Lux’09 Declaration

To the people of the world, especially those whose voices are not heard, civil society, social and political movements, solidarity based practitioners, governmental and international institutions.

As participants of a growing global social solidarity economy movement that met in Luxembourg from 22-25 April 2009 convened under the leadership of RIPESS, we affirm that:

1. We are in the midst of a global social and economic crisis brought by 30 years of neoliberal rule;
2. This is the latest chapter in a long running crisis which is now a matter of life or death for people and nature; and
3. The social solidarity economy provides a real alternative to the failed economic model of neoliberalism. It creates a horizon of hope against fatalism.

The social solidarity economy is an ongoing collective process of creative work. It is an ethical path of inclusive development grounded in real practices of cooperation, reciprocity, participatory democracy, social and economic justice, peace, plurality and cultural diversity, creativity, sustainability, and equity (North-South, gender, ethnicity, class, age, etc.).

We commit to:

- Promote and strengthen social solidarity economy networks and organizations;
- Facilitate participation of social and political movements in the Social Solidarity Economic movement;
- Set concrete targets for example: to reach out to 100 million people by the year 2013;
- Participate in the co-construction production of policies whereby the Social Solidarity Economy can play a significant role in addressing the impacts of the Global crisis and achieving equality for all citizens of the world.

During the 4th Globalization of Solidarity Meeting, the 700 participants in plenaries and 19 workshops demonstrated that “Another economy exists: the innovations of the social and solidarity economy.”

Through this collective and participatory process of dialogue and debate, we propose the following innovative proposals, commitments and demands:

(see workshops’ summaries document)