

Opening Speech

by

Amb. Diar Nurbintoro,

Acting Director of NAM CSSTC

on the occasion of the Online Training Course on
Horticulture Seed Propagation with Tissue Culture
for African Countries

02 August 2021

Zoom Meeting

The Honourable Director for Technical Cooperation,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Indonesia, Mrs.
Maria Renata Hutagalung,

The Honourable Director of the Indonesian Centre for
Agricultural Training, Dr. Ir. Leli Nuryati,

Distinguished Speakers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today's Zoom Meeting brought together a range of nations to discuss the progress of seed propagation using tissue culture.

This is a terrific opportunity for me to express my appreciation for the participants' dedication.

I thank all participants and those who made this programme possible.

The next few hours will be spent with participants from:

- **Ethiopia;**
- **Ghana;**
- **Madagascar;**
- **Namibia;**
- **Senegal;** and

- **South Africa**

May be able to shed light on how superior seeds can be propagated in African countries without seasonal restrictions and with limited planting supplies.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

South-South Cooperation has long been recognised as a major force in international affairs. Technical cooperation between developing countries is not new and has existed for many years.

Also, we have a long history, dating back to the First NAM Summit in 1961, which was held in Belgrade. The Summit cannot be forgotten since it was an impetus for us to be more independent, defining our future and creating international relations freely.

Solidarity and cooperation between developing countries are more important than ever today. Trainers and all relevant stakeholders around the world could benefit from South-South cooperation in agricultural development. We could work together to identify strategies to enhance production and reduce crop failure to ensure food security in the future.

As an effort, NAM Centre is **completely supporting the training project**, which aims to analyse recent advances, exchange experience and comprehend and resolve difficulties in agriculture, by implementing guidelines, utilising resources, and encouraging systematisation.

Countries will face a number of common difficulties in the future. As a result, we will be able to regulate genetic abnormalities in seeds that have led to the danger of failure of cultivation in the past.

In our mutual interest, this situation can be resolved. South-South cooperation is therefore vital to agriculture.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The NAM Centre's programmes place a high value on the agriculture and collaborative efforts of NAM member countries. Our member countries have benefited from the NAM Centre's work over the years. We've helped propagate agricultural ideas and knowledge.

We continue to develop our agricultural abilities and expand our knowledge of agricultural resources and technologies.

Despite the pandemic condition, we have recently scheduled an Agricultural Training Project for African, Caribbean and Latin American Countries.

We will offer at least four virtual training courses-each has two batches-in tissue culture technologies, integrated pest and disease management, hydroponic crops, and labelling and packaging till October 2021 in order to promote **sustainable agriculture**. This is the first event in the project's schedule, and I am very happy to open it.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me say that the NAM Centre is **willing** to facilitate stronger cooperation between developing countries, which are founded on mutual interests of agricultural communities. In order to help our brothers and sisters achieve the goals of sustainable agriculture, we are committed to doing everything we can. The Global South's economic potential, we

believe, can be leveraged through sustainable agriculture.

I would like to conclude by thanking the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for its cooperation in organising this event with NAM Centre. I wish you all have a successful discussion, which I hope you all enjoy. We at the NAM Centre will do our best to implement whatever that you discuss, agree on and deliberate over. If anything needs to be done, you can count on us to deliver.

Let us collaborate to achieve our real potential.

With these remarks, I therefore declare this training formally open.

Thank you very much, Ladies and Gentlemen.