

**Statement delivered by  
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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea  
on the occasion of the  
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Mr Chairman,

At the outset, on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Dr Qu Dongyu, the newly elected Director-General of FAO and wish him a successful tenure.

I also would like to thank to the outgoing Director-General Dr Graziano da Silva for the efforts and contributions he made for the Organization.

Mr Chairman,

The natural and geographical environment and the agricultural development situation of each country is different from one another.

In order to ensure food security, it is important for the countries to work out agricultural policies best suited for their specific conditions.

At the same time, the activities and support of FAO should be elaborated and diversified to helping each member state with establishing a proper strategy for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

In this context, it is necessary for FAO to identify the contents of its assistance which can practically contribute to increasing the agricultural production of Member States and deliver them in a timely manner.

Mr Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,

The Government of the DPRK set agriculture as a key sector for building an economic giant and is concentrating nation-wide investment on agriculture.

Comrade Kim Jong Un, the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, in his policy speech made at the 1<sup>st</sup> session of the 14<sup>th</sup> Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, pointed out that the agricultural sector should pay special attention to solving the issues of seed, fertilizer, water and securing the arable land, introduce scientific farming methods and raise the rate of mechanization of farming work, and thus attain the grain production target set by the government without fail.

For the present, the Government of the DPRK has set agriculture as one of the important sectors in implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development to be accomplished by 2020.

The government is making efforts to put the agricultural sector to an advanced global standard and increase sustainably the agricultural production by not only looking at today, but also looking far beyond.

We are increasing the share of local production of chemical fertilizer and also expanding the network of disseminating the scientific farming methods to farmers. Consequently, substantial progress is being made in the field of animal husbandry, fruit farming and fisheries.

Despite challenges and difficulties ahead of us, the Government of the DPRK will make positive contributions to the international efforts for the sustainable development of agriculture by increasing the crop production with our own efforts and technology.

The Government of the DPRK, in the future too, will strengthen the cooperation with FAO and its Member States in line with its ideal of foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship.

Thank you very much.