

Remarks

by

Amb. Diar Nurbintoro,

Acting Director of NAM CSSTC

on the occasion of the “Online Training Course on Hydroponic
Technology of Vegetable Cultivation”

27 May 2021

Zoom Meeting

**His Excellency Mr. Amena Yauvoli, Ambassador of the
Republic of Fiji,**

**The Director for Indonesian Centre for Agricultural Training,
Dr. Leli Nuryati,**

Distinguished Speakers,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to welcome you all on the “Online Training Course on Hydroponic Technology of Vegetable Cultivation” which is conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of Fiji, Ministry of Agriculture-of the Republic of Indonesia, and Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation-NAM Centre. I would like to acknowledge the presence of our guests from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and give my personal welcome to them.

Excellency,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since 2018 NAM Centre's agricultural activities and programmes, which involves business meetings, expert dispatches and trainings have been stepped up. In the current year, NAM Centre has carried out two tissue culture and integrated pest and disease management trainings. The NAM Centre will hold events for African and Latin American countries on the coconut development, labelling and packaging and other agricultural training topics.

NAM Centre agricultural training partners are government institutions such as ministries. We also cooperate with intergovernmental organisations such as the International Coconut Community and the institution for higher education, such as the Bangladesh Agricultural University.

Our training courses have been attended by countries from Asia Pacific regions such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Solomon Islands and Vietnam.

Excellency,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We cannot overlook the importance of South-South cooperation in agriculture.

Through our international training platform, we are able to impart expertise on vegetable production techniques in countries in the Asia-Pacific regions. Hydroponic technology modules, recommendations for the well-allocated resources of hydroponic vegetable cultivation and greater understanding of systems of hydroponic technology could be replicated in their respective countries.

By organising training, the NAM Centre and other interested players, are taking action in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals-SDGs, especially the SDG 2 on Zero Hunger. Exchanging information and expertise in the development of vegetable productions would strengthen the value chains for vegetables in developing countries so that people may access a diversity of vegetables with the necessary health vitamins, minerals and phyto-chemicals. They also improve cost-effective and adaptive technology which increases small farmers' production and revenues.

An online training such as this has its own advantage despite its shortcomings. We can promote inclusive involvement in a global development partnership. If people of government backgrounds normally participate in physical or face-to-face activities in NAM Centre, an online platform like this will also offer people in higher education institution groups and corporate sectors the possibility to participate in programmes for South-South Cooperation. That is, our focus to socio-economic development and empowerment of everyone at every level have been extended. It also exhibits our greater respect toward scholars and private actors in the international development activities.

Excellency,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The NAM Centre, essentially, fully supports the rise in vegetable productivity in Asia-Pacific countries, the multi-stakeholder approach to implementation of South-South cooperation programmes as well as the reinforcement of agricultural activities in the international development dynamic. We therefore commend every effort and achievement in making developing countries' agriculture productive and sustainable. We ensure full assistance for all stakeholders who are committed to this idea.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Having regard to this, the challenge before us today is therefore to make meaningful recommendations which are not just enriching, but ensure that hydroponic technology introduced complies with international norms and can be replicated in all Asia-Pacific countries.

I have no doubt that your capacity to make a significant contribution to this process will help to strengthened capacities and self-reliance. I am convinced that participants will also work hard to participate effectively in the process of asynchronous and synchronous learning in order to discover important areas for closer collaboration between their institutions and the institution from whom speakers come from – as a way of sustainable agricultural growth. I therefore call on all of you to seriously take the training and to interact to reach those goals as much as possible.

Finally, on behalf of the NAM Centre, I would like to express my thanks for the continued support for the joint development efforts of the Government of Fiji and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

Thank you.