



## -Invitation-

Working Group Sessions

Regional Conference on Food Security 'Let's get to work. Building a food secure future' 22-23 March 2017, Ha Noi, Viet Nam

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Socialist Republic Viet Nam and the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands, are pleased to invite you to participate in the *Working Session Program* of the regional (ASEAN+6) conference on Food Security in Hanoi. The conference is organized in close cooperation with partners World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization, Grow Asia, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Asian Development Bank. The conference is scheduled for 22-23 March 2017 in the Pan Pacific Hotel in Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

The world today faces one of the biggest challenges of the 21st century: how to feed more than 9 billion people in 2050. Current patterns of consumption and production will only increase pressure on already scarce natural resources. Climate change represents an additional threat, already undermining agriculture and food systems in many regions, making it more difficult to achieve food security and nutrition goals.

Agriculture is a cornerstone for economic development and sustainable growth in the Asian region. The region recognizes the challenge to step up the efforts to transform agriculture in a sustainable way in order to achieve food security, improved nutrition and rural development. Therefor strengthening and deepening of the cooperation between the countries in ASEAN and China, Japan, Korea, India, New Zealand and Australia is urgently required.

The two-day conference has an action-oriented character and the aim to come to Food Security Initiatives (Deals) during several working group sessions. Subthemes of the conference are:

- Food loss reduction
- Sustainable aquaculture
- Climate smart agriculture
- Food safety

You are invited to join one of the four working groups on these specific topics with a selected group of experts from the ASEAN+6 region.

More information on the program, background and registration is enclosed and can also be found on <a href="http://foodsecurefuture.mard.gov.vn">http://foodsecurefuture.mard.gov.vn</a>

We look forward to welcoming you in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on March 23 2017.

Nguyen Xuan Cuong, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of the Socialist Republic Viet Nam Martijn van Dam, Minister for Agriculture, Government of the Netherlands