Statement by Thailand

For the election of the Governing Council of CSAM

Vision:

Develop the agricultural sector for sustainable food security amidst the challenges of extreme climate change, air pollution from crop residue burning, socioeconomic change, labor shortages, and an aging society through harmonize the collaborative development of agricultural mechanization among member countries and the Asia-Pacific region.

Agriculture is a key and significant economic sector in Thailand. As one of the world's leading exporters of agricultural products, Thailand is recognized for its food security. Agricultural mechanization plays a vital role in the development of the agricultural sector, and Thailand has made substantial progress in the development of agricultural machinery and mechanization. The country is considered one of the leading nations in the Asia-Pacific region in terms of agricultural mechanization and is a major producer and exporter of various agricultural machinery to several countries worldwide.

Despite these advancements, there is still a need for further development of agricultural machinery and mechanization. This includes the development of missing agricultural machinery in some agricultural production activities and farm operations, improving the imported agricultural machinery suitable for cultural practices and local conditions, as well as enhancing the utilization system of existing agricultural machinery. Addressing these needs will help resolve labor shortages, adapt to an aging society, enhance production efficiency, reduce production costs, and promote sustainable development. Additionally, it will elevate the standards of agricultural machinery, ensuring it is recognized and accepted for use both domestically and internationally. Key areas of focus include reducing crop residue burning and carbon emissions.

If selected as a member country of the Governing Council, Thailand will contribute to setting the direction and supporting the development of agricultural machinery and agriculture in member countries. Furthermore, Thailand will work towards the development of agricultural machinery standards that are recognized at the regional level in the Asia-Pacific and internationally. This will support the agricultural machinery trade and the implementation of CSAM's strategic plans.