

**Opening Remarks for Regional Workshop for Research and
Academic Institutions on: ‘Establishing a Cooperation Mechanism
for Human Resource Development on Sustainable Agricultural
Mechanization’**

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Distinguished guests, dear leaders!

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Good morning! At the opening of the **Regional Workshop for Research
and Academic Institutions on: ‘Establishing a Cooperation**

Mechanism for Human Resource Development on Sustainable

Agricultural Mechanization’, the participants have traveled thousands

of miles here in Nanjing, may I quote some words of the ancients that

"Decree by destiny a long distance to meet" which means t it’s our fate to
gather together.

First of all, on behalf of both Nanjing Research Institute for Agricultural
Mechanization (short for “NRIAM”), Ministry of Agriculture, and of my
own to warmly welcome all the distinguished guests and I would like to
express my heartfelt thanks to Centre for Sustainable Agricultural

Mechanization (CSAM), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other relevant units!

Established in October 1957, Nanjing Research Institute for Agricultural Mechanization, Ministry of Agriculture is a public national research institute in agricultural engineering. It used to be known as the Laboratory on Plant Protection Machinery of the Central Agricultural Institution which can be traced back to the year 1934 dating back more than eighty years. Since the establishment of the institute, it has made a significant contribution to the agricultural mechanization in China. The early years, NRIAM developed the first rice motor Transplanter in the world and also the first domestic automatic sprayer in China. The development of the muddy field rope traction machine, the rotary tiller, the automatic long-range sprayer and other machines were all in the leading positions either domestically or even globally. The research results provide an important reference for the development policy of national agricultural mechanization. Recent years, the Institute has played an irreplaceable role in promoting the development of Chinese agricultural mechanization during a "golden decade". The comprehensive mechanization level of main crop farming was rising from 34.3% in 2004 to 65% in 2016.

At present, NRIAM has a staff of highly educated talent with 20 researchers and 63 associate researchers, among which 14 experts belong

to national modern agricultural industry technical system. There are 12 key disciplines specializing in the machinery for tillage and soil preparation, machinery for planting and sowing, machinery for crop stalk harvesting and so on. It used to carry out technical exchanges and cooperation with more than 20 countries or regions including the United States, Germany, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia and other countries with high reputation.

As a national agricultural science and technology institute in the Asia-Pacific region, NRIAM is much honored to work with Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization of the United Nations jointly organized the **Regional Workshop** to promote the Development of Asia-Pacific agricultural mechanization. It is a significant meeting, we should seize this opportunity to sketch a long-term development blueprint of agricultural mechanization and determine a direction of agricultural cooperation in future. As Confucius once said: "a wise man keen on water, while a benevolent keen on mountain. They are never alike." Today in our beautiful Nanjing, we can speak without inhibitions in discussion.

In the future, NRIAM will continue to support the construction of **Asian and Pacific Cooperation Network of Research and Academic Institutions on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization** and look forward to making more substantive aspects of scientific and technological innovation, technology diffusion, personnel exchange

training and exchange and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific countries.

At last, I would like to wish the activity a complete success and wish all the distinguished guests a pleasant stay and good health!

Thank you all!