

**Statement by His Excellency Niu Dun
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of China to FAO
40th Session of the FAO Conference, Rome, Italy, 3-8 July 2017**

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, good afternoon.

The theme of today's Plenary debate is climate change, agriculture, and food security which reminds me of the words of the Chinese President Xi Jinping.

At the United Nations Climate Change Conference in January this year, the President said the Paris Agreement is a milestone in the history of climate governance. We must now allow this achievement to go down the drain. All parties should work together to implement the Paris Agreement.

And also at the G20 Summits both in Hangzhou and in Antalya, the President said "In the face of current changes, we should implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and promote inclusive treatment".

Eliminating poverty and hunger and achieving equitable, open, all around, and innovation driven development are not only our shared moral responsibilities but we also unlock inestimable effective demand.

China has always attached great importance to addressing climate change in the agricultural sector and is committed to work with the international community for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. In recent year, climate change has led to more frequent global extreme weather event, impacting adversely, agricultural production.

The FAO should play a leading role and work with Member Countries to conduct in-depth studies on the impact of climate change on agriculture, explore strategies of adaptation and mitigation, promote policy coordination, encourage and urge developed countries to honor their commitments, strengthen funding support and technology transfer, and help developing countries to build their capacity to cope with climate change.

Developing countries should also strengthen exchanges and mutual learning to jointly enhance the adaptability and resilience of agricultural development.

China has always attached great importance to the issue of agriculture, rural areas, and farmers and is committed to developing agriculture, building prosperous rural communities, and enriching farmers. As the world's most populous nation and the biggest developing country, China has successfully resolved the issue of food security and significantly reduced the number of rural poor by relying mainly on its own wisdom and strength.

In the new era while pursuing innovative, coordinated, green, open, and shared development, China will continue to promote more than agricultural development and implement targeted poverty elevation strategies. Our efforts have not only developed China but also made tremendous contributions to global agricultural development.

China has always attached great importance to international agricultural cooperation as committed to promoting global food security through South-South Cooperation.

We advocate and promote international agriculture exchanges and cooperation, experience sharing, and effort pooling in an unrelenting effort to build a community and shared future, a realized common prosperity in order to help other developing countries.

China has contributed USD 80 million to setup South-South Cooperation Trust Funds in FAO, dispatched agricultural experts to twenty-eight countries in Africa, Asia, and the South Pacific to work together on a long-term basis with local farmers.

With regard to the issue of climate change, the Chinese government especially established a China Climate Change South-South Cooperation Fund of Renminbi 20 billion, USD 2.95 billion to support developing countries to cope with the challenge of climate change.

Against the background of intensified climate change challenges, we should keep on innovating and fostering new types of partnerships. Stakeholders, governments, international organizations, the private sector, and the civil society should work together to promote inclusive and sustainable agriculture for the world.

We appreciate the FAO's efforts in leading the world to implement the 2030 SDGs in the field of agriculture. We hope that to see the FAO strengthen policy coordination and knowledge sharing and improve agricultural development for many poor countries through the implementation of pragmatic initiatives such as the TC programme and the South-South Cooperation programme.

During this session of the Conference on the evening of 6 July, the Chinese government and the FAO will co-organize a special event to present the chief experience of China and FAO's South-South Cooperation and to look into the new dilemmas and plans of cooperation.

We welcome all Delegates to the event to discuss together the major plan for South-South Cooperation.

Thank you.