

Adopted by the 7th ANTAM Annual Meeting on 17 December 2020

**Summary Report
7th Annual Meeting of the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural
Machinery (ANTAM)**

17 December 2020

Session 1: Opening session

1. The 7th Annual Meeting of the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) was held on 17 December 2020 online from the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
2. 17 ANTAM participating countries, i.e. Armenia; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; France; India; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Nepal, Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Sri Lanka; Turkey; and Viet Nam attended the meeting, along with the ANTAM Technical Reference Unit, namely the Italian Agency for Agricultural Mechanization (ENAMA) – European Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ENTAM).
3. The Russian Federation, as ANTAM Chair 2019-2020, opened the meeting. Mr. Anshuman Varma, Deputy Head of CSAM, delivered welcome remarks. Dr. Azman bin Hamzah, representing Malaysia (the ANTAM Vice Chair 2019-20), was elected Chair for 2020-21 and China, represented by Mr. Zhang Chuansheng, was elected Vice Chair 2020-21. The Chair proceeded with the adoption of the agenda.
4. A representative from Malaysia delivered a brief presentation on Malaysian perspectives on testing standards at the national level. A representative from Bhutan, the newest member of ANTAM, was invited to present its national Agricultural Machinery Center.

Session 2: Programming

5. The ANTAM Technical Reference Unit (Italian Agency for Agricultural Mechanization - ENAMA) delivered a presentation on ‘Considerations on Safety and Certification’.
6. The secretariat presented the work undertaken for ANTAM in 2020 and the proposed work plan for 2021, which were endorsed by member countries. The meeting was

informed that, due to the difficulty to obtain formal nominations of the members of the Technical Working Groups (TWGs) from all member countries, the 2019 TWG members were consulted in informal meetings. These meetings reviewed the amendment requests received from some member countries and the resulting annotated Codes will be used to formally revise the three ANTAM Codes in 2021. In this connection, the secretariat called for the timely nomination of TWG members. National Focal Points agreed to update their own contacts in a timely manner in order to facilitate communications with the secretariat for the smooth implementation of the work plan.

7. The secretariat reiterated the call for member countries to participate in the round robin tests, even if only for certain items under each Code. The secretariat also highlighted the need for National Focal Points to engage closely with CSAM to identify next steps towards the accreditation of Testing Stations and appointment of National Designated Authorities. The meeting appreciated the work of the secretariat amid the pandemic and in particular the provision of e-learning opportunities.
8. As a foundation to the discussion around the national level recognition or endorsement of the ANTAM certification system, the secretariat presented an information note on 'Procedures for the Establishment of International Instruments through ESCAP and other Intergovernmental Platforms.'

Session 3: Discussion and Guidance from Member Countries

9. Some member countries welcomed the opportunity for support in establishing or strengthening testing facilities, including though the resumption of field visits as well as the provision of specific support for the testing equipment. The secretariat noted the willingness to participate in round robin test by some participating countries, along with the following suggestions:
 - Continue working for the provision of technical support, on field and through e-learning.
 - Facilitate sharing expertise and know-how among participating countries on safety issues.
 - Conduct a preparatory training for the engineers of testing stations participating in round robin tests.
 - Facilitate the use of ANTAM Codes as reference for national standards.
 - Develop further the work on sprayers with particular attention to safety.

Session 4: Virtual Exhibition

10. Replacing the traditional field visit that was usually included in the programme of the ANTAM Annual Meetings, the China Agricultural Machinery Distribution Association facilitated a virtual tour of the China International Agricultural Machinery Exhibition (CIAME) through its e-platform.

Session 5: Adoption of Report and 2021 Work Plan

11. It was agreed that the 6th Meeting of the Technical Working Groups of ANTAM would be held in mid-2021 either in person or online depending on the travel restrictions which may be in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, while the 8th Annual Meeting of ANTAM would be held in the last quarter of 2021, hosted by Malaysia if travel restrictions permit. Exact time and venue of the meetings will be finalized after further consultation with ANTAM focal points.
12. This summary report was unanimously adopted by the meeting together with the work plan for 2021.