



JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

THE TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY AND THE MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, JAPAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

(25th AMAF PLUS THREE)

2 October 2025, Pasay City, Philippines

1. The Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Plus Three (25th AMAF Plus Three) was held on 2 October 2025, in Pasay City, the Philippines. The Meeting was chaired by the Philippines and attended by the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministers of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK), together with the representative from the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. The Meeting reviewed the progress of cooperation under the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy on Food, Agriculture and Forestry (APTCS-FAF) 2016–2025, and noted the successful implementation of projects in areas, such as sustainable and smart agriculture, climate change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable forest management, fisheries development, crop insurance, food value chain enhancement, and control of transboundary animal and plant pests and diseases. The Meeting expressed appreciation for the continued support of the Plus Three countries in advancing food security, sustainable agriculture, forestry, and fisheries in the region.
3. The Meeting adopted the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy on Food, Agriculture and Forestry (APTCS-FAF) 2026–2035 as an important framework to steer future collaboration. The Meeting emphasised the need to ensure close coherence and alignment of the APTCS-FAF 2026-2035, with the ASEAN Vision on Food, Agriculture and Forestry towards 2045 and the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Strategic Plan (FAF-SP) 2026–2030, in order to maximise synergies and deliver tangible benefits. In this context, the Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to advancing shared priorities, including decarbonisation, digitalisation, regenerative

and sustainable agriculture, reduction of harmful agrochemicals, sustainable water management, and strengthened resilience to climate change.

4. The Meeting discussed the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) and noted with appreciation that in 2024, a total of 5,622 MT of rice under the Tier 3 Programme, voluntarily contributed by China, Japan, and the ROK, were released to support food security in Lao PDR, Myanmar, and the Philippines. The Meeting also welcomed the commitments for the FY 2025 Tier 3 Programme, namely:
 - China's in-cash contribution of USD 800,000 (approximately 950 MT of rice);
 - Japan's contribution of USD 580,000 (approximately 662 MT of rice, including pre-cooked rice and School Distribution Programme); and
 - ROK's contribution of 7,000 MT of rice.

These contributions have been instrumental in addressing emergencies and enhancing regional food security. The Meeting encouraged continued financial contributions from all APTERR Parties to ensure its sustainability.

5. The Meeting welcomed progress in strengthening the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS), including enhanced capacity building, integration of satellite and geospatial tools, improved statistical databases, and expanded training and human resource development supported by Japan and the ROK. The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of AFSIS in providing timely and reliable data for policymaking and encouraged AFSIS member countries and partners to continue engaging in its long-term sustainability.
6. The Meeting highlighted the critical role of public–private partnerships in advancing the ASEAN Plus Three priority agenda, particularly in accelerating innovation, investment, and technology transfer. The Meeting encouraged greater collaboration between governments, the private sector, and development partners to mobilise resources and expertise to strengthen food systems, promote sustainable value chains, and enhance the resilience and competitiveness of smallholders.
7. The Meeting underscored the significance of the newly adopted ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Strategic Plan 2026–2030 as guiding frameworks for regional cooperation. The Meeting reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring that ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in food, agriculture, and forestry supports the realisation of these regional visions, particularly in building a sustainable, innovative, inclusive, and resilient ASEAN Community.

8. The Meeting emphasised its support for the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the Vision of the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sector 2045 and its Cooperation Framework, which will be adopted by the 47th ASEAN Summit on 26 October 2025. The Meeting recognised that ASEAN Plus Three cooperation will contribute to advancing the Declaration's priorities, including decarbonisation, digitalisation, reduction of harmful agrochemicals, and strengthening food system resilience in line with the ASEAN 2045 vision.
9. The Meeting welcomed specific initiatives by the Plus Three countries, including:
 - China's efforts in digital agriculture, modern fisheries, green and sustainable agriculture, and control of major transboundary plant and animal diseases through ASEAN-China Action Plan on Green Agricultural Development (2023-2027);
 - Japan's initiatives on sustainable agriculture, smart agriculture, biomass upcycling, forest management (including mangrove ecosystem management), and sustainable fisheries through the ASEAN-Japan MIDORI Cooperation Plan; and
 - The ROK's contributions to smart farming, rice and vegetable value chain improvement, strengthening transboundary disease control, and real-time food security information sharing.

These initiatives were recognised as valuable contributions to regional food security, sustainable development, and resilience.

10. The Meeting stressed the important role of the private sector, as well as development partners such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), in providing technical expertise, policy research, and investment support to strengthen ASEAN Plus Three cooperation. The Meeting encouraged continued engagement with these stakeholders to ensure evidence-based policy, innovative solutions, and broader participation in implementing regional priorities.
11. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea for their continued support and commitment to ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in food, agriculture, and forestry.
12. The Meeting extended their sincere appreciation to the Government of the Philippines for the excellent arrangements made for the 25th AMAF Plus Three Meeting and for the warm hospitality extended to all delegations.

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