region

### **Proposed programme**

Organising committee pre-meeting (one day)

- 30<sup>th</sup> Oct:        Introductions and overview  
                     Presentations by each organisation of a short issues paper (on country context, trends, opportunities and work of their own organisation)  
                     Summary of key themes arising
- 31<sup>st</sup> Oct:        Defining priorities for working together: policy dialogue and advocacy  
                     Defining priorities for working together: knowledge management and capacity building  
                     Defining priorities for working together: governance and management  
                     (*working groups for IGOs and for CSOs subregionally*)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Nov:        Field trip (morning)  
                     Report back from field trip  
                     Main elements of a workplan 2008-2011
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov:        Modalities and roles for working together as an alliance at regional level

### **Working group for regional meeting**

At the Assembly of Members, delegates to representing African organisations nominated a working group to direct the planning of the meeting. Portfolios of working group are as follows:

1. Coordinator – Roch Mongbo, CEBEDES, Benin
2. Assistant to Coordinator – Brezhnev Otieno, RECONCILE, Kenya
3. Finance controller – Odenda Lumumba, KLA, Kenya
4. Development of programme – Brave Ndisale, AUC, Ethiopia
5. Delegate list southern Africa Shephard Zvigadza, ZERO, Zimbabwe
6. Delegate list eastern Africa – John Mutunga, IFAP, Kenya
7. Delegate list West and Central Africa – Adolphine Muley, UEFA, DRC