

Statement made on behalf of the Sri Lanka Delegation to the SBSTA 44 at the
“In-session workshop on the identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to
enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience, considering the differences in
agro-ecological zones and farming systems, such as different grassland and cropland practices and
systems”

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- Thank you Mr. Co-Chair for the opportunity given, and good afternoon colleagues
- I would like to inform that Sri Lanka associates with the statement made by Egypt on behalf of G77 and China.
- The information presented by Mr. Alexandre Meybeck of the FAO and by other colleagues during the panel discussion, namely from Argentina, Canada, European Union, India, Malawi and New Zealand is extremely useful, which provided food for thought for future course of action on climate change issues related to agriculture.
- Mr. Co-chair, I would like to respond to the three focus questions of this workshop, in addition to the country submission made by Sri Lanka on 9th March 2016.

Question 1: What experience does your country have with the identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience?

- Mr. Co-Chair, food security is national security for developing countries and Sri Lanka is not an exception. Being an island nation, Sri Lanka has placed food security and sustainable agriculture at its highest priority in the past, at present and will be in the foreseeable future.
- As stated by Gambia, research and innovation are crucial aspects in terms of adopting effective agricultural adaptations to climate change.
- Developing countries have taken many initiatives in this regard. For example, Sri Lanka has clearly demarcated its agro-ecological regions, identified suitable crop and farming systems based on agro-ecological regions, conducted a climate vulnerability mapping and has established an institutional coordinating mechanism for decision making in relation to crop cultivation (especially focusing on rice production) and ensuring sustainable food security.
- Sri Lanka strongly feels that we should move along agro-ecological intensification, crop diversification, crop rotation, adopting crop varieties that are tolerant to drought and anaerobic conditions and to pests and diseases, promote crop-animal integration where possible, timely cultivation, rainwater harvesting, low-external input agriculture, integrated pest management, and overall sustainable agricultural packages to enhance system resilience
- Research focus on seasonal climate forecasting, identification agricultural practices to adapt to and less contribute to climate change has become a priority in all sectors in agriculture in Sri Lanka.
- Mr. Co-chair, we all need the political will to ensure these proposals are implemented in the best possible way. I am happy that the Presidential Secretariat of Sri Lanka has launched a

new program called “Sri Lanka NEXT”, to support the sustainable development of the country, especially focusing on agriculture and energy sector.

Question 2: How do various processes under the Convention facilitate the identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience observed in your country?

- Mr. Co-chair, as per SBSTA mandate specified in the article 9 of the convention, Sri Lanka would be immensely benefitted through innovative and efficient technologies through international collaboration, as highlighted by Egypt on behalf of G77 and China, and knowhow through effective technology transfer mechanisms
- Following the COP 16 decision in Cancun, Sri Lanka has developed the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), which has identified a significant number of actions targeting at sustainable food security considering the different agro-ecological regions and farming systems.

Question 3: What are the potential areas for synergies among various processes under the Convention to facilitate the identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience in your country?

- We need synergies between Research and Systematic Observation, Education, Training and Public Awareness, Technology Transfer Mechanisms and Financial Mechanisms, as well as synergies among processes identified by the Adaptation Committee, Nairobi Work Programme (NWP), Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) and Adaptation Fund Board (AFB), etc., to facilitate identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies with a view to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and overall climate resilience in Sri Lanka.
- I thank you Mr. Co-Chair once again for the opportunity given.

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