

APEC Seminar on partnerships between companies and rural areas for sustainable development of agriculture in Asia-Pacific Region

Puerto Varas, Chile August 21, 2019

Executive Summary

1. “APEC Seminar on partnerships between companies and rural areas for sustainable development of agriculture in Asia-Pacific Region” was held at Puerto Varas, Chile on August 21, 2019, hosted by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, Japan and supported by Chile and Chinese Taipei. 10 APEC economies and others from business sectors, total 45 participants attended.

Keynote Speech

2. It is essential for strengthening food security to enhance the sustainable development of agriculture and rural areas. This seminar seeks to understand the issues that agriculture and rural areas are facing, and to share best practices and innovative initiatives to increase value of the entire value chain, such as agricultural cooperatives, partnership between companies and farmers, distribution and the potential role of functional foods. All these initiatives help farmers increase their income and reduce rural poverty. FAO explained the cooperatives: an inclusive model, and JAOHFA (Japan Alliance of Health Food Associations) explained Enhancing Food with Function Claim system for MSME business.

Session 1 (Best Practices)

3. Several practical experiences on partnerships between companies and rural areas for sustainable development of agriculture were introduced. The case studies of the private companies and the agricultural cooperatives were shared from Japan. The high value agricultural products was highlighted from Chinese Taipei. The case studies of the Chile’s agriculture co-operative and private company was showed.

Session 2 (Panel Discussion)

4. The panel discussion was moderated by the char of PPFS Working Group 3 under the theme of “Challenges and Measures for Increasing Added Value in Food Value Chain”, and what was necessary for on partnerships between companies and rural areas for sustainable development of agriculture was discussed by the moderator and 6 commentators.

Wrap-Up

5. The Seminar was informative and useful for all of us. All participants have gained their better understanding on partnerships between companies and rural areas for sustainable development of agriculture. The presentation materials will be uploaded at APIP, Asia-Pacific Information Platform on Food Security, for further information sharing in APEC region. In addition, the discussion at the Seminar will serve a great input to the on-going PPFS strategic activities.

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