

Concept Note

The 6th Member Meeting of the Regional Council of Agricultural Machinery Associations in Asia and the Pacific (ReCAMA)

Monday, 23rd November 2020
(14:00-16:00, Beijing Time)

I. Background

The Regional Council of Agricultural Machinery Associations (ReCAMA) was established by the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in 2014 as the outcome of the 1st 'Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific' held in 2013. ReCAMA aims to promote sustainable agricultural mechanization in Asia and the Pacific through strengthening the capacity of national agricultural machinery associations, facilitating the exchange of knowledge and information, and enhancing collaboration and closer business connections among national associations and their members.

To date, ReCAMA has 20 Member associations from 14 countries. ReCAMA is a key initiative for scaling-up the availability, adoption and sustainable use of agricultural machinery at the regional level through a demand-driven model closely involving the private sector. This initiative is hence directly supportive of SDG 2 (ending hunger and malnutrition), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 17 (enabling global partnership for sustainable development) among other SDGs.

In accordance with the Terms of Reference of ReCAMA, a Member Meeting is convened once a year to discuss and make decisions on matters pertinent to the Council's operations and development. Since 2014, five Member Meetings have been organized in conjunction with key agricultural machinery exhibitions in China, India, Nepal and Thailand. Five Trainings and Study Tours have also been organized focusing on whole-process mechanization (2015); conservation agriculture and transplanting technologies (2016); precision agriculture and harvesting technologies (2017); automation, irrigation (solar power), and plant protection (with UAV) (2018); and climate-smart mechanization, whole value chain mechanization and horticulture mechanization (2019). In addition, a research paper on trade and investment policies on mechanization of agriculture

was completed in 2017 covering China, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. In 2020, two research papers have been completed, namely, on trade and investment policies for agricultural machinery in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan and Philippines and Turkey; and market status of agricultural machinery in China, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Upon election at the 5th Member Meeting of ReCAMA held in Nepal in 2019, the Russian Association of Specialized Machinery and Equipment Manufacturers was elected as the ReCAMA Chair Association, with the Association of Indonesian Agriculture Machinery as the Vice-Chair Association of ReCAMA for 2019-2020.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 6th Member Meeting of ReCAMA will be organized virtually via MS Teams on 23 November 2020 at 14:00-16:00 Beijing time (GMT+8). The 6th Member Meeting of ReCAMA will review and endorse the work report of ReCAMA in 2020 and work plan for 2021, among other matters. In the context of the adverse situation arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting will also briefly discuss about the pandemic's impact on the agricultural sector in the Asia-Pacific region and the role of sustainable agricultural mechanization in addressing these impacts and building resilience. The representatives of ReCAMA members are invited to attend the virtual Member Meeting.

II. Programme

| Time | Item |
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| 14:00 - 14:05 | <p>Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Welcome remarks: Dr. Yutong Li, Head, Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization of ESCAP (ESCAP-CSAM)</i> |
| 14:05 - 14:20 | <p>New Members' Presentations and Admission</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Anshuman Varma, Programme Officer/Deputy Head, ESCAP-CSAM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Briefing of Agribusiness Machinery Association in Cambodia – Mr. Thou Chav, President, Agribusiness Machinery Association in Cambodia (10 mins)</i> |
| 14:20 - 14:30 | <p>Election/Discussion for new Chair and Vice Chair Associations</p> |

| Time | Item |
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| 14:30 – 15:35 | <p>Thematic Presentation</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Anshuman Varma, Programme Officer/Deputy Head, ESCAP-CSAM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Findings of the Research Paper on Trade and Investment Policies for Agricultural Machinery in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines and Turkey – Dr. Rossana Marie Amongo, Professor 6, Institute of Agricultural Engineering, College of Engineering and Agro-Industrial Technology, University of the Philippines Los Banos (15 mins)</i> • <i>Recap of the Research Paper on the Market Status of Agricultural Machinery in China, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand – Mr. Lasantha Noel Wickremesooriya, President, Agriculture Machinery Manufacturers and Suppliers Association (10 mins)</i> • <i>Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on agriculture in the Asia-Pacific region and the role of mechanization - Mr. Anshuman Varma, Programme Officer/Deputy Head, ESCAP-CSAM (10 mins)</i> • <i>Introduction to the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery and its survey for better meeting the needs of agricultural machinery associations – Mr. Marco Silvestri, Programme Officer, ESCAP-CSAM (10 mins)</i> • <i>E-platform for Agricultural Machinery Enterprises – Representative of China Agricultural Machinery Distribution Association (10 mins)</i> • <i>Q&A (8 mins)</i> |
| 15:35 – 16:00 | <p>Review and Endorsement of Work Report 2020 and Proposed Work Plan 2021</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Anshuman Varma, Programme Officer/Deputy Head, ESCAP-CSAM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work Report for 2020 & proposed Work Plan for 2021 – Ms. Yuee Feng, Programme Coordinator, ESCAP-CSAM (10 mins)</i> • <i>Discussion of the proposed Work Plan in 2021 and other matters including regional efforts of the private sector to recover from the pandemic and build resilience (15 mins)</i> |
| 16:00 | Wrap up and Closing |