

Intervention Notes of Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO)

Agenda COFO/2024/3 Scaling up actions on agriculture and forestry linkages

Thank you, Chair, distinguished delegates, and colleagues.

I am honored to have this opportunity to speak on behalf of the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization, or AFoCO, to express our support for the agenda and initiatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization related to agroforestry.

Agroforestry plays a critical role in enhancing the linkages between sustainable agriculture and forestry. We commend the FAO for their comprehensive efforts in scaling up agroforestry, as highlighted in the recent Global Agroforestry Capacity Needs Assessment and the various capacity development initiatives.

Integrating trees into agricultural landscapes through agroforestry systems offers a multifaceted solution to some of the most pressing challenges we face today, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and food security. These systems not only increase resilience to environmental shocks but also enhance productivity and provide numerous ecosystem services.

In line with FAO's initiatives, AFoCO, as the intergovernmental organization, is committed to promoting agroforestry within our member countries under the AFoCO Climate Action Plan 2025-2034, to pursue:

- Supporting the development and enhancement of national agroforestry policies and strategies.
- Fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange through learning and capacity-building programs.
- Enhancing and diversifying incentive mechanisms for agroforestry to support the local livelihoods as part of the green economy.

Through our collaborative efforts, we believe we can make significant strides towards more sustainable and resilient agrifood systems. AFoCO stands ready to work closely with FAO and other partners to achieve these common goals.

Thank you.