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Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Tanzania

**Remarks by United Nations Resident Coordinator, Mr. Zlatan Milišić
| Online Capacity Building Workshop on
Applications of Juncao Technology and its Contribution to the Achievement
of Sustainable Agriculture and the SDGs in Tanzania | March 4, 2021**

- Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Dar es Salaam, Prof. Benadette Killian,
- Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), UN DESA, Mr. Amson Sibanda
- Officials from the National Engineering Research Center of Juncao Technology, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, China,
- UN Colleagues,
- Invited Guests,

A very good afternoon to everyone,

It is my pleasure to join you I would like to start by commending UN DESA and the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University for organizing what I'm sure will be a very informative and worthwhile workshop.

Today's workshop is very relevant for Tanzania as agriculture employs more than 65 per cent of the population and provides more than 65 per cent of industrial raw materials. Given this data and the fact that the country has achieved middle-income

status as of last year, prioritizing sustainable agriculture and the SDGs has the potential to build on Tanzania's economic momentum and accelerate its development.

The UN in Tanzania is currently implementing the United Nations Development Assistance Plan 2016-2021 (UNDAP II) which is the vehicle through which UN agencies support the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania to achieve its objectives in its national visions (Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and Zanzibar Vision 2020) as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As part of this framework, numerous UN Agencies are supporting the Government to improve the agriculture sector by creating a more enabling environment for farmers, promoting innovations and technologies, strengthening marketing systems of various commodity value chains, and building resilience to shocks and hazards.

Promoting the use and adoption of proven agricultural innovations and technologies in order to build a base for transformation of the agricultural sector for enhanced food security, nutrition and incomes is an important area of our work. Our work in this area links directly to implementation of the SDGs by contributing to the eradication of poverty, reduction of hunger, use of renewable energy, promotion of employment and responding to climate change.

With 30 to 40 per cent of food being lost at the farm or during transportation, the UN works to promote post-harvest management, technology, innovation and climate-smart agriculture to reduce waste so that smallholder farmers can supply high quality products and secure more from their main source of annual income.

Making the entire farming process more efficient is a win for the farmers, the agricultural sector and the economy as a whole.

Another important component of this work is linking farmers to different partners to help them access different services such as, to name a few, microloans, online trading platforms, WhatsApp-based extension services and accurate information related to weather forecasts.

As the UN system, we remain committed to continue working with all partners to transform the agricultural and achieve the SDGs and Tanzania's national development priorities. We are very happy that UN DESA and the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University has been able to organize this event. I encourage all of you to make the most of it and spread the important knowledge that you gain as widely as possible.

I wish you all a very productive workshop! **Thank you very much!**