

**International Conference on Asian Food Security (ICAFS) 2014
Towards Asia 2025: Policy and Technology Imperatives**

***21 – 22 August 2014
Singapore***

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

20 August 2014 (Wednesday)

18:00–20:00 Welcome reception for overseas participants
 (By Invitation)
 Venue, TBC
 Overseas guests to meet organisers at hotel lobby

21 August 2014 (Thursday)

Meeting Room: TBC

08:30–09:00 **Registration**

09:00–09:10 **Welcome Remarks**
 Dean, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies;
 Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

09:10–09:30 **Opening Address**
 Dr. Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman
 Minister of State
 Ministry of National Development, Singapore

09:30–10:00 **Photo Opportunity & Morning Tea**

10:00–12:30 **Session 1: Asia 2025 – Trends and Challenges to Food Security**

The focus of this session is on the trends and challenges that affect Asian food security within the horizon of 2025 and beyond. Currently, the region faces significant pressure from a number of factors and recognised trends. These include changes in demography and consumption patterns, performance decline of agriculture, degradation of natural resource base for food production and climate change. This session is aimed at setting the context for subsequent

deliberations on possible policy and other interventions.

Chair: Prof. Mely Caballero-Anthony, Associate Professor, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies; Head, RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies; and Secretary-General, Consortium of Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

1. Global perspectives on the trends influencing food security, and their challenges and implications for Asia

[Dr. Fan Shenggen, Director-General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC (**confirmed**)]

2. Food security in Asia: The role of the private sector

[Mr. Davor Pisk, Chief Operating Officer, Syngenta (**confirmed**)]

3. Towards improved food security in Asia by 2025 – the farmers’ perspective

[Mr. Edwin Paraluman, Farmer and Coordinator of the ASEAN Farmers Regional Network (ASFARNET) (**confirmed**)]

4. Food security challenges faced by developing Asian countries and responses towards 2025: The Case of Indonesia

[Dr. Achmad Suryana, Director-General, Indonesian Agency for Food Security, Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia (**confirmed**)]

Sub-themes and areas of concern identified to be addressed in this session by one or more speakers:

- Demographic trends, urbanisation of Asia and decrease of farming populations
- Changing diets and shifts in the channels of accessing food, e.g. global supply chains
- Degradation of the natural resource base for sustaining food production, e.g. decline in common property resources such as soil, land, water and

- grassland/arable land.
- Impact of climate change on agricultural productivity and total production
- Institutional change and its impact on national/regional capacity to address food security

Q&A

12:30–14:00

Lunch

14:00-16:30

Session 2: Supply and Demand – Improving Productivity Growth and Supply Chains

Session 2 is the “bread and butter” session since it focuses on the food supply and demand issues such as the balance between aggregate food production (supply) and demand, declining productivity/yield growth, both as influenced by factors such as those from climate change, and rapid urbanisation. This session aims to provide an assessment of technological and policy innovations required to meet food security needs moving towards 2025. Additionally, the session will review current efforts to modernize the supply chain to cope with changes in the food demand patterns of Asian populations as well suggest areas requiring needed policy intervention.

Chair: Dr. Siang Hee Tan, Executive Director, CropLife Asia (**confirmed**)

1. The Post-2015 Agenda on Hunger and Malnutrition

[Dr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Assistant DG for Economic and Social Development Department of FAO (**confirmed**)]

2. Food Supply and Demand Scenario in Asia: Challenges and Opportunities for Policy and Technology Interventions in a Growing World of Scarcity

[Dr. Mark Rosegrant, Division Director, Environment and Production Technology, IFPRI (**confirmed**)]

3. Modernizing food supply chains as an integral necessity to assure food security

[Dr. Rolando Dy, Executive Director, University of Asia & the Pacific Center for Food and Agribusiness]

(confirmed)]

4. Achieving food security in a growing world of scarcity: the role of scientific innovations

[Professor Martin Kropff, CGIAR Consortium Board
(confirmed)]

Sub-themes and areas of concern identified to be addressed in this session by one or more speakers:

- Decline in productivity/yield growth of grains and inability to meet demand growth
- Imbalance of food demand and supply may lead to increased frequency of food supply disruptions, hence trade and reserves/stockpiles have become increasingly relevant to stabilise food security.
- Role of specific mitigation and adaptation interventions to ameliorate anticipated effects from downscaled global climate change scenarios in key food production areas and sources of imports for Asia.
- Potential food baskets in Asia (e.g. Myanmar, Cambodia)
- Drudgery reduction through technology to attract new rural farmers and address the rural to urban youth migration
- Potential of urban food production and entrepreneurship to address food security
- Influence of climate change on agricultural productivity and production

Q&A

16:30–17:00

Afternoon Tea

17:30–20:00

Cocktails and Conference Dinner

End of Day 1

22 August 2014 (Friday)

Meeting Room: TBC

08:30–10:30

Session 3: Market Integration, Trade and Economic Access to Food

This session will focus on the role of market integration and trade in improving physical and economic access to food. It will also discuss the issues and challenges that affect the trade in food commodities and the much needed policy interventions. Especially relevant will be the ASEAN Economic Community 2015 in relation to other regional trade agreements. The effect of food trade on making food exports/imports possible, on keeping prices stable and affordable, will further be discussed in this session.

Chair: Prof. Mely Caballero-Anthony, Associate Professor, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies; Head, RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies; and Secretary-General, Consortium of Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Or

Dean, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies;
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

1. Post-2015 Impact of the ASEAN Economic Community on Food Security

[Mr. Sundram Pushpanathan, Principal Advisor, ASEAN Food and Beverage Alliance; former Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN (**confirmed**)]

2. Impact of trade facilitation, logistics and services liberalisation reforms on the food supply chain

[Dr. Ruth Banomyong, Associate Professor, Faculty of Commerce & Accountancy, Thammasat University, Thailand (**confirmed**)]

3. China's role in the future food security situation of Asia: A Threat or An Ally?

[Dr. Jikun Huang, Founder and Director of the Chinese Centre for Agricultural Policy for China]

(confirmed)]

4. India's Food Security Bill: A Retrospect

[Dr. Mahendra Dev, Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (**confirmed**)]

Sub-themes and areas of concern identified to be addressed in this session by one or more speakers:

- Leveraging on Asia's institutional density to facilitate innovation; opportunity for agenda setting by Asia and Southeast Asia
- Role of bio-technology, cold chain management, physical transport infrastructure in trade to promote regional food security.
- Harmonisation of food safety and quality standards, and common biosecurity regulatory mechanisms.
- Access and affordability to food, particularly in the event of crisis/emergencies, price hikes or price volatility.

Q&A

10:30-11:00

Morning Tea

11:00-13:00

Session 4: Financing and Investing in Agricultural Innovation and Technology

Session 4 of the Conference focuses on the importance of innovation and technology in increasing agricultural productivity sustainable food production and food processing. It is also to highlight the importance of investments in infrastructure, R&D, and technology development and transfer. This session aims to stimulate discussion on the implementation of such investments, barriers encountered, and the necessary policy environment for investments to bear fruit.

Chair: Prof. Paul Teng, Senior Fellow and Advisor (Food Security) RSIS Centre for NTS Studies; and Dean of Graduate Studies and Professional Learning, National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

1. Harnessing financial resources for agricultural innovation and technology for food security

[Dr. Bruce Tolentino, Deputy Director General, International Rice Research Institute (**confirmed**)]

2. The role of private equity to support agriculture and food security

[Mr. Victor Lean, Managing Partner, Caudex Asia (**confirmed**)]

3. Risk Management and Financing for food security: An insurance industry perspective

[Mr. Ivo Menzinger, Head Asia-Pacific, Global Partnerships, Swiss Reinsurance (**confirmed**)]

4. Access to credit: A key to increasing food supply

[Mr. Md. Fayzer Rahman, Executive Vice President, Association for Social Advancement (ASA), Bangladesh (**confirmed**)]

Sub-themes and areas of concern identified to be addressed in this session by one or more speakers:

- Investments and public-private partnerships to increase efficiency of production and related infrastructure such as food storage facilities, nautical/rail transportation and ports.
- Investments in R&D using contemporary science and technology to address declining yield and input resources.
- Financing of agriculture projects to increase food and feed supplies

Q&A

13:00–14:30

Lunch

14:30–16:30

Session 5: Charting an Integrative Approach for Asia towards 2025

Session 5 will aggregate all of the sessions and chart the

direction in moving towards 2025 and beyond. Speakers will also articulate the various perspectives and propose the directions in which the region must move in order to achieve food security in 2025. Achieving food security in Asia in 2025 and beyond is not only a regional objective but also involves critical actors such as national governments, food producers and civil society.

Chair: Dr. Shenggen Fan, Director-General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC (**confirmed**)

1. The role of R&D in Asia's food security: Rice security through policy, science and PPPs

[Dr. Robert Zeigler, Director General, International Rice Research Institute (**confirmed**)]

2. Action imperatives of developing countries to ensure food security by 2025 – the case of Indonesia.

[Dr. Bayu Krishnamurthi, Vice Minister for Trade in Indonesia and Professor of Agricultural Economics, Bogor Agricultural University (**confirmed**)]

3. Going beyond food security: putting nutrition security in question

[Mr. Kobus De Klerk, Regional President, SAFI ASPAC DuPont Nutrition and Health (**confirmed**)]

4. The role of NGOs in reducing or preventing food insecurity from regional calamities and disaster

[Ms. Maria Dolores Bernabe, Policy and Research Coordinator, Asia, Oxfam (**confirmed**)]

Sub-themes and areas of concern identified to be addressed in this session by one or more speakers:

1. Putting it all together to enable countries or the region to move towards a high level of food security by 2025
2. What are urgent policy and intervention imperatives to consolidate initiatives or to kickstart new efforts at regional level?

Q&A

16:30–17:15

Concluding Keynote Address: Way Forward – Regional Cooperation for Food Security

The concluding address will not only aggregate the major themes and policy recommendations from the previous sessions but also chart the next steps for the Asia and ASEAN region with regard to food security. Mr. Bindu Lohani will also discuss the perspective of a regional bank on the needs for integrated approaches to tackling food security.

Mr. Bindu Lohani

Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank (**confirmed**)

17:15-17:30

Closing Remarks: Towards Asian Food Security by 2025

Prof. Mely Caballero-Anthony

Associate Professor, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies;

Head, RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies; and Secretary-General, Consortium of Non-Traditional Security Studies in Asia (NTS-Asia)

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

&

Prof. Paul Teng

Senior Fellow and Advisor (Food Security)

RSIS Centre for NTS Studies; and

Dean of Graduate Studies and Professional Learning, National Institute of Education (NIE)

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

End of Conference