INTERVENTION NOTES

1. MINISTRY/DEPARTMENT: Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI)

2. DOCUMENT NO: E/ESCAP/69/7

3. DOCUMENT TITLE: Report of the Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization on its eighth session

4. ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

The United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM) was renamed the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM) effective 1 October 2012. The Governing Council of the Centre at its eighth session reviewed its administrative and financial status as well reports on its work in 2012. It endorsed the proposed work plan for 2013 and the report of the CSAM Technical Committee on its eighth session. It also reviewed and adopted the annual report of CSAM, which will be submitted to the Commission at its sixty-ninth session. It endorsed the plan to launch, by the end of 2013, such as an Asia-Pacific network for testing agricultural machinery, and proposed revisions to the statute of the Centre for possible adoption by the Commission at its sixty-ninth session.
5. MALAYSIA’S POSITIONS ON THE ISSUES / RECOMMENDATIONS:

Malaysia fully support the name change from UNAPCAEM to CSAM to reflex the concern of the region where current agricultural mechanization practices have increased pressure on the fragile natural resources. The increasing soil erosion on highland agriculture and destruction of the hard pan in paddy fields due to mechanization may limit the use of agriculture machinery in farming. This must be addressed urgently to achieve the dual goals of strengthening agricultural production and achieving environmental sustainability.

Hard pan destruction in paddy fields due to mechanization is already a problem for Malaysia, which is already beginning to face serious environmental challenges to maintain its mechanized agricultural production. The Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry has embarked on a program to tackle the hard pan destruction issues and look forward to working closely with CSAM.

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

7. PREPARED BY:

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