**Some Activities undertaken re International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **REGION** | **COUNTRY** | **ACTIVITIES** |
| EUROPE AND RUSSIA | France | Dec 2016 \_ Agropolis International Seminar “Identifying Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition: The contribution of science to the global policy debate”. Held Montpellier, France  ACTION: Bernard Hubert discussed proposal for IYRP |
| **NORTH AMERICA**  **AND MEXICO** | **Mexico plus UNEP, FAO, CI, etc.** | Side Event “World´s Grasslands and Rangelands at risk: the Role of Pastoralists and Livestock to Conserve Global Biodiversity” at CBD COP13 in Cancun on Dec 14, 2016  ACTION [1] Presentation and discussion of the Cancun Statement on **Promoting Sustainable Pastoralism and Livestock Production for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Grasslands and Rangelands**  ACTION [2] Dissemination of endorsed “Cancun Statement”, Dec 2016 worldwide |
| **CENTRAL AND**  **SOUTH AMERICA** | **Argentina: AAMPN**  **(Asociación Argentina para el manejo de Pastizales Naturales)** | Nov 2016 \_ VII Congress of the AAMPN (Argentinean Society of Rangeland Management). Susana Feldman explained IYRP; a motion of supporting the initiative was approved by all the members.  With the help of former IRC President (Gabriel Oliva) and former and current Presidents of AAMPN (Carlos Rossi & Lisandro Blanco, respectively), Susana Feldman trying to get support of the Argentinean authorities. |
| NORTH AFRICA &  MIDDLE EAST | Sub-Sahara - Kenya | Related (no mention IYRP):  2016 Jan \_ Lukenya Pastoralists Declaration.  Pastoralist Organizations from Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda, met at the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub Regional Meeting for Eastern and Southern Africa, in Lukenya (Kenya)  CALL: promote dialogue with national governments, and with pastoralists; recognize customary laws and traditional ways of tenure; harmonize conservancy concept with pastoralists livelihood sustainability etc. |
| **AFRICA**  **SOUTH OF THE SAHARA** | **South Africa** | GSSA has formally been in touch with our Dept. of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) to request that the SA Ambassador to the UN support the IYRP. Dept. of Foreign Affairs (DAFF) handles this process. Tony Palmer is confident a formal request to UN will be submitted as Dr Baldwin Ndovela is now in DAFF. |
| CENTRAL ASIA  AND MONGOLIA | China | Related events planned (no specific mention of IYRP)  June 2016 Grassland Day |
| S & E ASIA |  |  |
| **AUSTRALIA** | **Australian Rangelands Society** | Letters sent to all State Government Ministers of Agriculture; and Ministers of Environment asking for support. We know one has formally written to Federal Government counterpart supporting the IYRP. Some discussions with Federal Government members.  Two interviews (see below) with reasonable media coverage on TV, radio & newspapers in Australia; and some distribution world-wide |
| **United Nations Committees** | Positive discussions re a letter of support from Australian UN committee to UN Assembly; and/or through Australian UN Ambassador. |

Links to Australia press coverage:

[1] David Phelps (President ARS):

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-11-02/international-year-of-rangelands-pastoralists/7988278>

Example of the same interview, many others as well:

* <https://www.facebook.com/OurOutbackOurStory/photos/pb.386191698226403.-2207520000.1478200634./614131595432411/?type=3&theater>;
* <http://australia.shafaqna.com/EN/AU/912508> (transmitted to 100 countries)

[2] Geoff Wise is a retired Western Lands Commissioner, and Regional Director for the rangelands of New South Wales:   
http://www.weatherzone.com.au/news/the-rangelands-of-the-future-balancing-grazing-and-biodiversity/525233