



Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## FINAL DECLARATION OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF THE MONT-BLANC MEETINGS

### Which contribution of the social and solidarity economy (SSE) in the post-2015 Millennium Development Goals / Sustainable Development Goals?

From 09 to 11 November 2013, in Chamonix-Mont-Blanc in France, the International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy Entrepreneurs brought together 350 participants coming from 45 countries and 5 continents. These 6<sup>th</sup> Mont-Blanc Meetings (MBM) have worked on the following theme: « Changing the course of globalization with the social and solidarity economy: Towards post-2015 Millennium Development Goals ».

These 6<sup>th</sup> meetings were placed under the high patronage of Mr. Francois Hollande, President of the French Republic, who has decided to engage France in creating the international steering committee of the SSE called "leading group" and helping with its recognition by the United Nations. He also wants to mobilize other States to achieve this goal.

The opening ceremony was graced by the presence of:

- Mr. Benoît Hamon, Minister Delegate attached to the Minister for the Economy and Finance, with responsibility for the Social and Cooperative Economy and Consumer Affairs,
- Mrs. Doris Josefina Soliz Carrion, Minister of the Economic and Social Inclusion of Ecuador,
- Dr. Nadira El Guermai, Governor of the Ministry of the Interior, mandated by the royal cabinet and National Coordinator of the National Initiative for Human Development (INDH).

Women and men of different generations, may they be entrepreneurs of the SSE, union officials, representatives of international organizations and institutions, practitioners, academics, actively enriched the reflection and propose to **radically change course of globalization with a clear commitment to social needs of women and men of our world and following the principles and practices of the SSE. They therefore decide to:**

- Define common indicators to measure the societal impact of the SSE structures;
- Contribute to the work of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) which is conducting a study to measure the social impact of social enterprises;
- Design a mapping of SSE initiatives to make it visible all over the world;
- Develop transboundary projects for the re-appropriation of the common goods, including notably reclaiming land by farmers;
- Bring the SSE to better analyze the needs and expectations of the peoples;
- Create its own reflections on the challenges of the future;
- Pursue the alliance strategy between the movements of thoughts on "common goods" and the SSE ;
- Mobilize the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy to facilitate the recognition of the "SSE Leading Group";
- Engage in lobbying in all countries to ensure that laws are passed on the SSE and so that the indicators of the SSE enterprises are more integrated into national statistical systems;

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- Present the SSE to all UN Resident Coordinators;
- Propose to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to dedicate a report on human development and SSE;
- Engage in dialogue with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on the SSE;
- Continue the process of forging closer links with the UNDP, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
- Strengthen alliances between cooperative banks and new financial systems (crowdfunding...) to develop the financing capacities of the SSE;
- Integrate social inclusion including women and minorities in the debate on sustainable development of national and regional development banks;
- Encourage public funding agencies and regional banks to strengthen the capacity-building of funding agencies dedicated to the SSE;
- Strive for the creation of an international guarantee fund of the SSE;
- Plan joint actions with the International Trade Union Confederation and the European Trade Union Confederation to:
  - o organize the transition towards an ecologically-driven SSE,
  - o promote social inclusion,
  - o better use EU funds in the same perspective,
  - o mobilize common funds between labor movements and SSE organizations to fund actions in favor of gender equality;
- Create a global school of the SSE on the web (through "MOOCS") in partnership with the SSE Academy of Turin, the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and the Pan African Institute for Development (IPD) among others ;
- Promote quality education for all children and adults worldwide ;
- Create alliances between SSE and global federations of cities and territories so make the SSE included in the agenda of the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development "Habitat III";
- Organize conferences on the SSE in universities;
- Design a database of volunteer experts, e.g. Euclid Network Europe in order to facilitate the sharing of best practices on the web;
- Contribute to the creation of territorial development poles of the social and solidarity economy.

Thus, with the social and solidarity model, the shift of globalization expressed by the Mont-Blanc Meetings will enable to change scale in the framework of social transformation, so important to SSE players.

### **Conclusion**

To act, we must unite, it is already what the International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy Entrepreneurs "The Mont-Blanc Meetings" did with the CIRIEC signing this year a memorandum of understanding; it is also what has been agreed to do on November 10<sup>th</sup> with the President of RIPESS International to increase the weight of the SSE in the world. The historic partnership with the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), Association Internationale de la Mutualité (AIM) must be intensified like the one with the International Summit of Cooperatives.

Indeed, more than ever, what the International Forum of the Social and Solidarity Economy Entrepreneurs - The Mont-Blanc Meetings wants to be this active, constructive and welcoming platform that brings together those who want to act together to promote, strengthen and develop the social and solidarity economy internationally.