

Opening Remarks (Dr. Sorravis Thaneto, Director General, DLD)

It is a great honor and pleasure for me to have an opportunity to meet all of you today that are here and also those who are joining us via Videoconference. I hope you all are safe and well during this challenging time of the COVID-19 pandemic and would stay that way until the situation became better, which should be soon now that the vaccine has been created and is being administered. First of all, I would like to extend to you a very warm welcome to the First Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting under the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development project on “Acceleration of Livestock Revolution in Thailand for a Kitchen of the World through the Development of Novel Technologies for Stable Livestock Production and Food Safety”

As we all know, “Kitchen of the World” refers to the significant growth of agricultural and livestock industry which is considered to be one of the most important pillars for Thailand’s economic development. Therefore, as the main government agency responsible for the livestock industry of Thailand, the Department of Livestock Development has set this concept to be one of our goals towards sustainable livestock production for the world and to ensure a world standard food safety of Thai livestock resources. This project which has already been carried out for 4 months is comprising with 4 subjects that will be introduced later and today we will have an opportunity to be informed on the progress situation and future plan of each subject and also to discuss on other matters related.

With these words, I wish the project every success and look forward to working closely with JICA Thailand office on this important collaboration and on every future project in many years to come.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that I’m very glad to meet all of you today, and welcome you to the First Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting under the SATREPS project. Thank you.

Opening Remarks (Mr. MORITA Takahiro, Chief Representative, JICA)

On behalf of Japan International Cooperation Agency, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to our Thai colleagues at the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and the Department of Livestock Development and related organizations in Thailand, as well as colleagues on the Japanese side.

This project was planned to start in April 2020; however, we had to postpone it due to the world-wide COVID-19 pandemic. During that time, the project was finally able to launch at the end of October 2020 with your efforts.

The purpose of this project is to achieve sustainable livestock production by a new infectious disease control technology. It will directly contribute to “the Kitchen of the World” strategy to enable Thailand to become a major world food exporter. As you know, Thailand currently ranks in the top five globally as both a chicken and shrimp exporter. In a world that since the COVID-19 crisis has increasingly been concerned about food security, Thailand’s food processing companies stand out as reliable suppliers of safe and plentiful food. Moreover, Thailand is one of the world’s leading agricultural suppliers, primarily due to its well-developed food processing sector and global recognition for quality control and standards. Therefore, we are sure that Thai livestock production will be more improved in terms of food safety through this project.

Although there are no signs that the COVID-19 situation is being brought under control, all of your cooperation will be necessary to move the project forward.

This 1st JCC meeting provides a good opportunity for our JCC members to exchange views and share the progress situation and future plan of each subject as well as agreeing on the PDM, PO and project members. These documents are regarded as milestones counting to the expected achievements for the project.

I would like to reassure all of you that cooperation between Japan and Thailand will be maintained and will open possibilities for food safety to be assessed by objectively verifiable indicators.

Finally, I would like again to thank all the people and stakeholders concerned with this Project for their great cooperation and contributions.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Closing remarks (Dr. Lerdchai Chintapitaksakul, Director of Bureau of Quality Control of Livestock Products, DLD)

As the Project Director, it is indeed my pleasure to make a few closing remarks and express gratitude to all those who will make this project successful. First, I would like to thank the JICA Thailand Office for your cooperation on this remarkable project, and to thank personnel of both Thai and Japanese counterpart, representatives from concerned universities, and especially, the Embassy of Japan for your kind support and cooperation for so many years. I also would like to thank the organizing staff for your excellent arrangement, as well as all the member of the Joint Coordinating Committee and other participants for taking part and sharing your idea and experience. This meeting is a success because of your efforts and contribution.

With these words, I hope that this meeting is the beginning of a series of successful collaborative projects for our sustainable future in Global Livestock Production. Thank you.

Comments from Ms. Nawinee Plynoi, TICA

Thank you for the Japanese government to support this project. Food security is one of our focus topics to achieve the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). This project also would contribute the development of Mekong region. Japan and Thailand have strong cooperation for a long term, and Japan is our important development partner. Additionally, our focus is same thing such as human resource development and sustainable development.