
WELCOMING SPEECH

BY:

DR. HARYONO

Secretary, Indonesian Agency for Agriculture Research and Development Ministry of Agriculture,
Republic of Indonesia

Our distinguished Mayor of Central Jakarta, Bapak, distinguished delegates from our APEC member economies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very warm and good evening to you all. Even though it is the rainy season here in Jakarta, the Organising Committee has assured me that they will endeavour to keep you all warm and happy throughout your stay. It is always a great pleasure to welcome you, on behalf of the Indonesian Agency for Agriculture Research and Development, Delegates from Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia and Peru to our beloved country.

I am very pleased that you have taken the time out of your busy schedule to join us in this Seminar on Networking for Agricultural Technology Transfer and Training. Thank you for coming. Even though the Steering Committee has to reschedule the Seminar from July 2005 to the present, your presence here tonight tells me that you are committed to the purpose and objectives of this Seminar series. On behalf of the Committee, I thank you for your understanding and patience.

As some of the Delegates to the Seminar on ATT&T know, this is the third Seminar we have organised in Indonesia. The first was held in Yogyakarta in 2001, the second in Bali in 2003 and now in Jakarta and Bogor. This third ATT&T seminar with the theme on networking of ATT&T is very important in keeping with the spirit of APEC. APEC member economies feel strongly the need to come together and forge a mutually beneficial partnership to confront the problems faced by member economies. One of these is to network and share experiences, compare notes and formulate strategies to address these problems. In this, we believe that we have successfully bring together delegates from our member economies to network among ourselves to sit together and share insights and lessons learned so that we do not make the same mistakes again and again.

ATT&T is a part of an important programme of APEC to disseminate and share technology with farmers in our member economies with a view to improve farmers' income. We are slowly and steadily making progress to improve the welfare and life of our farmers.

To further strengthen our resolve and commitment to our farmers, I am pleased tonight to share with you another one of our initiative in supporting ATT&T. On the initiative of our farmers, they have put together a magazine called "PANEN" which in English means "HARVEST". This magazine, developed and distributed freely by Indonesian farmers will benefit farmers, extension workers and other stakeholders interested in agriculture in general and farming in particular.

I note with great enthusiasm the Programme, which the Organising Committee has put together for the Seminar. As you will have a very hectic schedule for the next few days, I will not take more of your time and wish you a very productive and successful Seminar and stay in our beautiful country.

In closing, I have also noted that a very interesting sight-seeing tour has also been arranged for you, visiting our National Monument or MONAS, which symbolizes our Nation's independence. We will also visit agricultural and forestry exhibitions in Gelora Bung Karno and others.

Thank you and enjoy your stay.

OPENING REMARK

By
**The Director General of The Indonesian Agency
for Agricultural Research and Development
The Ministry of Agriculture of The Republic of Indonesia**

Mr. Yasumasa Maeda, Representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries – Japan,
DG of the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Human Resource Development,
Representatives of the Provincial Governments

Distinguished Resource Persons and Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Steering Committee, please allow me to say warm welcome in Indonesia and also to express my deep gratitude and sincere thanks for your attendance and participation in the Opening Ceremony of the Seminar on Networking of Agricultural Technology Transfer and Training. As all we know, this is the 4th gathering of the APEC member economies to discuss many topics related to the problems encountered by each of us in increasing production of agriculture commodities to meet the world population's ever increased demands and at the same time increasing farmers' income and welfare. This Seminar is conducted in order to address all of the recommendations of the last year Workshop, which could be classified into two big topics : First, how to mobilize resources and to promote agribusiness, and second, how to develop ATT&T networking systems. These topics are essentials to be discussed deeply and thoroughly in order to come into concise and concrete formulation of the strategies for achieving appropriate farmers' income and promoting farmers' self-reliance. Luckily, yesterday we had opportunity to observe the display of agricultural business performance in the Agricultural and Forestry Expo in Jakarta. I wish after witnessing this expo you will be more familiar and knowledgeable about Indonesia's efforts to begin shifting subsistence farming practices towards implementation of industrial farming. For example: farmers adopted and applied on-farm technology to minimize production inputs through the Integrated Farming System and to maximize production outputs and value added agriculture via Vertical Integration Of High-Valued Agriculture Commodities.

Distinguished Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Recently, the government of Indonesia launched a blue print for the revitalization of agriculture, including fisheries and forestry. This time the government is really serious about redesigning its agricultural policy to become an integrated development concept. Yet more encouraging is that the government seems to fully understand what integrated development is really about, as can be noted from the involvement of more than a dozen ministers in the designing of the blueprint, under the coordination of the coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs. Different from past agricultural development policies that were very much piecemeal, the new integrated five-year policy is being designed to address all of the problems that directly and indirectly affect the sector. The concept is essentially embodied in the broad objectives of empowering the farm economy and rural communities through the development of rural and farm infrastructure.

As the primary objective of the blueprint is to empower farmers, the focus should be on farmers' income. This in turn requires a balancing act of maintaining food security and at the same time ensuring a steady rise in farmers' earnings. Currently, overemphasis on farm activities of main food production such as rice does not provide much room for additional employment and income growth, because productivity gains in these food crops have diminished, especially in Java where most farmers have less than half a hectare of land. Farmers therefore need to shift to higher-value crops such as horticulture and other cash/industrial crops as well as off-farm activities. However, these farming concepts require inter-ministerial cooperation to develop infrastructure, marketing and processing facilities, cooperatives, farmer organizations and other instruments of trade facilitation. Therefore developing net-working, either by strengthening linkages among farmers' organization, supplier as well as producer and buyer with government and non-government institutions or by developing supply-chain management is a necessity.

In this context, IAARD has started a program to accelerate agro-technology dissemination, which is called Prima Tani. The main aims of the program are mobilizing resources and promoting agribusiness, and also disseminating the agricultural technologies by providing more information closer to the farm. This is really in line with and justifies the objectives of the seminar. Therefore, this seminar is also very important for us.

Distinguished Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is very important to combine class discussion with field visits in order to have real picture of farming systems and surrounding socio-economic condition. So, it is my pleasure to tell you that in order to complement the technical and scientific discussions, as designed by the organizer, the Seminar will be complemented by several field visits. The participants will have more opportunity to observe the Indonesian farmers' activities related to the presented topics to supplement and sharpen the discussions.

If yesterday in Jakarta you only saw in the forum of exhibition, while in the field you will have a chance to watch farmers in action in the real world. Therefore, during this gathering, you are not only discussing but also observing how Indonesian farmers mobilize their own resources to increase productivity using efficient technology to address scarcity of land resources, promoting agribusiness via vertical integration of high valued commodities, role of women farmers, efforts of farmers in getting good price for their agricultural products by using information technology and developing networking, and shortening information channels. Through these observations, you will obtain the real picture of the farmers' problems and its solution opportunities. The discussion, therefore, will be based on reality and will not be dominated only by theories. During the field visits, participants and observers will have the opportunity to discuss and exchange views and experiences with local researchers, agribusiness-man, extension personnel, farmers and farmer leaders concerning the identification and implementation of mobilization of resources and agricultural promotion of value added agricultural products as well as the roles of farmers' organization in developing networking for ATT&T.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Please allow me to thanks Mr. Yasumasa Maeda, representative of Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Japan, and all invited speakers and international participants, representative of local government and members of Organizing Committee for close cooperation in supporting this seminar.

Further, on behalf of the Organizing Committee of the Seminar, please accept our apologies for any inconveniences that might arise during your stay in Indonesia. It is our pleasure and proud to have you

here with us and hope all participants will enjoy the discussion, exchange of information and experiences as well as observation of farmers' activities and obtain fruitful results from the Seminar. I further wish that all of you would have a pleasant and memorable stay in Bogor in particular, and in Indonesia in general. It is my hope that your attendance and active participation in the ensuing discussions will greatly contribute to the achievements of the objectives of the Seminar.

I wish you all had a very fruitful workshop and enjoyable stay in this popular tourist and culturally rich city. With the spirit of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, and in the name of Allah almighty : "Bismillahirrohmannirrohim" I now declare the Seminar on Networking of Agricultural Technology Transfer and Training officially opened.

Thank you.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

By

Mr. Yasumasa Maeda

Deputy Director

Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Japan

Honourable Chair,

Fellow Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very honoured to represent co-shepherd ATT&T, and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan at this Seminar on Networking of the Agricultural Technology Transfer and Training, and to discuss, exchange views with the participants from Asia and Pacific economies.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to Indonesian Government and local government as well as to the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development, Dr. Achmad Suryana dan Dr. Haryono and many people working in this agency, for their preparation to hold this seminar.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we all know, in APEC areas as well as many countries joining various agricultural economics running, perform, there are big-scale, middle-scale, small-scale farmers, and if agriculture becomes sluggish, it will have serious implications on economy and society in the region.

At the same time, there is a concern that food shortages may worsen in the future due to the rapid rise in the world's population. We must be able to sustain and develop various types of agriculture under different production conditions.

Increases in food production and availability can be secured through improved technologies that the farmers need and they can use on their farms. Thus, technological innovation must continuously be developed and transferred to them. We will discuss and exchange information experience idea and practises, mainly for two subjects: strategies for mobilizing resources and promoting agribusiness and strategies for developing ATT&T networking systems. The seminar important for APEC's agriculture in the future.

Finally, I hope, I believe that this ATT&T seminar as efforts to help the improving technology and management for agriculture in the APEC areas overcome challenges with its experience and expertise.

Thank you for your attention.
