

Canadian Food Security Policy Group

**c/o Canadian Foodgrains
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Aga Khan Foundation Canada

*Canadian Catholic
Organization for Development
and Peace*

*Canadian Council for
International Co-operation*

Canadian Feed The Children

Canadian Foodgrains Bank

*Canadian Physicians for Aid
and Relief*

CARE Canada

ETC Group

Farm Radio International

Huairou Commission

Inter Pares

*Mennonite Central Committee
Canada*

National Farmers Union

Oxfam Canada

Oxfam Québec

Plan Canada

Results-Resultats Canada

Save the Children

United Church of Canada

*UPA Développement
international*

USC Canada

*Veterinarians without Borders
Vétérinaires sans Frontières*

World Animal Protection

World Vision Canada

26 November 2015

The Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau

Minister of International Development and La Francophonie

Global Affairs Canada

125 Sussex Drive

Ottawa, ON K1A 0G2

Dear Minister Bibeau,

On behalf of the Food Security Policy Group (FSPG), we would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Minister of International Development and La Francophonie. Our coalition of leading development and agriculture organizations looks forward to working collaboratively with you to achieve global food and nutrition security and to promote sustainable agriculture.

We are pleased to see that your mandate emphasises the importance of consulting with stakeholders and international aid organizations to create a new policy and funding framework. We hope that you will consider the diverse expertise and experiences of our 23 members and hundreds of partner organizations in developing countries as willing resources to assist you toward that objective. The Food Security Policy Group has appreciated being invited to stakeholder consultations, to present our research, case studies and policy briefs, and the open and constructive dialogue we maintained with officials in the past. We look forward to continuing this relationship, and the benefits this brings to policy decisions and development programming, in partnership with the new government.

We applaud Prime Minister Trudeau's commitment to restore Canadian leadership on global issues, including through development assistance targeting the world's poorest and most vulnerable people, especially women and youth. Since the majority of the world's poor and hungry people rely on small-scale agriculture for their livelihood, we encourage you to commit to investing in food and nutrition security through sustainable and resilient agricultural development. According to the World Bank, agriculture can improve the livelihoods of 78% of people living in poverty. Investing in sustainable agriculture is the foundation for increased incomes, improved food security and health, and resilient ecosystems.

The Food Security Policy Group is a coalition of Canadian international development and civil society organizations seeking to promote policies and actions that protect and enhance food security in developing countries, based on decades of working in these sectors with partners in developing countries.

The current review of the Food Security Strategy provides an excellent opportunity to make Canada a global leader on this issue. Please see attached a summary of our joint recommendations for developing a world-leading strategy that addresses the key threats to food and nutrition security, and reflects the ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals.

We support you in your mandate to make Canada a leader in development innovation and effectiveness, and to provide assistance to countries that are vulnerable to the destabilizing effects of climate change. Climate change, conflicts and natural disasters are significant threats to global food security but studies show that investments in risk reduction and mitigation can increase aid effectiveness. You will see that our recommendations for a revised Food Security Strategy address these priorities as well.

We look forward to discussing our recommendations with you and having the opportunity to review the draft strategy and provide further input before it is finalized.

We wish you great success in your new role and look forward to meeting you soon!

Yours sincerely,



Paul Hagerman
FSPG Co-Chair
Canadian Foodgrains Bank



Pierre Diégane KADET
FSPG Co-Chair
CARE CANADA

Attached: FSPG 2015 policy briefs: *Canadian Aid for a Food Secure World*
L'aide du Canada pour un monde sans faim