Summary of Discussion

Topic 1: How to cope with the bottlenecks in the implementation of sustainable agriculture and sustainable agricultural mechanization in the Asian and Pacific Region countries?

Experience from India: In the beginning, farmers may have some objections, then they find it is a good system, which requires less time. There are many local conservation agriculture machines in use especially in the northern part of India, the farmers do have some concerns, but it does increase their yields by 10% - 20%. It also helps with the reduction of greenhouse gas.

In terms of food production, fuel certification is needed. Especially oil, vegetable oil, they need to be verified, not just to ensure product quality, but also to demonstrate sustainable processes.

Topic 2: How to ensure the improved quality of agricultural machinery?

Experience from India: There are a lot of manufacturers in India, some are relatively large scale, there are some relatively small size. The product is of relatively poor quality, the cost is relatively low. We bought a relatively poor quality products, such as China’s rice transplanter. An Indian manufacturer may provide the transplanter by half of the price, and with lower quality. In India, the machinery are provided through the government system, so we need to have a detection agencies to detect the quality, which is a mandatory.

Experience from Indonesia: We have established a committee to test agricultural machinery. Agricultural machinery that enter Indonesia all need to go through this body detection. The problem is that we only test its performance, not its quality. Quality is more difficult to test. We will educate farmers, for example: if you buy a cheap tractor, then 1-2 years later, it can not be used; If you buy a good quality tractor, although the cost is high, it can last more than 5 years.

Experience from ENTAM: In general, the better the
quality is, the better the performance is. However, not to spend more money, is a cultural concept. Safety culture and performance of the machine culture should enter into the concept among farmers in Italy in this situation: the farmers just buy the cheapest farm machinery, although the first time they spend very little money, but it costs more money over a long time, and some agricultural chemicals will be wasted. Therefore, this is not a technical concept, but rather a cultural concept.

CSAM: ANTAM will coordinate the relevant standards bodies at the regional level according to the standard for export, import agricultural trade.