Announcement

Purpose

Agricultural mechanization is essential in the process of agricultural modernization. It directly affects the labor productivity and applications of advanced biological and agronomical technologies in conjunction with engineering advancement in production practice. This has been proven in many countries through their long-term practices. Disparities, however, exist among different regions and areas. Agricultural mechanization is an effective way to lift farmers out of poverty towards prosperity. Wherever disparity exists, the dissemination and improvement of agricultural machinery and equipment technology is needed.

The development levels of agricultural mechanization vary conspicuously among countries in Asian and Pacific region with different technological, natural and socio-economical conditions. During the past two decades, agricultural machinery industry and agricultural mechanization in China have achieved great progress in production scale and product quantity, which have significantly improved the production conditions, increased labor productivity and farmers’ income, and promoted intensification and industrialization of agriculture. Further endeavors should be made, however, in research and development, technological innovation and manufacturing capacity building. In this connection, the “Law on Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization” was issued by the Chinese Government, which will be put into effect on November 1, 2004. It goes without saying that the implementation will give an impetus to the agricultural equipment manufacture industry and mechanization.

There is no limit to the development of science and technology including the technology of agricultural mechanization. The rapid development of modern
technologies, especially information technology, has opened a new chapter of the advancement of agricultural equipment industry and mechanization. Jointly sponsored by Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) and United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM), a one-day forum on Development Strategy of Agricultural Equipment and Mechanization in Less Developed Regions will be held on October 15, 2004, immediately following the 2004 CIGR International Agricultural Engineering Conference in Beijing. About 50 experts and representatives from academic institutions, government bodies and enterprises around the world will attend this important event on invitation. Participants are encouraged to contribute their ideas on development strategy of agricultural equipment and mechanization, to exchange visions for future development and technological innovation, and to analyze and explore opportunities in marketplace in less developed regions and the world.

Sponsors:
Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE)
United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM)

Supporters:
National Development and Reform Commission of People’s Republic of China (NDRC)
Ministry of Science and Technology of People’s Republic of China (MOST)
Ministry of Agriculture of People’s Republic of China (MOA)

Co-sponsors:
China Agricultural University (CAU)
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS)
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Engineering (CAAE)
Chinese Society for Agricultural Machinery (CSAM)
Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CASE)
China Association of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers (CAAMM)

Organizer:
China Agricultural University (CAU)

Subjects:
1. Vision on the trend of technological innovation of modern agricultural equipment and mechanization in less developed regions and the world.
2. Impact of economic globalization on strategy selection of agricultural equipment manufacturers and mechanization development; the role of government agencies in technology promotion and in establishing
subsidiary policies to support farmers and marketing service for agricultural mechanization.

3. Activities and roles of UNAPCAEM in promoting technology transfer, experience exchange and its replication, information and knowledge dissemination, and regional cooperation.

**Time of the Forum:**
9:00 am – 12:00 am; 1:30 – 6:00 pm, October 15, 2004

**Venue:**
No. 206, China Hall of Science & Technology, No.3 Fuxing Road, Beijing 100038,
Tel: 68518822

**Secretariat of the Forum:**

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About Sponsors of the Forum

Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE)

“The Chinese Academy of Engineering is a national academic and advisory organization composed of elected members with the highest honor of the community of engineering and technological sciences of the nation. The major task is to initiate and conduct strategic study and provide consultancy for decision-making for the nation's key issues of engineering and technology, to promote the unity and cooperation of the engineering community, foster excellent talents, strengthen the contingent of engineering & technology, promote continuous progress in science and technology, and make contributions to sustainable development of the national economy.”

United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM)

The United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery is a regional institution of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and is the first UN organization headquartered in Beijing, China. At present, it consists of 15 member countries in the region. UNAPCAEM is to provide assistance to its members by disseminating information on the improvement of agro-products and other achievements, including agricultural mechanization, automation, sustainable rural development, biotechnology and genetic engineering, establishment of data bank and information-sharing, adoption and transfer of technologies on post harvest, food processing, increased use of agricultural by-products, high value addition, export and market access of agro-products of the rural SMEs, sustainable income generation to the rural areas by agro-based enterprise development. It is seeking cooperation with other UN agencies, international R & D organizations and enterprises, governmental institutions and private sectors in these fields.
INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY OF AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT AND MECHANIZATION IN LESS DEVELOPED REGIONS

October 15, 2004, Beijing-China
China Hall of Science & Technology, Beijing

AGENDA

07:30  Pick up invited participants from Beijing Continental Grand Hotel and BICC to CHST Hotel

08:00 – 08:40  Registration, No. 206, China Hall of Science & Technology (CHST), No.3 Fuxing Road, Beijing

09:00 – 09:30  Opening Ceremony

Opening Speech by:

Prof. Kuangdi Xu, Vice Chairman of National People’s Political Consultative Conference of China (NPPCC), Academician and President of Chinese Academy of Engineering

Mr. Xueyong Li, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Agriculture of People’s Republic of China

Mr. Liang Xue, Chief Economist of Ministry of Science of Technology of People’s Republic of China

09:30 – 09:50  Tea Break

09:50 – 12:05  Session 1: Vision on the trend of technological innovation of modern agricultural equipment industry and its promotion in less developed regions

Co-Chairmen: Axel Munack, Maohua Wang

09:50 – 10:15  Prof. Bill Stout, University of A & M, Texas
10:15 – 10:40 Dr. John Reid, John Deere Company

10:40 – 11:05 Prof. Yuan’en Gao, China Association of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers

11:05 – 12:05 Open Discussion

12:15 – 13:45 Lunch

13:45 – 16:00 Session 2: Strategic selection of agricultural mechanization development and its promotion in less developed regions.

Co-Chairmen: Yoav Sarig, Yiyuan Jiang

13:45 – 14:10 Yoshisuke Kishida, President and Chief Editor of AMA

14:10 – 14:35 Tiangzuo Zhang, Deputy director Of Department of Agricultural Mechanization, Ministry of Agriculture, China

14:35 – 15:00 Xiwen Luo, Vice President of South China Agricultural University

15:00 – 16:00 Open Discussion

16:00 – 16:20 Tea Break

16:20 – 17:05 Session 3: Activities and roles of UNAPCAEM in promoting technology transfer, experience exchange, information & knowledge dissemination, and regional cooperation

Chairman: Mr. Jincheng Kang

16:20 – 16:45 Speaker: Ping Chang, Deputy Director, UNAPCAEM

16:45 – 17:05 Open Discussion

17:05 – 18:30 Discussion on Conclusions and Recommendations

Chairmen: Maohua Wang, Bill Stout

19:00 – 20:15 Reception, Banquet and Closing (Banquet Hall of CHST, 1st Floor)
Attached:
The Sketch map of Beijing

Notes:
BICC - Beijing International Convention Centre
CHST - China Hall of Science & Technology