

Address at CSAM Regional Workshop on Establishing a Cooperation Mechanism for Human Resource Development on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization

Sixi Qu/WFP China

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Ladies and Gentlemen, Colleagues and Friends, Good morning!

First of all, on behalf of the UN World Food Programme China Office, I would like to express my sincere congratulations on the opening of this Regional Workshop. Thank you very much for inviting me to attend this event and share our views with all of you.

The past few years have witnessed CSAM's enormous efforts to strengthen its partnership strategies, which significantly enhanced the Centre's influence in the Asia and Pacific region. I believe that this workshop will provide a prime opportunity to share ideas and insights of the important topic of "Human Resource Development for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization", and further accelerate the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Cooperation Network of Research and Academic Institutions on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization.

As we all know, the UN Sustainable Development Summit in 2015 adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, opening a new vision for global development. As the world's largest humanitarian assistance agency, to well align itself with the Sustainable Development Goals, in November 2016, WFP adopted a new strategic plan - Integrated Road Map which allows WFP to embark on a transformation journey to pursue more effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda through **saving lives, changing lives and feeding dreams.**

China is one of the first eight countries taking part in the initial roll-out of WFP Integrated Road Map. China's Country Strategic Plan for 2017-2021 approved by WFP Executive Board in February 2017 heralds a new era of collaboration between WFP and China. The country strategic plan was officially launched two weeks ago.

To support progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal on ending hunger, WFP stresses the importance to mobilize additional resources, share expertise and skills, enhance capacities and encourage innovations in developing countries. In the past three decades, China has lifted more than 600 million people out of poverty. The rich experience built on the tremendous achievement can be served as asset of entire human being. In recognition of the importance of sharing China's experience on poverty alleviation and food security with other developing countries, WFP China Office is now functioning as a Centre of Excellence to enhance South-South and triangular cooperation while helping China further improve food security and nutrition level through capacity strengthening and small-scale innovative pilot programmes, as well as mobilizing resources in China to support WFP global engagement.

I strongly believe that to pursue UN 2030 SDGs, agricultural mechanization will play a key role in farm productivity & efficiency, women empowerment & labour intensity reduction, climate change adaptation & smart agriculture, post-harvest loss reduction & disaster resilience. Certainly, mechanization is not all about machineries and equipment, as the theme of this workshop precisely reflects, human resource development is an essential part of sustainable agricultural mechanization. I am very pleased to see the upcoming Cooperation Network ANRAIM aims to mobilize resources to focus on people, including establishing network for researchers, promoting knowledge sharing, facilitating human capacity development activities.

Looking forward, it is easy to find the alignment between the 5 strategic functions of CSAM and the 5 strategic outcomes under WFP China Country Strategic Plan for 2017-2021, which provides many entry points for our future collaboration. This afternoon, my colleague Dr. Jia Yan will make a more detailed presentation on WFP China's engagement on South-South Cooperation. Hopefully, more constructive ideas and views on potential collaboration would be generated from our discussion. WFP China will further strengthen inclusive partnership leveraging strengths of one another for a better world without hunger.

I wish this workshop a rotund success and all of you a very good stay in Nanjing.

Thank you very much.