

## **ANNEX B OPENING PROGRAM MESSAGES**

**Seminar-Workshop  
Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation  
and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture**

22-24 October 2013  
Holiday Inn and Suites Makati

**OPENING REMARKS**

***Undersecretary SEGFREDO R. SERRANO***

Distinguished delegates from APEC member economies, honorable speakers, guests, ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

I would like to acknowledge our seminar-workshop participants:

- 60 APEC economy representatives from Australia, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, The Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, The United States, Viet Nam, and from partner agencies (IRRI, ILRI, FAO, USAID, GIZ, Syngenta, and Arcadia Bio-Sciences.)
- 8 Resource Persons

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Makati City, one of our busiest business districts in the Philippines, and thank you for accepting our invitation to the APEC Seminar Workshop on Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture. This seminar workshop is a follow-up of the symposium we conducted in February 2012 on Climate Change Adaptation with Mitigation Potential for Food and Water Security also in the Philippines.

In that symposium the participants called for stronger cooperation on climate change in agriculture to effectively address food and water security in the region. At the end of the seminar, the participants agreed to sign a resolution recommending the launching of the APEC Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA). As a consequence, the Philippines is conducting this follow-up workshop which APEC agreed to support. Focus of the workshop is on the development of an appropriate framework for cooperation for AMIA, particularly on strategic mainstreaming of AMIA across policy instruments namely research and development, extension and regulation, and identification of viable and sustainable partnership arrangements among APEC economies and partner institutions to support institutionalization and implementation.

During the three day workshop, we will have technical presentations from our resource speakers, economy reports from our APEC colleagues, parallel workshops and market interaction, all focusing on strategic mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and

mitigation in agriculture across policy instruments (research and development, extension, regulations) and viable and sustainable partnerships on climate change adaptation and mitigation. We will have a field trip to the International Research Institute (IRRI) on third day, October 24, to visit actual programs and facilities on climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture.

Through your active participation, we look forward to insightful sessions and interactions which we hope could lead to sustained partnerships and networking with one another to pursue our primary objective, a climate resilient agriculture sector to achieve food security effects of climate change.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Before I formally open this seminar-workshop, allow me to acknowledge and thank our partners in this undertaking: APEC for sponsoring this event, our economy co-sponsors, The People's Republic of China and Chinese Taipei, and partner agencies, IRRI, FAO, USAID, GIZ, Arcadia Bio-Sciences and Syngenta.

**Seminar-Workshop  
Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative  
in Agriculture (AMIA)  
Holiday Inn and Suites Makati, Philippines  
October 22-24, 2013**

**Seminar Workshop Overview, Objectives, Expected Output and Administrative Arrangements**

**Workshop Overview, Objectives and Expected Output**

This seminar-workshop is a three day affair, which starts today ends this coming Thursday. During the next three days, we hope that we learn from each other's experiences how our respective economies are addressing CC in agriculture so that on the third day, we can agree on a framework of cooperation as regards the APEC Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture or AAMIA. We are interested to create viable and sustainable partnership arrangements among APEC economies and partner institutions to support institutionalization and implementation of AMIA. In other words, we want to achieve synergy of efforts among APEC economies so that adaptation and mitigation of CC in agriculture becomes an economy-wide practice with solid results both at the level of the levels of the economy and world-wide.

On the part of the Philippines, its central strategy is mainstreaming AMIA across policy instruments and agencies in the whole agriculture bureaucracy. The current experiences of the Philippines will be the subject of most technical papers. On the other hand, the economy presentations and subsequent parallel workshops have been designed to focus on the three major policy instruments of agriculture development: research and development or R&D, information, communication, and extension (ICE) and agricultural regulations (AR).

**Brief Walk-Through of the Program**

May I invite your attention that today we have two sessions. Our morning session ends at 1 pm and we resume with the afternoon session starting at 2:30.

The second day tomorrow starts 9am and ends at 7pm. There will be parallel sessions after the lunch break and a time for market interaction at 6-8pm, during which we urge all APEC economies to proceed to the Climate Change Market. In the evening its free time. To our foreign guests, the shopping malls in Makati are open until 9pm.

There will be a field trip to IRRI at Los Banos on the third day. We expect to be back here at the hotel by 2:00pm. The closing session will be at 3:45pm.

For time efficiency, may we remind the speakers to stick to the time limit. Three minutes before and at the end of your time allocation, the secretariat will flash reminders.

## **Administrative Arrangements**

All plenary sessions will be at the Yakan-Abaca-Jusi Rooms. Workshop Sessions will be at the Ramie, Rattan-Raffia, and Sinamay Rooms.

The APEC Climate Change Market is at the function room foyer, and we urge you to visit this during your free time.

Lunches have been arranged in the following venues:

October 22: Pre-Function Area

October 23: Flavors Restaurant, Holiday Inn and Suites Makati

October 24: IRRI

There will be a Welcome Dinner tonight hosted by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and we just want you to have 'more fun in the Philippines' as we introduce to you our food, our music, our culture, our people. Certainly, you will have 'more fun' with Filipinos around known to be the happiest and warmest people on earth.

Finally, please know that participants who received support from APEC have to contact Ms. Perla Baltazar, our Events Organizer, to sign the prescribed APEC forms.