

## **Webinar on Introduction to Safety Testing**

Wednesday, 18 November 2020 (TBC)

(14:00-15:30 hours Beijing time)

### **I. Background and content**

Safety is a multidimensional pillar of sustainable agricultural mechanization because it is related to the protection of the environment, of the human workforce in agriculture, and to food security. Lack of safety in agricultural machinery can cause a high social, environmental and economic cost not only to farmer communities but to Governments at large, and for this reason the safety of machinery should be prioritized in agriculture strategies. While agricultural mechanization can play a key role in enabling recovery from shocks and building long-term resilience of farming communities, lack of safety requirements potentially leads to injuries of operators, environmental degradation and poor food security. For instance, while it is self-evident that a machine with rotating components without any protection may cause injuries to limbs, also a simple sprayer with poor nozzles could cause at scale significant health and environmental damages, potentially leading to high residues of toxic chemicals on crops. It is thus crucial to have a strong understanding of the importance of safety requirements, as well as of the aspects that need to be tested to ensure these requirements are met.

The Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) is an initiative led by ESCAP-CSAM that aims to harmonize testing standards for agricultural machinery in the Asia-Pacific region. This has the ultimate goal of facilitating trade but most importantly promote the use of safe, efficient and environmentally sound agricultural machinery in support of the Sustainable Development Goals. Building on the experience of ANTAM participating countries and partners in the testing of agricultural machinery, the webinar introducing Safety Testing will also leverage the knowledge of CSAM partners to discuss the importance of safety standards and certification policies in food systems at large.

### **II. Format and target**

The purpose of this webinar is to offer to ANTAM participating members and to interested practitioners a first basic overview of the concepts leading to safety requirements and standards, and to introduce testing practices for the safety of agricultural machinery, while showing how they can help to improve agriculture and benefit all stakeholders. The webinar will consist of two main parts, an initial one where an overview of safety and certification requirements are provided, and a more specific session on the practices for safety testing of agricultural machinery. While the original target audience will comprise of ANTAM's network of experts and practitioners, the webinar has the potential of becoming the first of a series of interactive online sessions which will also be recorded and converted in e-learning modules, expanding the outreach of ANTAM's training opportunities. It is expected that the Q&A session at the end of the event, as well as

the evaluation form for participants will provide further guidance and focus for the organization of future, more targeted webinars that will address the interests and needs of ANTAM participating countries.

### III. Programme

Time	Item
14.00 – 14.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Introductory remarks: ESCAP-CSAM</i></li> </ul>
14:05 - 14:35	<p><b>I. Defining safety and importance of certification policies</b></p> <p>Definitions of safety and some statistical data and examples of how safety is managed in different regions. Why standardization and certification are important for the safety of food systems, policy examples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENAMA/ENTAM <i>Safety requirements and importance of safety testing</i></li> <li>• CNCA/SAMR <i>Standards and safety regulations in agriculture sector (TBC)</i></li> </ul>
14:35-15:05	<p><b>II. Safety testing in agricultural machinery</b></p> <p>Overview of practical aspects of safety testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IAM-NARO <i>Safety testing in agricultural machinery</i></li> <li>• OECD <i>Safety testing in agricultural machinery</i></li> </ul>
15:05-15:25	<p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
15.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Concluding remarks: ESCAP-CSAM</i></li> </ul>