

**South Asian Policy Dialogue on regional
cooperation for strengthening national
food security strategies**

New Delhi, India, 13-14 August, 2013

Food Security measures taken by
SAARC for the Member Countries

Declaration of 16th SAARC Summit

Thimphu, 28-29 April 2010

As of Para-29, “Acknowledging the enormity of the challenges related to food insecurity and poverty, the Leaders directed the SAARC Agriculture Ministers to vigorously pursue regional cooperation in agriculture covering all sub-sectors to enhance overall agricultural productivity. They called for regional efforts on increased sharing of best practices, technologies, techniques, and materials. Given the importance of quality seeds in enhancing productivity, they further directed early consideration of the concept of a regional Seed Bank, regional testing and certification of seeds, and a framework for transfer of plant genetic material and seeds. They agreed that South Asian agriculture must benefit from collaborative efforts from within and among SAARC countries by undertaking specific initiatives and projects.

SAARC Seed Bank Agreement & SAARC Food Bank Board

During the 17th Summit declaration, the Leaders have welcomed **the signing of the SAARC Seed Bank Agreement** and directed that the operational issues related to the **SAARC Food Bank** to be addressed by the next Session of Council of Ministers .

Objectives of SAARC Food Bank

- a) To act as a regional food security reserve for the SAARC Member Countries during normal time food shortages and emergencies and;
- b) To provide regional support to national food security efforts further Member country partnerships and regional integration and solve regional food shortages through alternative action;

The Food Bank is being managed by a Food Bank Board, it has held 5 (five) Meetings so far and the 6th Meeting of SAARC Food Bank Board scheduled to be held on 25-26 November, 2013 in Thimphu, Bhutan.

Technical Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

The main body formed to address cooperation in Agriculture is “Technical Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (TCARD)”. So far it has held 7 (seven) meeting. Bangladesh is the current Chairperson of the body.

The Reports of TCARD are submitted to the SAARC Agriculture Ministers Meeting and SAARC Council of Ministers for further policy directives.

Inter-Governmental Core Group on Research-Extension-Farming Linkage

SAARC Agriculture Minister Meeting (Islamabad, December 2006), underscored the importance of developing comprehensive linkage among research, extension and farmers.

Accordingly the expert group met twice so far (Dhaka, Nov 2007 & Dehradun, May 2009). The Third will be hosted by Sri Lanka.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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