

**Statement of Intent for Cooperation on  
Promoting Specification-setting for Pesticide Quality  
Under the Belt and Road Initiative**

With a view to strengthen agricultural cooperation, pesticide quality, combat illegal, counterfeit and inferior pesticides, share information and technology and promote fair and equitable trade and investment under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative;

And in order to extend the application of low toxic bio-pesticide and environmental friendly technology, improve the quality and safety of agricultural products, and minimize negative impact of pesticide application on the environment;

We, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China, the Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Ministry of National Food Security & Research of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (hereinafter jointly referred to as the “ Parties” );

And based on the principle of equality, free will and mutual benefit, and through friendly consultation,

Have agreed as follows:

**Article I      Objectives**

The Parties will support the Asia-Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) in setting up a series of specifications for pesticide quality within three (3) to five (5) years for its implementation within the Asia-Pacific region so as to promote the sustainable development of agriculture by jointly advancing the healthy development

of pesticide industry.

## **Article II Areas of Cooperation**

The Parties shall cooperate in the following areas:

1. Exchanges of human and environment friendly demands for pesticides. The Parties shall remain in control of the occurrence of major pests in their crops, exchange information on pesticide application in their respective countries, and bring forward respective demands of pesticides and pest control for future use.
2. Jointly identifying catalogues of pesticides. The parties shall refer to the current lists of pesticide quality specification from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) in their utilization of new series of pesticides, new bio-pesticides and traditional pesticides.
3. Jointly promoting the specification-setting. The Parties shall support the APPPC in prioritizing the specification-setting for the pesticides listed on the catalogues mentioned in the Provision 2 under the Article II of this Statement of Intent.
4. Collaborative research and personnel training. The Parties shall support and encourage collaborative research among relevant laboratories, push forward the establishment of regional laboratories, and conduct sharing of protocols on registration for commercialization of specific bio-pesticides, personnel training and technical exchanges for the Asia-Pacific region through various approaches.
5. Other areas and modalities of cooperation agreed by the Parties.

## **Article III Working Mechanism**

The Parties shall designate contact person and provide contact information. A Working Group and a Secretariat, whose working language is English, shall be established and carry out respective functions and responsibilities by e-mail, internet telephony, seminars or other means regularly or as need.

The Working Group and the Secretariat shall be set up within two months upon entry into force of this Statement of Intent. The Secretariat shall start work as early as possible upon its establishment; formulate work plan and roadmap in detail.

#### **Article IV Cost and Budget**

In principle, the cost arising from the activities under this Statement of Intent shall be shared by all Parties. The specific implementation measures shall be determined by all the Parties separately after consultation.

#### **Article V Confidentiality**

The Parties shall authorize the Working Group and the Secretariat to use the relevant data and information provided by them. No Party shall disclose these data or information without written consent. The utilization of cooperation outcomes shall be agreed in written by all Parties.

#### **Article VI Disputes Settlement**

If a dispute arises concerning the interpretation or application of data information, the parties to the dispute shall consult among themselves with a view to having the dispute resolved by negotiation, inquiry, conciliation or other peaceful means to which the parties to the dispute agree.

#### **Article VII Other Matters**

This Statement of Intent shall not affect the rights and obligations of any Party resulting from other international agreements or treaties to which it is party or under any international organizations.

With unanimous consent of all Parties, more Parties are welcome to be a member of this Statement of Intent.

#### **Article VIII Entry into force and Amendment**

This Statement of Intent shall enter into force on the date of its release.

Any amendment to this Statement of Intent shall be raised to Secretariat and determined in the written form, and served as an annex to it by consent of all Parties.

Any Party which requests withdrawal from the Statement of Intent shall notify the Secretariat of its intention six months in advance.

This Statement of Intent shall be released on July 2, 2021.