



**SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**

**СЕКРЕТАРИАТ СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ
И МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

№ EC/AGR/1205

*Enclosure:
as stated, on 5 p.*

The Secretariat of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) presents its compliments to the CICA Member States and has the honor to forward herewith the draft Concept paper on Implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the field of Agriculture and the associated Action Plan, developed by the People's Republic of China in its capacity as Coordinator of Confidence Building Measures in the priority area of Agriculture. These draft documents absorbed the proposals made by the CICA Member States to the initial drafts presented by the Secretariat's Note Verbal No. EC/AGR/1 dated 11 January 2022.

The Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the CICA Member States the assurances of its highest consideration

Astana, 20 September 2022



**MEMBER STATES
OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION AND
CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES IN ASIA**



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*Приложение:
упомянутое, на 5 л.*

Секретариат Совещания по взаимодействию и мерам доверия в Азии (СВМДА) свидетельствует свое уважение государствам-членам СВМДА и имеет честь направить проекты Концепции по имплементации мер доверия в области сельского хозяйства и соответствующего Плана действий, разработанные Китайской Народной Республикой в качестве Координатора мер доверия в приоритетной области «Сельское хозяйство». Эти проекты документов вобрали в себя предложения, внесенные государствами-членами СВМДА в первоначальные проекты Концепции и Плана, представленные нотой Секретариата № EC/AGR/1 от 11 января 2022 года.

Секретариат пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить государствам-членам СВМДА уверения в своем высоком уважении.

город Астана, 20 сентября 2022 г.



**ГОСУДАРСТВА-ЧЛЕНЫ
СОВЕЩАНИЯ ПО ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЮ И
МЕРАМ ДОВЕРИЯ В АЗИИ**

*Қосымша:
аталған, 5 п.*

Азиядағы өзара іс-қимыл және сенім шаралары кеңесінің (Азия Кеңесінің) Хатшылығы Азия Кеңесінің мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын білдіре отырып, Ауыл шаруашылығы саласындағы сенім шараларын жүзеге асыру жөніндегі тұжырымдама жобасын және “Ауыл шаруашылығы” атты басым саладағы сенім шараларын үйлестіруші ретінде Қытай Халық Республикасы әзірлеген тиісті Іс-қимыл жоспарын жолдауды өзіне мәртебе санайды. Бұл құжаттардың жобалары Азия Кеңесінің мүше мемлекеттері Хатшылықтың 2022 жылғы 11 қаңтардағы № EC/AGR/1 вербалды нотасымен бірге ұсынылған бастапқы жобаға енгізген ұсыныстарды қамтиды.

Хатшылық осы мүмкіндікті пайдалана отырып, Азия Кеңесінің мүше мемлекеттеріне өзінің зор ілтипатын тағы да растайды.

Астана қаласы, 2022 жылғы 20 қыркүйек

АЗИЯДАҒЫ ӨЗАРА ІС-ҚИМЫЛ ЖӘНЕ СЕНІМ ШАРАЛАРЫ КЕҢЕСІНІҢ МҮШЕ МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕРИ

CICA Concept Paper on Implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the Area of Agriculture

I. Background

This Concept Paper is developed based on the new *CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures* adopted during the 6th CICA Ministerial Meeting in October 2021, as well as other basic CICA documents, with the aim of facilitating exchange and cooperation among CICA Member States in the area of agriculture.

Agricultural cooperation is an important component of CICA confidence building measures. CICA Member States are rich in agricultural resources and potential for agricultural development. Agricultural cooperation among Member States, which is consistent with the need of integrating into the international industrial chain and ensuring food security, is both relevant and promising.

II. Objectives

Strengthen agriculture cooperation among Member States to promote agricultural transformation and upgrading; to increase agricultural output, irrigation water use efficiency and improve the processing of agricultural products; to guarantee employment and income generation in the rural area; to boost the international competitiveness of the region's agricultural sector and allocation of agricultural resources; and to enhance the ability for ensuring food security.

III. Principles

1. Consensus;
2. Voluntary participation and equality;
3. Mutual benefit;
4. Science and technology first.

IV. Areas of Cooperation

1. Crop breeding, cultivation and planting; conservation of plant genetic resources, systematic botany, plant taxonomy and plant diversity;

2. Cross-border animal and plant disease prevention and control; exchange of experiences on regional management of animal epidemics in accordance with the relevant standards, guidelines or recommendations of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).
3. Livestock and aquatic product breeding;
4. Dryland farming; efficient use of water in agriculture;
5. Storage, transportation, processing and trade of agricultural products;
6. Manufacturing, performance testing, popularization and application of agricultural machinery.
7. Quality safety of agricultural products; promotion on quality and standards of agricultural commodities.
8. Digital agriculture and agricultural intelligence;
9. Rural Development; agricultural economic policies and information;
10. Agricultural scientific research and personnel training.

V Implementation Measures:

1. Exchange agricultural policies, agricultural research, innovation results, experience and knowledge; disseminate practical agricultural technologies in different areas of agriculture; cooperation, capacity building and spreading awareness about sustainable land and water management and providing the necessary conditions for improving water use efficiency in line with sustainable consumption and production; establish investment partnerships and cooperation among Member States for agricultural research, especially using land and water to maximize the productivity under the situation of climate change and water shortage; exchange and transfer of modern technology in drainage optimization and cyclic irrigation to enhance water and fertilizer use efficiency.
2. Organize agriculture-related training courses or seminars; make presentation or exhibition on new agricultural technologies; Organization of trainings and information sharing cooperation on agricultural mechanization, information technologies (IT), agricultural technologies

and digital agriculture could be organized; Develop individual and group capability, organize staff training on agricultural digital technology and remote sensing.

3. Study and develop international agricultural cooperation and development projects, and promote the implementation of key international agricultural cooperation projects in the region; in comparison with imported products, strengthen cooperation on protecting, supporting and promoting local agricultural products, develop competitiveness of agricultural products processing industry; Promote discussion on reducing unnecessary barriers to trade between Member States.

4. Promote exchange of information on the quality and safety (QS) standards of agricultural products;

5. Encourage the development of digital agriculture and agricultural e-commerce;

6 Support partnership building between agricultural businesses of Member States ;

7. Strengthen cooperation on seeds which are resistant to extreme climates such as drought, high-temperature and salt salinization to prevent and combat desertification;

8. Exchange of information and experience on developing smallholder farmers about regenerative farming practices to increase income by promoting agricultural output and to improve benefits by reducing costs.

9. Share information of phytodemic among Member States so that other countries are able to take necessary measures to prevent circulations of infected crops; Exchange experience on pest prevention and control, strengthen cooperation on eradication of pests; strengthen cooperation on developing pesticide and using modern technology to prevent and control pests; Work collaboratively to recognize the concept of pest or disease free areas and areas of low pest or disease prevalence in accordance with the CAC, OIE and IPPC standards, guidelines or recommendations.

10. Develop a roster of experts to facilitate information exchange and peer-to-peer skill sharing among Member States.

CICA Action Plan on Implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the Area of Agriculture

(For the period 2022-2023)

This Action Plan is developed based on the new *CICA Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures* adopted during the 6th CICA Ministerial Meeting in October 2021 and the actual need of the current regional and international agricultural cooperation, with aims of advancing exchange and cooperation among CICA Member States in the area of agriculture and achieving the goals and expectations proposed in the *CICA Concept Paper on the Implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the Area of Agriculture*.

Currently, the COVID-19 pandemic has posed unprecedented risks and challenges to the development of human society. Strengthening agricultural cooperation, safeguarding food supply and boosting economic recovery are of great significance for CICA Member States. CICA, as the largest platform for cooperation in Eurasia, boasts great potential for promoting agricultural cooperation. China is the coordinator of CICA confidence building measures in the area of agriculture and recommends the following aspects to expand agricultural cooperation for the period of 2022-2023:

I. Continue to hold various kinds of agricultural exchange events. Invite CICA Member States to hold or participate in agricultural seminars and training courses. Push for the high-yield varieties cultivation, product quality improvement, brand-building and standardized production in the region. Share experience on poverty-alleviation and accelerate agricultural modernization.

II. Take proactive measures to combat COVID-19, safeguard agricultural production and supply. Ensure smooth agricultural cooperation via both online and offline channels. Building connectivity to promote information sharing on the production, transportation and trade of agricultural products and further integrate regional supply chain. Actively participate in environmental protection campaign and conversation on sustainable use of land and water resources, properly

handle climate change, control desertification and prevent various kinds of natural disasters. Study to join or cooperate with Food Coalition proposed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to buffer the impact brought by the COVID-19 pandemic on food security.

III. Carry out agricultural policy research and coordination in the region. Organize workshop on agriculture through CICA Think Tank Forum. Select key agricultural cooperation areas to initiate joint research. Exchange on agricultural standards within multilateral frameworks like the Codex Alimentarius. Coordinate policies on the import and export of agricultural products, currency settlement and others.

IV. Actively join global agricultural cooperation, improve international competitiveness. Study on effective ways and specific measures to deepen agricultural cooperation with regional and global cooperation initiatives, such as the Belt and Road Initiative and Global Development Initiative, in place. Advance cooperation with multilateral agricultural institutes like the FAO and facilitate multiple channels to gain access to agricultural fund and technology. Contributing to the achievement of the SDGs (Goal 2) and other multilateral initiatives.

V. Foster farsighted vision on the post-pandemic era, boost the recovery of agricultural production. Strengthen agricultural S&T exchange and cooperation, encourage innovation, build and develop a fully digitized agricultural platform, introduce high-quality projects, share demand information, find business partner and diversify financing channels.