

AFA holds 4th General Assembly

April 25, 2010

The Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), has been holding its Fourth General Assembly, with the theme "Sustaining our Gains, Nourishing our Work" from April 20-23 at the National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST) in Taiwan. There were around 30 participants from 8 countries in Asia as members and observers of AFA (Taiwan, Indonesia, Korea, Philippine, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan). 3 FNN participants took part in the great event, whom included FNN president, Mr. Uon Sophal, Mrs. Khuon Sey, Treasurer, and Executive Director, Pan Sopheap. The event has been hosted by the Taiwan Wax Apple Development Association (TWADA) in cooperation with NPUST.

The highlights of the General Assembly were included review of AFA's 2006-2010 strategic plan, the drafting of its 2011-2015 strategic plan and election of new Executive Committee Members, new chairperson, new vice-chairperson, new Secretary General and new treasurer of the AFA.

As results, on Tuesday April 20, all participants paid a great field visit to onion farms and onion museum, waxr apple farms and package center and compost industry. Main purpose of the visit were to see, observe and learn about experiences from Taiwanses farmers' associations, which mainly focus on leadership and managment processes and farming processes. All participants were very happy with great results.

After that, the GA discussed did SWOT analysis on the last 5 years of AFA and action plan for the next 5 years. There were also some amendments of the by-law of AFA and were approved and adopted by the GA.

Finally, new members of Executive Committee (ExeCom) of AFA were selected by each country member. Then, the ExeCom elected a new president, vice-president, secreatry general and treasurer. The new president is from Taiwan, vice-president is from Korea, secreatry general and treasurer are still the same (Esther and Ka Vic from the Philippines).

Former chairperson, Ms. Sudarpon, appreciated with great results and happily welcomed and handovered the new position to the new chairman and promised to support the leaders of AFA. Also, all participants strongly believed the new leaders will bring good results for AFA and determined to support them.