

The future of farming



Profitable and Sustainable Farming with Conservation Agriculture

LIST OF ACTIONS

The Congress suggested the following specific list of action areas:

- 1. Farmer associations and networks should be encouraged and reinforced at national and international levels, as the most effective bottom-up means of disseminating and developing CA.
- 2. Benefits of CA such as increased land productivity, diversification prospects, climate change adaptability and mitigation and increased profits for smallholders and larger-scale farmers should be drawn to the attention of national and international communities as well as global benefits on land resources, health and environment.
- 3. Given that major information, experience, capacities and tools concerning CA are available in South and North America and Australia, and are quickly developing in Africa, Asia and Europe, international organizations should encourage south-south and south-north co-operation for CA development programmes to make greater use of the available knowledge and expertise.
- 4. The private and the public sectors as well as NGOs and civil society should actively collaborate in the development with farmers, of the technologies needed to achieve CA such as adapted and accessible information, practices, tools, seeds and safe use of chemicals when needed. Of particular importance in this context are technologies for a CA oriented sustainable agricultural mechanization including related agri-hire services and businesses with the potential of new jobs and increasing attractiveness of farming with specific focus on smallholder farmers particularly in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
- 5. Greater attention should be given to transform paddy rice systems into CA systems as well as to integrating legumes and cover crops, trees and shrubs, and perennial systems such as orchards and plantations, into CA systems.
- 6. Promote the adoption of CA as the most suitable way to restore degraded land and to stop future land degradation. Special attention should be given to promote the adoption of CA in areas with high degradation risks.
- 7. Increased support needs to be provided to strengthen CA Centres of Excellence worldwide as well as to the use of communication and information technology and digital tools to maximize the generation, sharing and application of CA knowledge and expertise.
- 8. The role of the public sector should be to promote CA as an institutional policy framework, with inter-agency working agreements to provide appropriate support from public sources for the adoption of CA:
 - to recognise the public benefits of CA including fight against climate change, the conservation of natural resources (water, soil, biodiversity), the protection of the environment, the reduction of flooding and damage to civil infrastructure among others which result from the farmers' private initiatives,
 - to recompense farmers for these societal services and help them to face the costs necessary to make the transition to CA, especially the purchase of







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machinery and implements conducive to the adoption of CA which farmers may not be able to initially afford,

- to fund appropriate key research and advisory service with the public and private sectors, to support access to appropriate knowledge through the development of training and capacity building sessions for farmers, advisors, institutions, etc.,
- to implement information campaigns, policies and activities to encourage CA and appropriate private investment into this area as well as to discourage inappropriate practices,
- to provide appropriate infrastructures to facilitate the transport, processing, distribution and if necessary, the exportation of the surplus production,
- to support adoption and continuity of CA systems managed at local levels through legislation, incentives and investment support.

These measures should be linked with existing legislation and other appropriate instruments such as the UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNCBD and their programmes.

- 9. Contributions should be made to the work of international conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNCBD). Also, a special synergy with the IPCC and carbon-related initiatives should be examined so that carbon sequestration via CA systems could become a substantial incentive to make it happen.
- 10. The representatives of the various stakeholders attending the Congress should develop partnership and make commitments to design, plan and implement actions as well as monitoring procedures, in order to be able to present them along with some results during the 9WCCA in 2024.



