

Statement of Pastoralist Leaders Gathered in Kiserian, Kenya, December 2013:

The “Kiserian Pastoralist Statement”

December 9th to 15th 2013: 120 pastoralist leaders representing communities in 48 countries worldwide gathered in Kiserian, Kenya, to share experiences and concerns about the Global Transition to a Green Economy. Pastoralism—the extensive production of livestock in rangeland ecosystems—is one of the most environmental friendly food systems on earth, but its potential to provide meat, milk and fibre as well as environmental services, such as climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation and protection of water sheds, is continuously eroded by poorly conceived policies and investments, by neglect of basic human rights, and by disruption to appropriate rangeland management practices, including mobility.

This Gathering was convened to give pastoralists a voice in the global dialogue on sustainability. It is recognised that the Millennium Development Goals have been partially achieved, but their achievement in pastoral areas falls well behind and such sub-national inequities should not be acceptable in any post-2015 development agenda. Accordingly, the pastoralist representatives gathered in Kiserian recommend the following:



- **Formation of a United Nations Commission for Pastoral Development, to address matters concerning:**

- **Protection of pasture and grazing land strictly for the practice of pastoralism;**
- **Ensuring land rights, grazing rights and livestock keepers’ rights;**
- **Protection of migratory routes;**
- **Promoting an environment that favours pastoral investment and recognizes pastoralism as legitimate livelihood source;**
- **Ensuring a mechanism that promotes participation in politics, decision making and policy formulation;**
- **Empowerment of pastoral organizations and pastoralist communities/societies through institutional strengthening and capacity building**



- **Developing strategies for promoting pastoral products which directly benefits pastoralists through fair markets.**
- **To declare and celebrate 26th November as “World Pastoral Day” to spread awareness of our rich and unique pastoral culture.**
- **To ensure a mechanism for effective implementation of Prior Informed Consent and Food Sovereignty in a true spirit.**



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