

Opening Remarks
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International Seminar on the Benefits of Plant Variety Protection
under UPOV System

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Dr. Lorna Herradura, Associate Registrar, Plant Variety Protection Office, Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, Philippines, Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General of UPOV, resource persons and members of East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum (EAPVP) and participants of the seminar, ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

It is my great honor to make an opening remarks for an International Seminar on the Benefit of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV System.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Department of Agriculture, Philippines, for hosting this seminar. I also wish to express my appreciation to the UPOV Office as well as all staff for organizing this seminar, and distinguished participants to this seminar.

Yesterday, the 11th Annual Meeting of EAPVP Forum was held here and the 10-Year Strategic Plan of EAPVP Forum was adopted with recognition of importance of strengthened PVP system under the harmonization in East Asia country. For the effective implementation of the PVP system, cooperation activities under the harmonized PVP system are highly expected in the region. At the same time, it is also important that capacity building for planning and implementing national PVP system reflecting national situation which can be differ from country to country.

In this seminar, we will be able to share varieties of lessons from UPOV members in Asian countries as well as European countries, also the expectations for becoming UPOV members will be presented by some UPOV becoming members.

Therefore, it should be very good opportunity for Philippines to consider to design and implement PVP system more efficiently while exchanging experiences each other as well as expectations from domestic and international stakeholders.

I look forward to having fruitful discussion among variety of participants and valuable outcome in this seminar.

Thank you very much.