

**WORKSHOP ON “IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA:
ENHANCING CAPACITY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO ADOPT
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE THROUGH *JUNCAO* TECHNOLOGY TO
ALLEVIATE POVERTY AND PROMOTE PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT”**

**Friday, 26 May 2017, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Conference Room 6, United Nations Headquarters, New York**

Welcome Remarks by Chef de Cabinet

Thank you, Lenni, for your kind introduction.

Ambassador Liu Jieyi,

Ambassador Jerry Matthews Matjila.

Ambassador Luke Daunivalu,

Mr. Lin Zhanxi

Colleagues,

Good morning.

I am delighted to welcome you to this workshop.

This event is convened as part of the activities implemented under the China-UN Peace and Development Fund. Ambassador Liu and I co-chair the Steering Committee of this Fund

At first glance, the event may appear technical.

But learning more about the technology, I see the tremendous value of this technology and its impact on the ground - in Fiji, in South Africa, in Papua New Guinea, and in Lesotho, and elsewhere.

I agree that we are witnessing a technological innovation that is already having broad social and economic and environmental impacts on the ground.

Many local communities are already benefiting from the introduction and adaption of this technology.

The products of the *Junchao* technology – the different varieties of mushrooms – are enhancing people’s nutrition and food security, creating income streams for farmers, and alleviating poverty in rural areas.

These multiple impacts demonstrate not only the economic, social and environmental benefits of the technology, but also the synergies between inclusive technology and sustainable development.

I strongly recommend that this technology be featured at the United Nations Science, Technology and Innovation Forum, under the Technology Facilitation Mechanism.

Indeed, this project also has the potential of connecting our analytical and capacity building work at Headquarters to SDG implementation on the ground.

With the adoption and dissemination of this technology, we can in a very concrete way advance progress in SDG1 on poverty, SDG2 on hunger, SDG3 on health, SDG5 on gender, SDG8 on growth, SDG 9 on innovation, SDG 10 on inequalities, SDG12 on sustainable consumption, and other SDGs, including SDG17 on partnerships.

Indeed, partnership, including through South-South Cooperation, is the other aspect that I want to highlight in relation to this technology.

I want to commend our Chinese scientists, Mr. Lin and the *Junchao* team, for not only pioneering and developing this technology but also having worked tirelessly for promoting its dissemination and adaptation so that millions more people can benefit from it.

We are going to hear from Ambassador Jerry Matthews Matjila of South Africa and Ambassador Luke Daunivalu of Fiji, two countries where the adaption and introduction of the technology has yielded multiple tangible benefits to local rural communities.

In this regard, I am pleased to note our colleagues from FAO and UNEP are joining us today.

I hope today's workshop will also create opportunities for scaling up collaboration to further disseminate this remarkable technology.

Excellencies,

Colleagues,

The Secretary-General has identified technology as an important part of our work at the United Nations.

Inclusive technology changes our world for the better, by sharing the benefits of science, technology and innovation with other nations.

I want to reassure our Chinese scientists that the United Nations stands ready to support you.

Please continue your pioneering work.

We will continue working with you and helping advance our joint vision for the future, the future we all want – through the 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development goals.

Thank you.