

**STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**29<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (COAG 29)**

Agenda Item 3.1

**FAO's work on the use and management of plastics in agriculture and the Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture**

The Philippines concurs with the suggested action by the Committee as outlined in COAG/2024/8 and appreciates FAO's update on its work from 2022-2024 to address plastics use in agriculture, including the development of a Voluntary Code of Conduct on the Sustainable Use and Management of Plastics in Agriculture (VCoC) following the recommendations of the 28th Session of the FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG).

The Philippines would also wish to emphasize a few points about the VCoC:

1. While negotiations to develop an internationally legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution are on-going, the FAO VCoC can serve as a guide for those who may wish to voluntarily implement measures to address plastic pollution immediately.
2. FAO is encouraged not only to monitor application and implementation of this VCoC, but also to facilitate implementation by way of supporting Members, upon request, to access Climate Financing for the VCoC's implementation. Reduction of plastic pollution, as we know, is a climate mitigation measure.
3. International Cooperation is essential in the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture. We note the references to international cooperation in the VCoC in pages 14 (background section item vii) and 21 (Section 4.5.1 item iv) of the document.

Thank you.