

Preface

2013 World Agricultural Outlook Conference Overview

It has always been the major concern in the world to safeguard food security and to ensure the sufficient supply of agricultural products, which is also the corner stone for the world and regional stable economic growth. Taking into consideration global agricultural development trends, agricultural production will enter into a new stage featured with high cost, high risk and much more strict resource and environment constraints in the future, which will further increase uncertainties of agricultural development. In response to the daunting task of enhancing world food security, it is imperative to make projection and analysis of the future agricultural production and market trend, to facilitate in-depth communication and knowledge sharing, to formulate policy options on the agricultural development, and ultimately to promote the predictability and management competence over agricultural market.

“2013 World Agricultural Outlook Conference (WAOC)” supported by Ministry of Agriculture of the People’s Republic of China, co-organized by United Nations Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), was hosted by Agricultural Information Institute (AII) of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), such as FAO, OECD and IFPRI. Other countries participated in the conference.

WAOC held on June 6–7, 2013, at Beijing Friendship Hotel, discussed current situation and future challenges facing agricultural development in the next decade. Conference contents were as following:

1. **Opening Ceremony and Press Release:** FAO/OECD presentation on 2013 World Outlook (summary), AII presentation on 2013 China Outlook (summary)
2. **Key Policy Challenges for the Next 10 Years and Approaches:** keynote speeches by FAO, OECD, IFPRI, USDA, CAAS, etc.
3. **Global and China Commodity Outlook:** grains, oilseeds, biofuel, cotton, sugar, livestock, and dairy, by specialists from international organizations and national institutes

4. **Scenario Analysis on Macro-economy and Hot Topics on Food Projection:** agricultural early-warning and monitoring system, resource constraints, climate changes, biofuel, population growth and change, by specialists from different regions.

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