

subsidies from northern countries. There is no increased employment, and the Philippines is now subject to instability in world commodity markets. Peasants, particularly women and children, are the most vulnerable.

*Myth:* Trade liberalization will increase employment

*Reality:* University of the Philippines economist reports there is no basis for this claim.

Switching to high yield crops means a decrease in employment for farmers. Instead, the development of small and medium processing industries is better.

*Myth:* Trade liberalization will lower food costs and increase food supply

*Myth:* Governments should not be concerned about food security as dietary requirements in the Philippines are changing ie. more consumption of meat products.

*Myth:* Government will provide safety nets to cushion the effects of globalization

*Reality:* Filipinos spend 2/3 of their food expenditures on cereal products. There is an increased dependency on chemicals, and elimination of traditional crops through monoculture. Corporations begin to have an interest in the social and environmental agenda, and undermine organic farmers. They have developed tools to secure their interests using our language to sell their model. There has been a shift of agricultural into an industrial capital frame, as well as a polarization between peasants and commercial agriculture. Peasants are being forced onto marginal lands, while protests are silenced through lawsuits against campaigners, and abrogation of rights to information. There is a predominance of export crops with no domestic outlet.

Recommendations:

- Government must increase support of peasant farming to insure growth and productivity
- Increase in market regulation must be accompanied by increased regulation in other areas e.g. land distribution
- Farmers need to organize into self sufficient production units
- Governments must reflect on and respond to the effect that trade liberalization has on marginalized groups, small producers.

c. Summary of Farida Akuter's plenary address (speaking from a farmer's and woman's perspective):

No longer are there farmers, there are agricultural industries instead. There are less women involved in the discussion about agriculture and globalization even though women are ultimately affected the most. It's not taken up as part of the discussion on food security and agriculture. Women are the first to be disempowered.

World leaders are not concerned about hunger and people. The World Food Summit will reduce the number of hungry people, but not hunger at an international level. Individuals are