AFA holds 4th General Assembly AFA crafts new 5-year strategic plan



After a two-day strategic planning workshop held in Ping Tung, Taiwan, AFA farmer leaders and staff crafted the broad framework for their Strategic Plan for 2011-2015. Highlights of the workshop included an analysis of AFA's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT), a review of its progress vis-a-vis its strategic objectives over the last five years (2006-2010), as well as its mission, vision, goals, and 8-point peasant agenda (now 9-point peasant agenda).

The framework centers around three main strategic objectives including: (1) maximizing support of partners (CSOs, government and intergovernmental bodies, other FOs) in the promotion of AFA's agenda by increasing networking activities and forging concrete partnership projects; (2) strengthening capacity of AFA in Knowledge Management; and (3) building a more sustainable, stronger AFA through a small-farmer centered governance and diversified financing.

The strategic plan crafted on April 21-22 at the National Ping Tung University of Science and Technology (NPUST), was subsequently approved during the 4th AFA General Assembly held on April 23 at the same venue.

Also held back-to-back with the strategic planning and general assembly were: a field visit to the onion museum and distribution center and wax apple farms of TWADA members, a special Execom meeting, and a video shooting of TWADA and TDFA members' production and marketing activities.

The special Execom meeting also saw the approval of AFA's 2009 financial audit report, operation plans and budget for 2010, and membership application with the World Rural Forum (WRF).

The 4th General Assembly also oversaw the formal approval of the regular membership of WAFF (Women Advanced Farmers Federation) from South Korea and AINOUKAI from Japan, as well as the election of a new set of Execom officers.

The events were hosted by the Taiwan Wax Apple Development Association (TWADA) in cooperation with NPUST and were attended by farmer leaders and staff from AFA's 10 member organizations from eight countries such as API (Indonesia), PAKISAMA (Philippines), SORKORPOR (Thailand), FNN (Cambodia), VNFU (Vietnam), KAFF and WAFF (South Korea), AINOUKAI (Japan), and TWADA and TDFA (Taiwan).

Workshop results and proceedings, as well as field visit reports, will be made available online.

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