



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Global Conference on

# Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization

EFFICIENCY, INCLUSIVENESS AND RESILIENCE

FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy)  
27-29 September 2023

## PROGRAMME

(as of 25 September 2023)





# PROGRAMME

## Joint Agricultural Machinery and Livestock Exhibition Monday 25 to Friday 29 September 2023

### Tuesday, 26 September 2023

18.15 - 19.00

Atrium, ground floor

#### Inauguration of the Joint Agricultural Machinery and Livestock Exhibition

##### Masters of Ceremony

**Beth Bechdol** and **Maria Helena Semedo**,  
Deputy Directors-General, FAO

#### Inauguration remarks

**QU Dongyu**, Director-General, FAO

**Alessandro Malavolti**, Vice-President, European Agricultural Machinery  
Industry Association (CEMA)

**Altantuya Tseden-Ish**, Chair, Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable  
Rural Development (AFA) and President, National Association of  
Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives

19.00

Atrium, ground floor

#### Exhibition Cocktail



## Wednesday, 27 September 2023

09.30-09.50

Green Room

### CONFERENCE OPENING

Moderator: **Beth Bechdol**, Deputy Director-General, FAO

### Inauguration remarks

**QU Dongyu**, Director-General, FAO

### Opening statement

**Patrizio Giacomo La Pietra**, Undersecretary of State, Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry

10.00-12.30

Green Room

### PLENARY SESSION 1

#### Keynote Address Section A

Moderator:

**Maria Helena Semedo**, Deputy Director-General, FAO

- *A.1 Mechanization for Sustainable Agrifood Systems*  
**H.E. Josefa Sacko**, Commissioner, African Union Commission (AUC)
- *A.2 Farmer-led Sustainability, Resiliency, and Climate-Smart Agriculture*  
**Robert Bonnie**, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- *A.3 Climate Change and Mechanization*  
**Bram Govaerts**, Director General, Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
- *A.4 Farm Power and Energy Source Innovations*  
**Alessandro Malavolti**, Vice President, European Agricultural Machinery Industry Association (CEMA)
- *Discussion*

#### Keynote Address Section B

Moderator:

**Vincent Martin**, Director, Office of Innovation

- *B.1 Digitalization for Agrifood Systems Transformation*  
**Chunjiang Zhao**, Professor, National Engineering Research Center for Information Technology in Agriculture (NERCITA), Beijing
- *B.2 Automation Trends in Agriculture*  
**Louisa Parker-Smith**, Director Global Sustainability, AGCO Corporation
- *B.3 Policies and Regulations for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization and Digitalization*  
**Josse De Baerdemaeker**, Professor Agricultural Engineering, KU, Leuven
- *Discussion*

12.30-14.00

Lunch Break

**Agricultural Machinery Exhibition**

14.00-15.30

### THEMATIC SESSIONS 1.1 AND 2.1

Moderator: Session Chairs

Thematic Session 1:  
**Mechanization for Crop Production**  
Session 1.1: Efficiency and Productivity

Green Room

Chair: Rabe Yahaya

Thematic Session 2:  
**Post-Harvest and Agro-Processing**  
Session 2.1: Harvest- and Post-harvest

Red Room

Chair: Chakib Jenane

15.30-16.00

Break

16.00-17.30

### THEMATIC SESSIONS 1.2 AND 2.2

Moderator: Session Chairs

Thematic Session 1:  
**Mechanization for Crop Production**  
Session 1.2: Innovative Technologies

Green Room

Chair: Regina Birner

Thematic Session 2:  
**Post-Harvest and Agro-Processing**  
Session 2.2: Agro-processing

Red Room

Chair: Tran Thi Dinh

18.00-20.00

Reception

at FAO, 8th floor / Fountain bar

## Thursday, 28 September 2023

9.00-10.30

### THEMATIC SESSIONS 3.1 AND 4.1

Moderator: Session Chairs

Thematic Session 3:  
**Climate Change and Resilience**  
Session 3.1: Conservation Agriculture

Green Room

Thematic Session 4:  
**Digitalization and Automation**  
Session 4.1: Digital Technology and ICT

Red Room

Chair: Akhylbek Kurishbayev

Chair: Salah Sukkarieh

10.30-11.00

Break

11.00-12.30

### THEMATIC SESSIONS 3.2 AND 4.2

Moderator: Session Chairs

Thematic Session 3:  
**Climate Change and Resilience**  
Session 3.2: Precision Agriculture

Green Room

Thematic Session 4:  
**Digitalization and Automation**  
Session 4.2: Automation and AI

Red Room

Chair: Mohammad Esmaeil Asadi

Chair: Cornelia Weltzien

12.30-14.00  
Lunch Break

*(Side Event) Voices of Youth for Sustainable Mechanization  
& Digitalization*

Sheikh Zayed Centre

14.00-15.30

### THEMATIC SESSIONS 5.1 AND 6.1

Moderator: Session Chairs

Thematic Session 5:  
**Supply Chain and Standards**  
Session 5.1: Supply Chains and Services

Green Room

Thematic Session 6:  
**Business Models and Multi-stakeholder  
Engagement**  
Session 6.1: Inclusive Business Models

Red Room

Chair: Ignacio Ruiz

Chair: Saidi Mkomwa

15.30-16.00

Break

16.00-17.30

### THEMATIC SESSIONS 5.2 AND 6.2

Moderator: Session Chairs

Thematic Session 5:  
**Supply Chain and Standards**  
Session 5.2: Regulations and Standards

Green Room

Thematic Session 6:  
**Business Models and Multi-stakeholder  
Engagement**  
Session 6.2: Multi-stakeholder Engagement

Red Room

Chair: Anshuman Varma

Chair: Hiroyuki Takeshima



## Friday, 29 September 2023

9.00-10.30

Green Room

### THEMATIC SESSION 7

Moderator: **Beth Bechdol**, Deputy Director-General, FAO

#### Thematic session 7: Enabling Environment

Chair: **Geoffrey Mrema** | Co-chair: **Tom Goddard**

10.30-11.00

### Break

11.00-12.30

Green Room

### PLENARY SESSION 2: REPORTS ON THEMATIC SESSIONS AND CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Moderator: **Josse De Baerdemaeker**, Professor, KU Leuven

- *Introduction*
- *Highlights from each Thematic Session by Chair or Vice-Chair from 7 Thematic Sessions*
- *Presentation of conference recommendations*
- *Discussion*

12.30-14.00  
Lunch Break

*(Side Event) Using Precision Seeding to optimize Crop Yields*

Iran Room

14.00-15.30

Green Room

### PLENARY SESSION 3: HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT AND CLOSING

Moderator: **Beth Bechdol**, Deputy Director-General, FAO

- **The Honourable Mtolo Phiri**, Minister for Agriculture, **Zambia**
- **H.E. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva**, Honourable State Minister of Agriculture, Colombo, **Sri Lanka**
- **Mr. Redouane Arrach**, Secretary General of the Department of Agriculture, **Morocco**
- **Ms Renata Bueno Miranda**, Secretary of Innovation, Sustainable Development, Irrigation and Cooperativism, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA), **Brazil**
- **Mr Alpisbay Tolibaev**, Head of Department/ Doctor of Technical Sciences, Ministry of Agriculture of the **Republic of Uzbekistan**
- **Mr Eric Renaud**, Director-General of National Society of Agricultural Mechanization (SoNaMA), **Benin**
- *Discussion*

#### Closing remarks

**QU Dongyu**, Director-General, FAO

