

## EASTERN AFRICA REGIONAL ENCOUNTER

13-15 November 2006

MOSHI-KILIMANJARO – TANZANIA

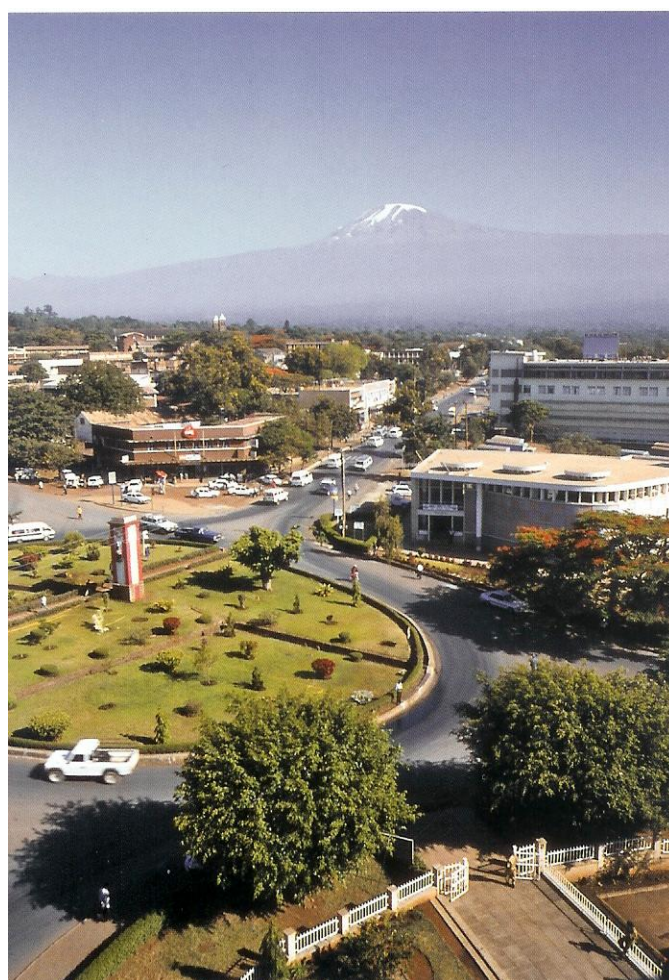




**East and Southern African  
Small Scale Farmers  
Forum**



**MVIWATA**



**HOSTED BY : MVIWATA and ESAFF  
SUPPORTED BY : APMM/WMPA, FPH, DDC, GRET**

**Workshop Facilitator and report writer : Mutizwa Mukute**

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**THE KILIMANJARO DECLARATION**  
**Of the East African Mountain People's**  
**Meeting in Moshi, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, 13-15 November 2006**

We, the 26 mountain people from five countries in east and southern Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe), representing the East and Southern African Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF), the network of farmer groups in Tanzania (MVIWATA), Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Association and elected officials from mountain areas gathered here in Tanzania on the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa, declare our solidarity with mountain people of the world.

- Cognisant of the beauty in the mountains of the region, the abundant natural wealth of plants, animals and minerals and their immense value as sources of rivers that nourish our nations;
- Aware that we manage and protect mountain resources and hold seasoned wisdom on mountain environments for the benefit of humanity;
- Affirming that our livelihoods are dependent on the mountains and we want to live in harmony with our mountains;
- Demand that those of us who are marginalised by policies and the rest of the society anywhere in the world, be recognised, respected and treated fairly so that we have meaningful access to resources in the mountains where we live; that we will be treated with dignity and participate in the formulation of policies and laws that affect our livelihoods;
- Cognisant of the positive strides already made by some countries in the region to improve our livelihoods, we urge for the development of mechanisms that enable us to learn from each other so that we can improve our access to local resources, fair markets, good infrastructural and social services and attain food security;
- We urge mountain people all over the world to mobilise themselves, set agenda for their development, document their good practice and share it, as well and lobby for more supportive policies and practices, tap into their own talents, skills and energy to improve their livelihoods;
- We further urge mountain people to create synergies with their neighbours, governments and development agents such as NGOs to address their aspirations in a manner that enhances the harmony between the people and the environment in ways that engender stability and prosperity;
- We, men and women from mountain places in east and southern Africa, commit ourselves to fight for the recognition of our vision, identity and dignity;
- We join other mountain people worldwide in their struggle to be more visible and to be heard so that we can achieve the best in our environments for the good of humanity.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report discusses the proceedings of the East Africa Mountain People Workshop which was held in Moshi, Tanzania, on the foot on Mount Kilimajaro, 13-15 November 2006. The workshop was officially opened by the Regional Agricultural Advisor of the Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania on behalf of the Honourable Regional Commissioner. Elizabeth Mpofu, the ESAFF Chairperson and Daima Mhiwa the MVIWATA chairperson co-chaired the workshop. Moses Shaha, the ESAFF General Secretary carried out most of the translations from KiSwahili to English and vice versa.

Thirty people attended the workshop: 23 farmers and their leaders, three PELUM Association representatives, two WMPA delegates, one GRET delegate and a facilitator. Farmer participants came from five countries: Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia. Tanzania, being the host, had the majority of participants, followed by Kenya and Uganda respectively, the two other member countries of east Africa. A Rwandese delegation had been invited but could not attend. Three of these farmer leaders from Tanzania were elected officials (councillors). The two farmer leaders from Zimbabwe and Zambia (southern Africa) attended because of their leadership role in ESAFF: the chairperson and the vice chairperson respectively. The current thinking is that mountain people activities in east and southern African will be anchored in ESAFF. The delegates from WMPA were there to give a background to the whole process as well as to explore ways of establishing a regional WMPA chapter in the region. GRET provided oversight of the process while MVIWATA organized and hosted the workshop. The workshop was supported by WMPA donors: Foundation Charles Léopold Mayer (FPH) and Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC).

The workshop objectives were:

- To develop a common understanding of mountain people;
- To establish issues faced by mountain people in East Africa;
- To identify strategies being employed to address the issues;
- To develop strategies to address gaps;
- To explore partnerships and linkages with other stakeholders as WMPA and GRET;
- To develop a declaration of mountain people in East Africa; and
- To develop a follow-up and an action plan.

The main outputs of the workshop were that:

- Participants expectations were obtained and they tallied with workshop objectives;
- The history and development of the WMPA was shared and discussed;
- A common understanding of mountain people in east Africa was constructed;
- The main issues and opportunities faced by mountain people in east Africa were established, with examples from six mountain areas in four countries shared;

- The reasons for the hardships and triumphs of mountain people in the region were explored;
- Some successful case studies of mountain people were shared and a visit to a successful community conducted;
- A Declaration of Mountain People of East Africa was produced;
- Fifteen mountain areas in five countries were identified for possible documentation of experiences ahead of the International Conference in June 2007;
- A plan of action that outlined activities in organizations as well as possible activities to carry out in preparation for the international conference of mountain people in 2007 was developed; and
- Networking strategies among the four main groups of organizations present were developed.

The workshop was participatory and utilized individual reflections, group work, plenary presentations, individual presentations, a field visit, plenary discussions, case studies, songs and energizers. The report is organized according to the sequence of deliberations and focuses on the outputs of each session



## ACRONYMS

ANEM	French National Association of Elected Officials of the Mountains
CRCE	Centre for Rural Community Empowerment
ESAFF	East and Southern Africa Small-Scale Farmers Forum
FPH	Foundation Charles Léopold Mayer
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GMOs	Genetically Modified Organisms
GRET	Group for Research and Exchange of Technology
HIV/AIDS	Human Immuno Virus/Acquired Immunity Deficiency Syndrome
MP	Member of Parliament
MVIWATA	Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima wa Tanzania (Tanzania Network of Farmers groups)
NGOs	Non Governmental Organisations
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management Association
SACCOs	Savings and Credit Cooperatives
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
UL	University of Limpopo
UNESCO	United Nation Education and Scientific Council
WMPA	World Mountain People Association

## EXECUTIVE REPORT

### I - INTRODUCTION

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Mountain people delegations arrived on the eve of the workshop mostly by road and were all ready on time after a first night of rest at the foot of the peaceful Kilimanjaro. Stephen Ruvuga, MVIWATA coordinator, welcomed participants to Tanzania and to the workshop. Daima Mhiwa, the MVIWATA chairperson introduced the Guest of honour who delivered a speech on behalf of Hon. Mohamed Babu, the Regional Commissioner for Kilimanjaro. Elizabeth Mpofu, the ESAFF chairperson then welcomed the guest of honour and invited her to give her speech (Annex 1). The following were the main messages drawn from the opening speech.

1. People in mountains have communication difficulties: there is therefore need for governments to support mountain people to increase communication and accessibility. The Tanzanian government has started taking measures in support of mountain people;
2. Mountain people can improve their situations by networking, developing a strong, united voice and carrying out activities such as setting up and managing savings and credit cooperatives, employing good farming practices, looking after water catchment areas and limiting the use of chemicals that damage the environment;
3. Farmer groups, who are members of MVIWATA include those in mountains, work closely with the government to address rural development issues in mountains and elsewhere;
4. Government of Tanzania recognizes the existence of ESAFF and a strong ESAFF will be better able to serve mountain people, who should be duly recognized and respected for who they are and for their contribution to the national economy;
5. Mountain areas constitute a fragile environment and some have had to be evacuated for environmental protection. This raised the question of whether governments value biodiversity ahead of people; and
6. HIV/AIDS has also become a development issue among mountain people and should therefore be tackled.

### II - ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS ORGANISATIONS

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Participants were asked to outline what their organizations do in development. Below is a summary of the discussions.

Empowering small-scale farmer for improved livelihoods by:

1. Taking part in policy formulation, advocating and lobbying against laws that disadvantage us including against GMOs and mining laws that exclude, lobby for recognition by other development actors especially government, advice government on relevant policies, lobby for access to resources in our environments including for minerals and plants (perfume production), fight for the recognition of marginalised communities;
2. Facilitating learning and networking amongst farmers, as well as with other stakeholders such as NGOs and governments, seeking and spreading new knowledge to farmers and among them, setting good examples and sharing them with others (including SACCOs);
3. Provide services to farmers in villages to local groups and regional and national groups: Providing banking services, improving seed supplies, improving marketing conditions, Improve farming standards, use of sustainable farming methods and indigenous knowledge systems;



4. Unify farmers towards a common vision, develop capacity of farmers groups up to the regional level to address matters of mutual concerns and ensure the preservation of their dignity;
5. Local policy development that then feeds into the national policy in a bottom up process;
6. Build farmers capacity to fight for themselves to set agenda, protect and manage their environments, plan, monitor, evaluation and improve their work; and
7. Developing mechanisms for identifying and addressing conflicts among farmers and between farmers and other stakeholders.

### III – PARTICIPANTS WORKSHOP EXPECTATIONS

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#### 1. Expectations of Farmer Participants

- a. To know each other, learn and share experience with people living in mountains and thereby improve on what we have as individuals and organizations;
- b. To create networking practicing mountain and lowland farming;
- c. To bring about change in sustainable practice in mountain farming by developing strategies;
- d. To learn how mountains can be important to surrounding people;
- e. To discuss mountain communities challenges and contribute towards addressing them;
- f. To design a strategy with a single vision of mountain people in east Africa;
- g. To see what we, as mountain people, can do to improve our standards and enhance the economy of our nations for improved world stability;
- h. To find ways to advocate against marginalization of mountain people of the world;
- i. To tell the world that mountain people should not be marginalized: we have rights and pay taxes and should have electricity, tarred roads, portable water, factories, better houses, etc... like others;
- j. To see how government collaborate with small-scale farmers in mountains;
- k. To determine strategies to address HIV/AIDS, which negatively affects mountain people, many of whom are poor;
- l. To see how communication among mountain people and with others can increase our empowerment;
- m. To form and launch an east Africa mountain people mechanism to handle issues of mountain communities in the region; and
- n. To explore opportunities of partnerships with other regional and national bodies interested in the livelihoods of mountain people.

#### 2. WMPA/ GRET Expectations

- a. To listen to and learn from workshop participants.
- b. To support regional mountain actors within the existing people organization;
- c. To organize eastern Africa mountain people representation in WMPA;
- d. To develop exchanges between mountain regions from various continents;
- e. To make mountain people voices heard in international organizations;
- f. To provide a space of recognition for mountain communities

## IV – OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

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1. To develop a common understanding of mountain people;
2. To establish issues faced by mountain people in East Africa;
3. To identify strategies being employed to address the issues;
4. To develop strategies to address gaps;
5. To explore partnerships and linkages with other stakeholders as WMPA and GRET;
6. To develop a declaration (position paper) of mountain people in East Africa; and
7. To develop a follow-up and an action plan.

## V – PRESENTATION OF WMPA

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### 1. The origins and rationale

Jean Bourliaud and Nicolas Krausz presented the World Mountain People Association (WMPA) as an international association registered in France whose objectives is to bring together all stakeholders from Mountainous areas (policy makers and elected leaders, professionals, researchers, civil society organisations, farmers) to bring forward favourable policies to mountainous populations respecting their uniqueness and addressing the challenges of their environment.

The WMPA was born out of the World Mountain Forum held at UNESCO (Paris) and in Chambéry (Savoie – Alps) in June 2000 on the initiative of the French National Association of Elected Officials of the Mountains (ANEM) and the town of Chambéry. As a result of the Forum, which brought together 70 countries and 900 participants, it was decided to create the World Mountain People Association to make the voice of the mountain people and the expression of their desires heard.

Today, the WMPA is present in more than 70 countries, on four continents. It is organised into regional or national organisations, according to the major mountain regions of the world: Europe, Andean America, North, West, Southern and Eastern Africa, Central Asia, Himalayas and South-East Asia.

### 2. The composition of WMPA

So that it can better represent all the lifeblood of the mountains, the WMPA is made up of three bodies:

- a) **First body:** Elected officials, representatives of groups or communities, and other forms of local and traditional institutions in the mountain countries;
- b) **Second body:** NGOs, associations arising from civil society, socio-professional groups, small-scale or industrial enterprises, etc; and
- c) **Third body:** Qualified persons (scientists, researchers or experts working alongside mountain populations) and any other person who wants to be involved in the mountains on an individual basis.

### 3. Recent efforts at developing WMPA

Towards the end of 2006, WMPA is organised six regional workshops in the main mountain region of the world. The objectives of the workshops are to collect testimonies and propositions of the different mountain people and actors of the world in order to prepare for the Second WMPA General Assembly (July 2007) and the First International Mountain Conference that scheduled for 2007.

The regional workshops are:

- a) South America (Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile) in Cusco (Peru), 7-10 September 2006;
- b) Himalayas (India, Nepal) in Sairopa (India), 11-15 October 2006;
- c) Southern Africa (Lesotho, RSA, Malawi, Zimbabwe), in Maseru (Lesotho), 16-17 October 2006;
- d) Northern Africa (Algeria, Morocco, Libya, Niger, Mali, Canaries Islands (Spain)), in Nador (Morocco), 7-9 November 2006;
- e) Eastern Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe), in Moshi-Kilimanjaro (Tanzania), 13-15 November 2006; and
- f) Western and central Africa (Cameroon, DRC, Congo, Guinea, Chad, Burundi, Gabon, Republic of Central Africa), in Bafoussam (Cameroon), 27-29 November 2006.

#### **4. Background to the east African workshops**

MVIWATA on behalf of ESAFF (East and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers) has been earmarked by WMPA to host the sub-regional meeting for Eastern Africa. Several MVIWATA leaders already attended several WMPA events and conferences and this workshop will be a milestone in providing a proper forum to discuss Mountain issues in the sub-region. GRET has been facilitating the communication between the various stakeholders. The workshop is supported by WMPA donors: Foundation Charles Léopold Mayer (FPH) and Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC).

#### **5. Discussions of the presentation**

Participants noted, with surprise the fact that women representation in WMPA in Europe as well as in others European Institutions (Farmers organizations, Parliament...) was low when Europe is supposed to be a more advanced democratic continent. In the farmers' movement of ESAFF, women representation and leadership is strong at all levels, with the current chairpersons of both ESAFF and MVIWATA being women.

Participants also applauded the initiators of WMPA for helping people across the world to work together in appreciating, celebrating and protecting the value of mountain environments.

WMPA commented that they wanted to see mountain people able to realize what their aspirations and preserve the diversity and richness of their cultures. Special mention was made of the indigenous population of Latin America who were marginalized by colonial governments for some 500 years and further discriminated by their own governments after independence. However, in the last decade or so, their governments especially in Bolivia have increasingly realized the need to be more inclusive of mountain people and to attend to their needs.

## **VI - PARTICIPANTS UNDERSTANDING OF "MOUNTAIN PEOPLE" IN EAST AFRICA**

### **1. Participants contributions in working groups**

#### **1.1 Group 1**

- a) They live in mountain areas and they attach their livelihoods in them in terms of culture, economic development and environmental preservation of the mountains.
- b) They adapt farming and biodiversity management of these areas regardless of the difficult environment.
- c) They are marginalized people with abundant resources that do not benefit them; water, minerals, timber, river fish etc...

### **1.2 Group 2**

- a) They live in areas with sources of fresh water.
- b) They farm around and on the mountains.
- c) They produce in high quantities but do not have markets.
- d) They have poor infrastructure: communication, roads, schools etc.

### **1.3 Group 3**

- a) They live in the mountains.
- b) The majority live in poverty.
- c) The majority live in difficulties: lack of roads, infrastructure.
- d) The government does not consult the people.
- e) Some of the mountain people live on drugs and are jobless causing immoral behaviour leading to HIV/AIDS.
- f) Most mountain areas are fertile and good for crop and animal production. This makes them great providers of food to urban areas.
- g) Many mountain communities are well adapted to their environments know how to farm and conserve water properly.
- h) They enjoy relatively unpolluted air.
- i) However, they are marginalized in terms of:
  - Physical infrastructure
  - Social services
  - Rural electrification
  - Transportation
  - Access to markets: price of products is low
  - Exercising citizen rights as they are manipulated by politicians.

### **1.4 Group 4**

- a) People who live in mountain in east Africa and around the mountains as well as those who work in mountains including public servants and business people.
- b) They lack of basic services (water, electricity, education, health services, etc...)
- c) Government policies negatively affect their settlement (can be removed by force and resettled)
- d) They live in harsh conditions and manage to adapt to them.
- e) In some cases, they refuse to pay taxes which, alienates them from their governments.

### **1.5 Group 5**

- a) They can work long hours.
- b) There are people who know how to conserve: environment.
- c) They are people producing important crops but who lack markets.
- d) They are people who know how to use small amount of lands for the benefit of many.
- e) They have better health because they know how to use herbal medicines and protect their traditions.



## 2. Synthesis of the participants understanding of Mountain people in East Africa

### 2.1 The positive aspects

- a) The mountain people are productive and are active in their environmental protection;
- b) Great providers of food to urban population;
- c) The mountain people are beneficiaries of guaranteed rainfall;
- d) Mountain people of East Africa have distinct and unique cultures;
- e) The mountain people in east Africa have abundant natural resources; and
- f) Communication within the mountains is good they are willing to walk to link.

### 2.2 The negative aspects

- a) Some east Africa mountain people have less access to social services and poor infrastructures;
- b) Some mountain people in East Africa do resist government policies and laws
- c) Human labour is extensively used in mountain areas of east African because of low mechanization; and
- d) Many east African mountain communities are manipulated by politicians during the election time.

## VII – REFLECTIONS ON EAST AFRICAN MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

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### 1. SWOT Analysis of mountain people in east Africa

<b>Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Relatively clean air</li><li>• Access to fertile soils</li><li>• Abundant natural resources</li></ul>	<b>Threats</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exclusion in policy formulation</li><li>• Displacements and low compensation</li><li>• Poor representation by politicians</li></ul>
<b>Strengths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Free from using chemicals</li><li>• Can provide organic products</li><li>• Hardworking</li><li>• Adapted to their environments</li></ul>	<b>Weaknesses</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of infrastructure</li><li>• Low access to social services</li><li>• Difficult access</li><li>• Low level of self-organisation</li></ul>

### 2. General intervention strategies

- a) Mountain people should come together and conduct awareness meetings;
- b) Formation of groups;
- c) Capacity building;
- d) Lobby for space in policy formulation committees;

- e) Lobby for laws and policies that are responsive to the welfare of the mountain people; and
- f) Encourage networking and information sharing.

### **3. Tips for mountain people**

- a) Create awareness about the value of collective thinking and action and network with others to scale up support;
- b) Learn from other people who have succeeded and document your experiences for the benefit of others;
- c) Mobilise fellow mountain people to discuss local issues, needs, opportunities, priorities and possible solutions;
- d) Where networks already exist, lobby for support from within the network, especially at higher levels for more multi-level institutional support;
- e) Mobilise fellow mountain people to carry out some of the work to address issues and tap into opportunities;
- f) Negotiate with governments to set aside funds from taxes and other government revenue to develop schools, roads and clinics;
- g) Seek support from other stakeholders such as NGOs, to assist in bringing about the desired developments;
- h) Choose leaders who represent the real needs of the people, leaders who are capable of listening, involving and taking effective action with the people, for the people; and
- i) Lobby for local and national government to put in place policies that are supportive of local needs and that involve local people in their formulation.

### **4. Why some mountain people in east Africa are successful (The case of Tanzania)**

- a) They value education;
- b) They are politically literate and mature, choose leaders who are accountable to them;
- c) They are innovative in policy development and decision making at all levels;
- d) They are united by a common language and exposed to collective action that Ujamaa inspired;
- e) The government has mechanisms including development funds that can be utilised locally;
- f) They utilise fertile lands productively and grow high value crops;
- g) The constitution provides for every citizen to have access to land anywhere in the country regardless of tribe and this is observed; and
- h) Government policies are people driven and address the needs and aspirations of the people.

### **5. Why other mountain people are disadvantaged (Several cases)**

#### **5.1 Usambara mountains, Tanzania**

- a) Adhering to traditional and religious beliefs and practices that are not good for development (for example, inheritance);
- b) Improper land use practices;
- c) Refusal to tap into resources provided by government; and
- d) Over protection of local systems from external influences (insular).

#### **5.2 Taita Mountains, Kenya**

- a) Low access to education;
- b) Exclusion due to tribalism and selfishness by some leaders; and
- c) Ignorance about opportunities, technologies, practices that work.

### **5.3 Rwenzori, Mt Elgon, Uganda**

- a) Difficult terrain to do development;
- b) High costs of developing infrastructure; and
- c) Too many rivers to work to make roads, fragile soils and slides.

### **5.4 Kagera, Tanzania**

- a) Inability or limited abilities to export and negotiate fair prices for our goods;
- b) Disease (malaria), but have developed some solutions; and
- c) Inappropriate development interventions caused partly by poor research and understanding of the environment; this retards development and undermines trust.

### **5.5 Rift Valley West Pokot, Kenya**

- a) Hills used as hideouts by thieves, rustlers, etc;
- b) Displacements and dispossession;
- c) Conflicts over lands; and
- d) Over exploitation of natural resources.

### **5.6 Abedia mountains, Kenya**

- a) No mechanisms to capture progressive thoughts and processes going on around them;
- b) No mechanisms for compensating mountain people for looking after water, bamboo; and
- c) They are not allowed to access local resources (policy).

*An example of the Pyrenees of France was given to illustrate the conflict between conservation wildlife at the expense of local mountain people who had to share their lands with bears translocated into their areas for the promotion of tourism and biodiversity.*

## **VIII. MOUNTAIN CHARTER**

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### **1. The World Mountain Charter**

Jean Bourliaud the Vice President of WMPA outlined the background and context of WMPA. He outlined the objectives of the Charter as being:

- To unify mountain people globally;
- To give them a voice;
- To affirm the mountain people way of living and their values;
- Affirm identity of the mountain people; and
- To be understood and to have our values respected and adapted to.

### **2. Developing the east African Mountain Charter**

#### **2.1 Tanzania Group Mountain Charter**

We are small scale farmers from East African Mountains representing ESAFF and MVIWATA

We are important communities in our society on whom relies the protection of the natural resources on behalf of the whole society  
 We believe that the crops that we grow in mountains do not affect people's life  
 We believe that we contribute in protecting natural resources (water, forests, minerals, etc...) for the benefit of the whole humanity  
 We demand to be recognised, valued and listened to internationally, to be a strong society that defends mountains inhabitants livelihoods  
 We want to improve the livelihoods of people living in mountains  
 To build and protect our dignity  
 We will achieve this by building and strengthening existing networks for them to recognise the importance to conscientise and defend mountain people  
 Organising training, workshops, tours  
 Collaborating with governments and other organisations to support with infrastructure and equipment according to our needs and collecting information and data on our lives

## **2.2 Uganda Group Mountain Charter**

We the mountain society of Uganda whose livelihoods depend on the mountain environment declare that we join the rest of the world mountain people to form into an association to have our voice for our concerns  
 We demands governments, NGOs and other stakeholders to have equity in service provision for a better infrastructure and access to social and economic services  
 We intend to achieve better standards of living through a participatory approach in policy formulation, networking sharing of self-innovation to protect our environments, good cultural values for sustainable livelihoods and identity  
 We stand to improve our values and culture for the balance in gender in our society.  
 We believe in living in harmony with the wild animals but demand for protection against the destruction of our lives, crops and livestock  
 We tell the whole world that all mountain people are "one voice for our visibility and access to services".

## **2.3 Kenya Group Mountain Charter**

We are farmers practising farming in Kenyan mountains.  
 We believe in attaching strong values in keeping our natural resources, traditional values and environment intact from destruction of these areas for the benefit of our future generations to continue sustaining the livelihoods in mountain areas.  
 We demand to be recognised and involved in the social and economic development by the government just like other communities.  
 We want to achieve the best in our environmental, social and economic development to uplift the living standards of our people.  
 To enhance the capacity of mountain farmers in order to live a dignified life.  
 To uplift our living standards, to utilise our natural resources to benefit mountain people and enhance the economy of our nation towards stability, to increase food security  
 From utilising our locally available resources, empowering mountain farmers in Kenya to manage their resources equitably.

## **3. The Kilimanjaro Declaration of the East African Mountain People's Meeting**

We, the 26 mountain people from five countries in east and southern Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe), representing the East and Southern African Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF), the network of farmer groups in Tanzania (MVIWATA), Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Association and elected officials from mountain areas gathered here in Tanzania on the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa, declare our solidarity with mountain people of the world.

Cognisant of the beauty in the mountains of the region, the abundant natural wealth of plants, animals and minerals and their immense value as sources of rivers that nourish our nations;



Aware that we manage and protect mountain resources and hold seasoned wisdom on mountain environments for the benefit of humanity;

Affirming that our livelihoods are dependent on the mountains and we want to live in harmony with our mountains;

Demand that those of us who are marginalised by policies and the rest of the society anywhere in the world, be recognised, respected and treated fairly so that we have meaningful access to resources in the mountains where we live; that we will be treated with dignity and participate in the formulation of policies and laws that affect our livelihoods;

Cognisant of the positive strides already made by some countries in the region to improve our livelihoods, we urge for the development of mechanisms that enable us to learn from each other so that we can improve our access to local resources, fair markets, good infrastructural and social services and attain food security;

We urge mountain people all over the world to mobilise themselves, set agenda for their development, document their good practice and share it, as well and lobby for more supportive policies and practices, tap into their own talents, skills and energy to improve their livelihoods;

We further urge mountain people to create synergies with their neighbours, governments and development agents such as NGOs to address their aspirations in a manner that enhances the harmony between the people and the environment in ways that engender stability and prosperity;

We, men and women from mountain places in east and southern Africa, commit ourselves to fight for the recognition of our vision, identity and dignity;

We join other mountain people worldwide in their struggle to be more visible and to be heard so that we can achieve the best in our environments for the good of humanity.

## **IX. FIELD VISIT**

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### **1. Visit to and lessons from Ndonga Village, Kilimanjaro**

Participants spent half the day travelling to and visiting three farmers in Ndonga Village. The farmers took participants through their agricultural activities. The following were observed:

- Farmers in the mountain are effectively using their limited pieces of land (an acre per household);
- The inter-crop and grow both food crops and cash crops, keep their fields covered with vegetation to avoid soil erosion;
- Environmental protection is good;
- Farmers there practice zero grazing because of the limited space but they recycle their crops and nutrients so that cattle and goats feed on grass grown in the fields and they in turn provide manure that is used for fertilizing crops;
- They produce organic products;
- Another example of intensive use of limited land was dairy cows, one produces 20 litres per day;
- Although the mountain area has steep slopes, the roads available enhance access, the people are rich and they live long, with one woman visited being over 120 years;
- The group visited showed evidence of excellent leadership, self-organisation, good documentation, a long tradition of democratic decision-making and ability to lobby and engage governments;
- However, the limited space means that the application of mechanized tools has little space.

## **X. PARTNERSHIP POSSIBILITIES**

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The four organisations represented in the meeting suggested how they could benefit from linking with each other as well as what each would bring into the partnership as follows:

### **1. PELUM Partnership possibilities**

	<b>What PELUM wants from the partnership</b>	<b>What PELUM can bring into the partnership</b>
ESAFF	a) Greater cooperation and partnership b) Farmer capacity in advocacy improved c) Setting up of ESAFF secretariat d) Transparency and accountability	a) Partnership and mentoring b) Greater cooperation c) Easier flow of information and coordination d) Transparency and accountability e) Fundraising
GRET	a) Cooperation b) Networking c) Joint capacity building d) Transparency and enhanced communication	a) A hand of willingness to cooperate, network and capacity building b) Transparency c) Unity of purpose d) Networking
WMPA	a) Cooperation especially with the work on mountain people b) Capacity building c) Networking d) Transparency and exchange of information	a) Experience in having worked with small scale farmers b) Networking c) Links with other organizations

### **2. GRET Partnership possibilities**

	<b>What GRET wants from the partnership</b>	<b>What GRET can bring into the partnership</b>
ESAFF	a) Advocacy and mobilization b) Inspiration c) Regional networking	a) Technical expertise b) Organisation expertise c) Project engineering d) Fundraising
PELUM	a) Regional networking b) Expertise	
WMPA	a) Cooperation especially with the work on mountain people b) Capacity building c) Networking d) Transparency and exchange of information	a) Memo of Understanding

### **3. WMPA Partnership possibilities**

	<b>What WMPA wants from the partnership</b>	<b>What WMPA can bring into the partnership</b>
ESAFF and PELUM	a) That they become members of WMPA	a) Sponsorship from European cooperation and donors

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) That they represent WMPA in east Africa</li> <li>c) That they organize events in connection with mountain people (World Mountain Day; Mountain Women Day)</li> <li>d) Prepare membership to enter WMPA Board and attend the General Assembly</li> <li>e) Launch a documentation process in each country about the situation of mountain people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) Participation to international WMPA events</li> <li>c) Exchanges with mountain communities and farmers from other continents</li> <li>d) Space for advocacy in FAO and UNESCO</li> <li>e) Participating in the international mountain observatory</li> </ul>
GRET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Write a Memo of Understanding about mountain people networking in east and southern Africa in relation to ESAFF and MVIWATA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Fundraising for NGOs and projects using GRET experience</li> </ul>

#### 4. ESAFF Partnership possibilities

	What ESAFF wants from the partnership	What ESAFF can bring into the partnership
PELUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Networking</li> <li>b) Capacity building</li> <li>c) Financial support</li> <li>d) Joint workshops</li> <li>e) Come up with special mountain people projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Human resources</li> <li>b) Commitment</li> <li>c) Easy communication</li> <li>d) Transparency and accountability</li> <li>e) Mobilisation of members</li> <li>f) Membership</li> <li>g) Budgets and proposals</li> <li>h) Feedback and reports</li> </ul>
GRET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Networking</li> <li>b) Capacity building</li> <li>c) Financial support</li> <li>d) Joint workshops</li> <li>e) Come up with special mountain people projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Networking</li> <li>b) Capacity building</li> <li>c) Financial support</li> <li>d) Joint workshops</li> <li>e) Come up with special mountain people projects</li> </ul>
WMPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Networking</li> <li>b) Capacity building</li> <li>c) Financial support</li> <li>d) Joint workshops</li> <li>e) Come up with special mountain people projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Networking</li> <li>b) Capacity building</li> <li>c) Financial support</li> <li>d) Joint workshops</li> <li>e) Come up with special mountain people projects</li> </ul>

## **XI. ACTION PLAN**

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<b>Activity</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
1. Incorporate comments on the Kilimanjaro Declaration	Facilitator	15/11/2006
2. Approve and sign declaration after due process	ESAFF leaders	By 26/11/2006
3. Disseminate Kilimanjaro Declaration to ESAFF members, partners, WMPA members, mountain people organisations, NGOs, FAO, IFAD	ESAFF WMPA	26/11/2006
4. Produce and disseminate workshop report	Facilitator	26/11/2006
5. Participants socialise report in their organisations and with others	Participants	December 2006
6. Take a stand on membership to WMPA	ESAFF, MVIWATA, PELUM	By March 2007
7. Preparation for the international General Meeting with the ESAFF Board as the Organising committee and focal point	ESAFF Board	By March 2007
8. Documentation of case studies of mountain people to be presented to international audience	ESAFF-Uganda (Steve Mubiru) Smart Initiative- PELUM Kenya MVIWATA: Kilimanjaro, Iringa, Tanga, Morogoro, Kagera Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum (Editha, Moses and Francis) ESAFF Zambia (Mubanga) ESAFF Zimbabwe	By June 2007

The identified mountain areas are: Rwenzori; Mt Elgon; Cherengani Hills; Mt Kilimanjaro; Taveta; Mafinga/Manyika Highlands; Kanzalu; Abadea; Uluguru; Usambara; Mlali; Udzungwa; Mwangea; Mkwenda and Chimanimani mountains.

## **XII. CONCLUSION**

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The workshop was concluded in stages. The workshop was evaluated by checking progress made against each objective of the workshop. The participants concluded that the workshop achieved what it set out to do. The ESAFF chair thanked the organisers, participants, donors and the facilitators for their contributions. One of the participants also thanked everyone for their individual contributions before Cornel Mushi, the chairman of the Kilimanjaro region also addressed the workshop as the host and expressed satisfaction over the outcomes of the deliberations. The MVIWATA chairlady then officially closed the meeting.



### XIII. ANNEXES

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#### ANNEX 1: Opening Speech

STATEMENT BY HON. MOHAMED BABU, THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER FOR KILIMANJARO AT THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON MOUNTAIN PEOPLES AT THE UMOJA HOSTEL IN MOSHI ON 13 NOVEMBER 2006.

- Chairperson of ESAFF,
- Chairperson of MVIWATA
- Representative of the World Mountain Peoples Association
- Representative of the GRET
- Participants,
- Ladies and gentlemen.

**Madame Chairperson**, firstly, allow me to express my appreciation to you for inviting me to this important occasion that will reflect the life of farmers living in the mountains. I am particularly honoured to be associated in this workshop since indeed my region is the seat of the tallest mountain in Africa, that is Kilimanjaro Mountain.

**Madame Chairperson**, let me at this juncture, recognize the efforts, achievements and contributions that MVIWATA has made in accompanying small-scale farmers in their social, economic and cultural missions, the host of this workshop, namely, *Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania* (MVIWATA).

**Madame Chairperson**, the challenges that face small-scale scale-farmers in this country and indeed in the whole of Sub-Saharan Africa are well known and documented. Lack of capital, poor access to technology, innovations and advisory services, marketing of produce coupled with very low prices, land conflicts are just a few among them. The contribution of MVIWATA in addressing these issues including their interventions on strengthening organisational capacities of small scale farmers, marketing of agricultural produce, savings and credit challenges for small holder farmers, and the role that MVIWATA has played in organising and uniting the smallholder farmers, just to mention a few have been outstanding and remarkable. Indeed, over the last ten years MVIWATA has become an important partner of the government and active actor in rural development.

I am aware in Kilimanjaro, particularly where MVIWATA alongside its partners has introduced a project to promote savings and credits among small scale farmers and other income generating activities. I take this opportunity to congratulate MVIWATA and encourage them to continue with the same spirit of supporting small-scale farmers and defending their interests.

**Madame Chairperson**, let me briefly take this opportunity to equally recognise the Eastern and Southern African Farmers Forum (ESAFF). The significance of unifying the voices of small scale-farmers in the region cannot be over-emphasised. I am told that the idea of forming ESAFF goes back to 2002 during the convergence of farmers at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which was held in Johannesburg, South Africa. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for forming this important regional small-scale farmers platform. I have also been informed that ESAFF resolved in April 2006 at its launching workshop in Morogoro to have its headquarters in Tanzania. On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania I would like to welcome you and express our support to your course.

**Madame Chairperson**, we all know that the backbone of economies of most of the Eastern and Southern African countries is agriculture. About 70 per cent of the total population of these countries are engaged in agriculture sector which contributes more significantly towards the National GDP; provision of raw materials for agro based industries and creation of employment.

**Madame Chairperson**, the macroeconomic policy changes, which are taking place globally, have far reaching effects to the economies of these countries not only in the agriculture sector, but also across all other sectors, which contribute significantly to the National GDP.

Likewise, the trend of global environmental changes requires farmers to reflect critically on how to properly care for their habitats and environments in order to maintain their livelihood and indeed to bring about prosperity and their well being.

Madame Chairperson, people who live and farm in the mountains are not excluded from this wave of the global environmental changes. Pressure on land resources, water and the need for harmony between production, the ecology and economy are among the critical challenges, which require the attention of the farmers who live in the mountains.

**Madame Chairperson**, I know that over years the mountain peoples have developed their cultures and technology adapted to their environment. I would like to encourage the good farming practices and appeal to you to abandon the practices which are harmful to your environments.

**Madame Chairperson**, in our country our government has taken bold steps in reinforcing the environmental situation of our land including evacuating people from the ecologically fragile locations such as around river basins as well as wetlands, which are main sources of streams and rivers.

**Madame Chairperson**, in other words I would like to emphasise the need for upholding to the sustainable agricultural practices in order to sustain your livelihoods without endangering your habitats. You should strive to observe best practices, which protect the environment from pollution and degradation.

**Madame Chairperson**, one of the biggest challenge we have observed in the mountain farming is wide spread bush fires, increasing erosion and the farming practices which are deleterious to the environment and the livelihood. I would therefore appeal to the participants of this workshop to reflect and come out with practical measures to address these problems.

**Madame Chairperson**, I would also like to underline the need to reduce the use of pesticides as well as chemical fertilisers, which lead to residual and detrimental effects to your habitats and the environment.

**Madame Chairperson**, let me also take this opportunity to challenge you on the need to forge networking and exchange of information among the mountain people. I hope during these four days of this workshop you will be able to initiate a network amongst yourselves and forge a clear alliance between your organisation that is, MVIWATA, ESAFF, GRET and the World Mountain Peoples Association in order to have stronger voice and actions.

**Madame Chairperson**, it will indeed be a great omission if I do not talk about the global epidemic namely HIV/AIDS. I would like to remind you on the need to address and put in place plans and programmes to protect the mountain peoples against the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The scale of devastation of this deadly disease is well known and should not be underestimated in the rural programmes that we design.

Madame Chairperson, lastly let me on behalf of the farmers of Tanzania, and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania thank the World Mountain Peoples Association for financing this workshop.

**Madame Chairperson**, with these few remarks, I have the pleasure to declare this workshop officially opened.

**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

## ANNEX 2: List of participants

Names	Organisation	Country	Position	Telephone	E-mail address
1. Stephen MUBIRU	ESAFF	UGANDA	Committee Member	256772333285	<a href="mailto:Mubiru2002@yahoo.com">Mubiru2002@yahoo.com</a>
2. Jane TIMBITI	ESAFF	UGANDA	Committee Member	256782118716	
3. Elizabeth MPOFU	ESAFF	ZIMBABWE	Chairperson	26391443716	<a href="mailto:ezimmpofu@cooltoad.com">ezimmpofu@cooltoad.com</a>
4. Moses SHAHA	ESAFF (KESSFF)	KENYA	Secretary general	254724281610	<a href="mailto:Moses_388ke@yahoo.com">Moses_388ke@yahoo.com</a>
5. Chebusiri Masika AGGREY	SMART INITIATIVE ORGANISATION (PELUM)	KENYA	Co-ordinator	254723972497	<a href="mailto:smartinitiative@yahoo.com">smartinitiative@yahoo.com</a>
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7. Editha Samree LEWELA	TAITATAVETA	KENYA	Chairperson	254721584850 254735629314	<a href="mailto:samreelewela@yahoo.com">samreelewela@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:eveslewela@yahoo.com">eveslewela@yahoo.com</a>
8. Francis MATHEKA	Small Scale Farmers	KENYA	Chairperson	254734907534	
9. Francis NJOROGI KUNGU	PELUM/KIOF KENYA	KENYA	Chairman Group	254724635057 254724635057	
10. Simon STANLEY	MVIWATA	TANZANIA	Famer (Mkulima)	255784977126	
11. Mubanga KASAKULA	ESAFF	ZAMBIA	Vice-chairperson	26097832594	<a href="mailto:mubangakasakula@yahoo.co.uk">mubangakasakula@yahoo.co.uk</a>
12. Daniel WILSON	MVIWATA LUSHOTO DISTRICT	TANZANIA	Chairperson	255787321589	
13. Elias KAWEA	MVIWATA/ESAFF	TANZANIA	Mwakiliskiw	255754996350	<a href="mailto:eliaskawea@yahoo.com">eliaskawea@yahoo.com</a>
14. Istar MALLYA	MVIWATA KILIMANJARO	TANZANIA	Treasure	255784913412	
15. Grace RUNKULATILE	MVIWATA NATION	TANZANIA	Treasure	255753316457 255754431300	<a href="mailto:grarunku@yahoo.com">grarunku@yahoo.com</a>
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17. Andrew HEPELWA	MVIWATA	TANZANIA	Secretary	255754879329	<a href="mailto:hepelwa@yahoo.com">hepelwa@yahoo.com</a>
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20. Rehama Bryson LEMA	MVIWATA	TANZANIA	Member	255753293511	Box 3023 Moshi
21. Cornel MUSHI	MVIWATA KILIMANJARO	TANZANIA	Chairman	255754846398	Box 7389 Moshi
22. Happiness LEMULIET	MVIWATA	TANZANIA	Member	255784214231	
23. Adauti TASIANI	MVIWATA MOROGORO	TANZANIA	Member	255786039861 255232605011	
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	Practise				
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### Annex 3: The Mountain Charter

#### Quito Declaration Charter for World Mountain People (4 September 2003)

The representatives of Mountain Territories from forty countries met on 20 September 2002 in Quito (Ecuador) taking into account the declarations issued at preparatory meetings of Achocalla (22-25 August 2002, Bolivia) and Yuksam (15-19 April 2002, India), adopted the main points of the following declaration. The present text drawn up in compliance with these directives was widely distributed to collect observations of mountain communities. In view of the results of this consultation it was decided finally to adopt it after modification on 4 September 2003 by the APMM office meeting at Ispoure (French Pyrenees).

**1. We believe in the future of mountain regions!** Leaving the mountains is a painful experience for all its children. Because the mountains demand strength and patience, renouncement and sacrifice, energy and courage, imagination and combativeness, because we have learned to respect and to defend their integrity, our attachment to the mountains is strong. Because in return, the mountain territory offers us the beauty and serenity of its landscapes, inspiring thoughtfulness and meditation, and naturally keeping us in harmony with nature, it is a source of inspiration and elevation. In the mountains, we maintain the memory of generations before us who have shaped our territory. We are grateful to them for having transmitted this heritage and this culture to us. **We must not let this territory deteriorate, this heritage be dilapidated, this culture become trivial.** We are not condemned to abandonment or exile. Our territory can support all its inhabitants and welcome others. Real perspectives exist. Contemporary society expresses great expectations. Technical progress does not erase the difficulties, but it does reduce them. Agriculture, stock grazing, forestry, recover new vitality by offering new products and exercising new functions. Our crafts and our industry show their capacity to adapt to the new economic context. We dispose of major natural resources – water, energy, minerals, space – that can be better upgraded economically and ecologically, and their proceeds can be better shared. Tourism, when under control, can be a factor of major, shared financial flows. Our local values and know-how, our intimate knowledge of our territory, continue to be exceptional assets for progress. We are determined to make this potential a reality: for this reason we believe in the future of the mountains.

**2. We claim our rightful place in society.** Mountain areas are different; they need not be separate. Society must not exclude their people nor marginalize their territory. Nor must it try to standardize or assimilate, ignoring the specificities and particularities of these regions. Mountain people should have access to the same social and political rights and the same opportunity for development. We know there is a long way to go before we achieve this. Certain mountain people have taken that path, always with great difficulty: they now are both recognized and respected. Too many others are still rejected, plundered, held in contempt and confined. Some are rich but subject to an increasingly demanding market. Others have attempted to gain status through assistance. Still others perpetuate unfairness in their own communities. **Mountain people do not demand equivalence of situations, they demand equity in order to sustainably correct disadvantages and injustice.** They are aware that first they must apply to themselves what they demand of others. We want to construct a society that provides key services for social, economic and political progress to all its members: vocational training and education, housing and health, the possibility of communicating and travel. Mountain people do not want to continue in an inequality that jeopardizes their dignity. They do not want to appear as eternal supplicants when they are demanding only justice and rights. They want to dispose of the means of expression and representation to democratically and forcefully defend both.

**3. We want to broaden the range of possibilities for mountain areas.** Our territory, which was long held in disdain, increasingly interests our contemporaries. For some, it is an area for leisure and relaxation, for others a natural environment dedicated to conservation. The mountains cannot be reduced to these two dimensions. We need to assume these two recreational and environmental functions that are necessary for a balanced society and to maintain natural wealth and our development, but we should not identify with them. We do not want to be exclusively a host territory, guardians of nature or a service society. **We have other ambitions and other assets to promote.** We want to construct a society founded on the diversity of trades, and social and human components, as a factor of economic solidarity and social enrichment. We want activities related to the soil, agriculture, stock grazing, forestry, that make a living for the population, maintain and renew natural resources, to be considered of general interest in mountain areas. We refuse to base the wealth of the mountains on the sale of its heritage and farming out the territory. The wealth of the mountains must grow from our capacity to produce and create real value added, without deteriorating our capital, to the greater benefit of mountain people and the national community. In this way, We also wish that our young people should continue the work of earlier generations, to perpetuate the vitality of the mountain territories. We must offer them other alternatives to leaving and invite them to invest all their creativity in a fresh development of the mountains, which are their « country ».

**4. We want to recover control of our development.** We have the feeling that we have less and less influence on the future of our territory. Strategic decisions have too often been taken by companies from outside the area that decide on the future of our resources without us. The management of the territory is in the hands of an administration that wants to narrowly control its usage. Outside agents, institutions or organizations too often impose models or techniques that undermine the structure of local societies. We are subject to diverse and various lobbies that want to decide on our happiness, without us and often against us. The mountains tend to become a subordinate territory, an object territory, whose fate is settled without consulting the local population, towns and communities that make it up. For lack of a sufficient hold on the situation, we become powerless to change the course of events, to control the economic and social forces that can cause sharp breaches in the evolution of our society. **We want to put an end to this situation: we want to be the advocates of our country.** Mountain people must reclaim their role as the real agents of their future. They must recover the power to manage their territory, not without submitting to rules for public utility that must be developed democratically and in consultation with their representatives who have genuine practical skills. We want to master exploitation of our resources and fully benefit from their economic results. We want to choose our own path for the development and management of our territory, revive and balance the economic and human relations between the mountain and the other territories, with which their future is linked. By improving our capacity to conceive and decide, we want to gain better control of the channels for our products. We want scientists and experts, whatever their specialty to work alongside us. We want to be present at higher levels where strategic decisions that influence our future are taken. We want to be recognized as real partners, through our communities and our organizations, with a contractual right to contribute to decisions affecting us.

**5. We want to act by means of strong, united communities.** Individually we can do much for our territory, each person in his/her field of activity or responsibility. The mountains very much need these initiatives. But our real capacity to make headway for the entire community to which we belong can only come from a joint effort of all, a convergent action of the inhabitants, pooling the resources in our mountain towns and communities. It is up to them to spark and carry our collective determination to go forward. It is up to us all to give them the concrete means – legal, financial, technical, scientific – to better manage the common territory, provide services to the population, develop facilities, valorize collective resources, promote economic development, maintain the richness of local cultures. It is up to the communities to gain a position to exercise these missions through cooperation. **Our commitment as citizens is also the key to collective success.** If management must be delegated, it must also be assisted upstream by close participation of citizens and reinforced downstream by regular assessment. This is the price of consolidating the community's capacity to make headway and to ensure progress of all its components,

particularly the most disadvantaged or isolated. Having mobilized all our resources and fulfilled our own obligations, we can demand that the State meet those of the national society with regard to mountain communities that have reduced means to cope with a more difficult environment. The first obligation of the State is justice: different situations require different policies. The second is freedom of management: a democratic community, means autonomous management.

**6. We want to organize in order to influence decisions concerning us.** The development of mountain areas still depends to a large extent on the rules of the economic game applied at national level or retained in international agreements. Agriculture, services, the forest, industry, trade, even culture are strongly subject to the mechanisms set in motion. Mountain regions are particularly vulnerable to liberal policies in many ways, because of their fragility and limited competitiveness. They are also very dependent on public action due to the weakness of their own means. **For this reason, we must be present everywhere decisions are taken concerning our territories, from the local to the international scale.** Our spokesmen will be better heard if they are representative of mountain populations. They will be that much more convincing if they base their arguments on high-quality studies and dossiers. We need to give them the democratic legitimacy and the capacity to negotiate on behalf of representative mountain organizations having real means of action. The existence and the strength of these organizations are particularly needed for mountain people because they are in a situation of under-representation in their own countries and must fight a natural movement that tends to satisfy population centers rather than territories. So we need to ensure representation of mountain territories everywhere to obtain favorable arbitration. But we also need to discover the universal aspects in our particular problems and join forces with those who defend the same values.

**7. We want to construct the community of mountain men and women.** We consider that the cause of the mountains can bring together mountain people from all continents, from south and north, from east and west, in the same movement, because, despite our differences in culture, income, living conditions and social organization, we all have something in common: attachment to our mountain territory, and the determination not to dissolve the relationship that binds us to it, to continue to live in the mountains and to ensure that they last. We consider that we are confronted with the same fundamental challenge, equitable development under our control, in a historical context where identities are waning in favor of a single cultural model where the weakest are threatened with growing gaps and delays. **We want to come together to answer these challenges by helping each other and mobilizing our resources to the benefit of all mountain communities.** We want to create a community where the most disadvantaged will be defended first. We want everyone to be aware – mountain populations, nations, the international community – of what the mountains represent and what they contribute to humanity in terms of products, services, environment, social practices, collective management, spatial management, values, cultures. We want to totally assume our responsibilities with regard to the national and international communities. Mountain people will achieve this better when they are democratically organized and control the future of their territory. Our alliance should enable very different people to come together on a common project that is very dear to them: taking the destiny of their country in hand. Starting with local communities, we can thus constitute a real community for the future of all mountain regions in the world.

**To ensure achievement of the objectives of this Charter which are:**

- developing new perspectives for mountain areas
- conquering new social and political rights
- broadening the range of possibilities for mountain areas
- recovering control of our development
- reinforcing cohesion and independence of communities
- constituting representative mountain organizations
- constructing a socially conscious worldwide community and anxious to ensure gender equality



**We make a commitment to:**

1. **Work** to achieve these objectives in our field of activity and responsibility, to inform and encourage mountain communities and organizations to adhere to them
2. **Promote** the creation of a movement of mountain People for this purpose:
  - meeting in each country in an association of mountain people constituted with reference to the WMPA statutes, drawing support from local territorial communities and associating representatives of organizations that take part in the management and the development of the territory, as well as from researchers and experts working alongside mountain populations
  - grouping these national associations, once they have been constituted, in larger organizations on the scale of mountain ranges or continents
  - uniting in the World Mountain People Association
3. **Develop** actions and encounters between mountain people from various mountain territories
4. **Undertake** cooperation actions between mountain people by means of these associations or other organizations with the help of NGO partners
5. **Construct** alliances or partnerships with movements or organizations that have similar objectives and have the same values.

## Annex 4: Workshop Programme

### DAY ONE

Session	Time	Activities
One	0830 hrs 1030 hrs	a. Welcome and Introductions b. Objectives of the workshop c. Discussion of the objectives d. Background to the World Mountain People Association e. Developing a common understanding of Mountain People in east Africa
Two	1100 hrs 1300 hrs	a. Key issues affecting mountain people in east Africa and current activities to address them b. Identifying gaps in addressing problems faced by Mountain People in east
Three	1400 hrs 1630 hrs	a. Prioritising issues and gaps b. Developing strategies for each priority issue

### DAY TWO

Session	Time	Activities
One	0800 hrs 1000hrs	Presenting and discussing strategies
Two	1000 hrs 1700 hrs	Conduct field visit Process/discuss field visit

### DAY THREE

Session	Time	Activities
One	0830 hrs 1030 hrs	a. Presentation of the Mountain Charter b. Discussion of the Mountain Charter c. Develop an action plan towards the Mountain Charter
Two	1100 hrs 1300 hrs	a. Exploring partnership between ESAFF, PELUM, GRET & WMPA b. Develop an action plan on partnership
Three	1400 hrs 1630 hrs	a. Developing selection criteria for delegates to attend the WMPA b. Develop an action plan out of the workshop c. Conclusion of the Workshop d. Workshop evaluation