



Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Seventy-first session

Bangkok, 25-29 May 2015

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure
 of the Commission, including the work of the regional
 institutions: trade and investment**
**Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for
 Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its tenth session**
Summary

The Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization reviewed reports of the Centre covering its work in 2014 and its administrative and financial status. It endorsed the Centre's workplan for 2015 and the report of the Technical Committee of the Centre at its tenth session. It further reviewed and adopted the annual report of the Centre, which will be submitted to the Commission at its seventy-first session.

The Commission may wish to review the report of the Governing Council and provide the secretariat with guidance on the future work of the Centre.

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* E/ESCAP/71/L.1/Rev.1.

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I. Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention

Recommendations

1. The Governing Council calls for member States to provide additional human and financial resources to support the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in implementing resolution 70/4, which was adopted by the Commission at its seventieth session.
2. The Governing Council calls for the active participation of member States and stakeholders in the programme activities of the Centre, including both developed and developing member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
3. The Governing Council expresses strong support to the ongoing and planned programme activities of the Centre, including the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery, the Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific, the creation of a regional database on agricultural mechanization, and the promotion of custom hiring of agricultural machinery.

II. Summary of proceedings

A. Report on the 2014 activities of the Centre and its financial status as of November 2014 (Agenda item 4)

1. The Governing Council thanked the host country, China, for its continued support for the operation of the Centre, and also expressed deep appreciation to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia, the Indonesian Centre for Agricultural Engineering Research and Development and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand for their valuable in-kind contribution and assistance in organizing the Centre's programme activities in 2014.

2. The Governing Council was informed that, for the year, as at 30 November 2014, the following countries had made voluntary financial contributions totalling \$80,000 to the Centre: China, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

3. The Governing Council was also informed that, since its ninth session, the following activities, inter alia, had been conducted:

(a) High-level Multi-stakeholder Consultation on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization Strategies in Asia and the Pacific Region, in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 26 and 27 June 2014;

(b) Second Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific, in cooperation with the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development and the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Serpong, Indonesia, 9-11 September 2014;

(c) First Annual Meeting of the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery, together with the China Agricultural Machinery Testing Centre of the Ministry of Agriculture of China, Beijing, 16-19 September 2014, in conjunction with session V of the 18th World Congress of the International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering;

(d) Regional Roundtable of National Agricultural Machinery Associations in Asia and the Pacific, Wuhan, China, 28-30 October 2014;

(e) Regional Workshop on Establishing a Regional Database of Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific, together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia, Siem Reap, Cambodia, 17 and 18 November 2014;

(f) Drafting of a publication on the status of agricultural mechanization in the Asia-Pacific region with a focus on testing agricultural machinery;

(g) Quarterly issuance of an e-newsletter and policy briefs.

4. The Governing Council commended the work of the Centre in 2014 and approved the report on its work for 2014.

5. The Governing Council emphasized the need to engage civil society organizations in the Centre's programme activities not only to leverage their resources and expertise, but also to better address the needs of the stakeholders. It also requested the Centre to design more capacity-building programmes for sustainable agricultural mechanization.

6. The Governing Council stressed that to diversify the funding resources of the Centre, an innovative funding mechanism should be explored through engagement with a broad range of stakeholders that would include research institutes, members of the private sector, Governments and traditional donors. It requested the Centre to strengthen existing cooperative efforts with relevant international organizations, such as FAO, and make full use of its comparative advantages, and avoid duplication of work.

7. The Governing Council agreed that high-level participation was important for obtaining support from member countries. The Centre should pay attention to the evaluation of project activities and translate discussions into tangible results so as to enhance the effectiveness of the projects. It also agreed that the financial statement of the Centre should be shared with the Technical Committee of the Centre given the Committee's broader representation.

8. The Governing Council requested the Centre to make its website more dynamic and interactive to effectively facilitate information exchange. Also with regard to the website, the Governing Council suggested that the Centre should engage member countries, particularly members of the Technical Committee, for technical support. Meanwhile, member countries emphasized that both the Governing Council and the Technical Committee should provide guidance to the work of the Centre through active participation.

B. Report of the Technical Committee on its tenth session
(Agenda item 5)

9. The tenth session of the Technical Committee of the Centre was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, on 18 and 19 November 2014. The Governing Council endorsed the report of the Technical Committee.

C. Discussion of the proposed workplan for 2015, the draft programme of work for the period 2016-2017, projects for funding and resource mobilization issues
(Agenda item 6)

10. The Governing Council approved the Centre's workplan for 2015. It agreed that the Centre should boost its visibility through active engagement with various stakeholders at national, regional and international levels. The Centre should work hand in hand with member countries in providing technical assistance, including participating in activities organized by member countries to enhance the Centre's relevance. In addition to the proposed programme activities, the work programme of the Centre in 2015 should focus on implementing concrete projects to promote custom hiring, regional database building on agricultural mechanization, and the exchange of prototypes of agricultural machinery based on demands of member countries. The Governing Council welcomed the capacity-building initiatives designed by the Centre, and called for the Centre to extend secretariat support to the Regional Council of Agricultural Machinery Associations in Asia and the Pacific. China pledged financial support to the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery training course in 2015, and Indonesia agreed to host the first meeting of the technical working group of the Network, to be held in 2015.

D. Review of the draft annual report of the Centre for submission to the Commission at its seventy-first session
(Agenda item 7)

11. The Governing Council approved the draft annual report of the Centre for submission to the Commission at its seventy-first session.

E. Date and venue of the eleventh session of the Governing Council
(Agenda item 8)

12. The Governing Council agreed in principle to hold its eleventh session in Bangkok in December 2015.

F. Other matters
(Agenda item 9)

13. No other matters were discussed.

G. Adoption of the report
(Agenda item 10)

14. The Governing Council adopted the present report on 16 December 2014.

III. Organization of the session

A. Opening, duration and organization

15. The tenth session of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization was held in Bangkok on 16 December 2014.

16. The Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP addressed the Governing Council at the opening of the session.

17. Mr. Viboon Thepent, Senior Agricultural Engineering Specialist, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand, delivered welcome remarks on behalf of the Government of Thailand.

B. Attendance

18. The session was attended by representatives of the six members of the Governing Council: Cambodia; China; Indonesia; Pakistan; Sri Lanka; and Thailand.

C. Election of officers

19. The Governing Council elected the following officers:

Chair: Mr. Viboon Thepent (Thailand)

Vice-Chair: Mr. Astu Unadi (Indonesia)

D. Adoption of the agenda

20. The Governing Council adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.

4. Report on the 2014 activities of the Centre and its financial status as of November 2014.
5. Report of the Technical Committee of the Centre on its tenth session.
6. Discussion of the proposed workplan for 2015, the draft programme of work for 2016-2017, projects for funding and resource mobilization issues.
7. Review of the draft annual report of the Centre for submission to the Commission at its seventy-first session.
8. Date and venue of the eleventh session of the Governing Council.
9. Other matters.
10. Adoption of the report.

Annex I**List of documents**

| Symbol | Title | Agenda item |
|---------------|--|--------------------|
| N/A | Agenda and annotated agenda of the tenth session of the Governing Council | 3 |
| N/A | Programme of work of the tenth session of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization | 3 |
| N/A | List of participants | 2 |
| N/A | Report of the tenth session of the Technical Committee of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization | 5 |
| N/A | Work report for 2014 and workplan for 2015 | 4, 6 |

Annex II

Financial statement of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for the year ended 31 December 2014 (United States dollars)

| | 2014 | 2013 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <i>Income</i> | | |
| Contributions | 377 745 | 174 541 |
| Interest income | 4 364 | 14 509 |
| Total income | 382 109 | 189 050 |
| <i>Less: Expenditure</i> | | |
| | 635 204 | 505 366 |
| Net income over expenditure | (253 095) | (316 316) |
| Fund balance as at 1 January 2014 | 1 886 858 | 2 203 173 |
| <i>Less: Refunds to donors</i> | (203) | - |
| Fund balance as at 31 December 2014 | 1 633 560 | 1 886 858 |

Annex III

**Financial statement of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for the year ended 31 December 2014,
by project component**
(United States dollars)

| | Joint contributions - Capacity Development Project | Government of China - Capacity Development Project | Regional Forum on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and Pacific | Establishing Regional Cooperation Mechanisms and Platforms for Agricultural Mechanization in Asia and the Pacific | United Nations regular programme for technical cooperation (Section 23) | Total |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|------------------|
| <i>Income</i> | | | | | | |
| Contributions | 63 000 ^a | 20 000 ^a | - | 250 000 ^b | 44 745 | 377 745 |
| Interest income | 964 | 3 295 | - | 105 | - | 4 364 |
| Total income | 63 964 | 23 295 | - | 250 105 | 44 745 | 382 109 |
| <i>Less: Expenditure</i> | | | | | | |
| | 7 646 | 445 414 | 15 595 | 123 933 | 42 616 | 635 204 |
| Net income over expenditures | 56 318 | (422 119) | (15 595) | 126 172 | 2 129 | (253 095) |
| Fund balance as at 1 January 2014 | 395 445 | 1 475 615 | 15 798 | - | - | 1 886 858 |
| <i>Less: Refunds to donors</i> | - | - | (203) ^c | - | - | (203) |
| Fund balance as at 31 December 2014 | 451 763 | 1 053 496 | - | 126 172 | 2 129 | 1 633 560 |

^a Please refer to annex IV for details of the contributions.

^b Contribution transferred from China Global account: G009-CPR_GLOB.

^c Return of unspent balance to China Global account: G009-CPR_GLOB.

Annex IV

**Cash contributions to the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural
Mechanization for institutional support accounts received for
the year ended 31 December 2014**
(United States dollars)

| Country/Area | Year ended 31 December 2014 | Year ended 31 December 2013 |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Bangladesh | - | 3 000 |
| China | 20 000 | 20 000 |
| Fiji | - | 10 000 |
| India | - | 15 000 |
| Indonesia | 30 000 | 30 000 |
| Mongolia | - | - |
| Philippines | - | 2 000 |
| Republic of Korea | 10 000 | 10 000 |
| Sri Lanka | 5 000 | 5 000 |
| Thailand | 15 000 | 15 000 |
| Viet Nam | 3 000 | 3 000 |
| Total | 83 000 | 113 000 |