

Opening Remarks

by

Ambassador Ronny Prasetyo Yuliantoro,

Director for Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation

For the launch of the Online Training on Processing and Marketing of Nata de Coco

08 September 2020

Zoom Meeting

Dr. Jelfina Alouw, International Coconut Community-ICC Executive Director,

Mr. Vincent Johnson, Interim Coconut Genetic Resources for Enhanced Livelihoods Coordinator,

Mr. Martin Jimi, Santan Kara Pertama Director, Pulau Sambu Group,

Mr. Jerry Wungkana, Researcher at the Indonesian Palm Crops Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture of Indonesia,

Ambassador Diar Nurbintoro, Executive Secretary for the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation,

Distinguished participants in Online Training on Processing and Marketing of Nata de Coco,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation-NAM Centre, and on my own behalf, I am very pleased to welcome you to this Online Training on Processing and Marketing of Nata de Coco.

In particular, I would like to welcome the presence of the ICC Executive Director, Dr. Jelfina Alouw, the co-organiser for implementing the NAM Centre-ICC Online Training and Webinar Series under the theme of “Stay Healthy and Productive During COVID-19 Pandemic,” Mr. Vincent Johnson, and, of course, the highly respected trainers of this programme.

First let me introduce the organisation, which I represent. The NAM Centre is the centre for action and resource pooling, as well as a platform for dialogue.

Our primary objective is to strengthen capacity building to achieve the development goals of NAM member countries in achieving sustainable human development, and in enabling them to participate more efficiently and equally in the

process of globalisation. Our programmes and activities are aimed primarily at promoting the exchange of resources, skills and experience between NAM member countries.

This year, the NAM Centre has committed to support the work of ICC and our member countries engaged in coconut production to ensure complete dissemination of knowledge of coconut commodity value-added generation to all developing countries.

Honourable Executive Director,

Moderator,

Distinguished trainers and participants,

Ladies and gentlemen,

In this regard, let me reiterate the importance that ICC and participants attach to implementing the Final Document of NAM's 18th Summit in Baku, Azerbaijan in 2019.

The NAM Centre is pleased that the Heads of States and Governments of NAM member countries acknowledged the NAM Centre's positive contribution to the efforts to coordinate training programmes and further enhance NAM member countries' capacity to achieve internationally accepted development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals-SDGs.

We also appreciate the honour of continuing to collaborate with development partners to provide training and capacity-building programmes to developing countries.

We recognise the importance of working closely with ICC, which is one of the partners and main players to achieve the SDGs to the full.

It is important to remember that food and agriculture is at the very centre of the SDG Agenda lying from reducing poverty and hunger to reacting to climate change and maintaining our natural resources.

While we all have key role to play in promoting the implementation of the Agenda, it is also important to remember that in both NAM Centre and ICC member countries, the primary responsibility for its implementation lies with the people.

That is why I am also pleased to note that Online Training on Processing and Marketing of Nata de Coco, convened by NAM Centre and ICC, is a forum in which coconut growers, extension officers and researchers from our member countries make up the majority representing the African, Asian, Latin American, Caribbean and Pacific regions. I hope you, as representatives, will brief your government and neighbouring countries on the outcomes of the training today.

Your priorities today include:

- Providing information and tools on the development of nata de coco;
- Urging farmers to increase nata de coco production;
- Learning the know-how to generate high-quality nata de coco;
- Encouraging benefit of nata de coco;
- Working with stakeholders in the nata de coco industry.

In this respect, during the training sessions I look forward to your successful learning processes and deliberations. As the NAM Centre's Director, in October, I will duly report this activity to the NAM Coordinating Bureau in New York, United States.

During events such as this critical training, the learning processes and discussions will contribute significantly to identifying the positive contribution of the NAM Centre to achieving the SDGs.

So I wish you every success in your discussions over the next two hours, and look forward to the results of your training.

Thank you for your attention, *Dhanyavaad, asante sana, gracias, terima kasih.*