

**REPORT FROM**

**International Year of Rangelands & Pastoralists/Rangelands Initiatives**

**Open Space Session**

GASL Conference – September 10, 2019 – 10:00am

**Agenda – 30 Minute Session**

**With Special Thanks to the Government of Mongolia**

<https://globalrangelands.org/international-year-rangelands-and-pastoralists-initiative>

**Moderator** - Livia Olsen, KSU Libraries and Rangelands Partnership - [livia@ksu.edu](mailto:livia@ksu.edu)

**Status of the Mongolian Government Proposal to COAG/FAO Calling for a Designated International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP)**

* Mr. Munkhnasan, Ministry of Food & Agriculture Light Industry, Mongolia
* Mr. Tumur-Uya Jambaltseren, State Secretary, Mongolia (unable to participate; travel issues)
* Tungalag Ulambayar, Saruul Khuduu Environmental Research & Consulting (Saruul Khuduu ERC), Mongolia - [tungaa.sg@gmail.com](mailto:tungaa.sg@gmail.com)

**Welcome from Rangelands Initiative-Global and Rangelands Partnership**

* Barbara Hutchinson, University of Arizona and Rangelands Partnership/Rangelands Initiative-Global – [barbarah@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:barbarah@cals.arizona.edu)

**Questions and Discussion**

This brief session provided an opportunity to exchange information among interested parties. In spite of limited time, many people made suggestions and provided insights into home country situations. Highlights included:

* Mongolia has organized groups internally among three key ministries, NGOs, and others to form a National Task Force for the IYRP initiative. They have MOUs to work together and raise awareness. The IYRP Support Group also supports the effort through outreach such as a website, resource materials, posters, and holding side events at international meetings.
* Participants asked about available guidance on the process of supporting Mongolia’s proposal from ISP and National Task Force.
* Participants appreciated availability of information materials accessible from website.
* Discussed 1) informing/communicating among various in-country stakeholders, 2) creating a structure (Task force or Support group etc.) to move forward to get their government or organization support, and 3) obtaining formal support.
* There is a possibility to gain support from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Peru.
* Presidents of Uganda and Kenya are meeting soon to discuss pastoralist issues; may be an opportunity to gain a statement from those countries.
* U.S. State Department has a new pastoralist working group (USAID); contact Andrew Bisson for more information.

**Follow-up Requests**

* Need to have specific information on how to gain government support
* Need list of countries and organizations who have already submitted letters of support for the Mongolian Government
* Need explanation of why this effort is important
* Need specific details on what is needed from/how to go about gaining support from (1) governments and (2) organizations

**Participants and invitees**

* Carol Baldwin, K-State Research & Extension - [carolbaldwin@ksu.edu](mailto:carolbaldwin@ksu.edu)
* Andrew Bisson, USAID – [abisson@usaid.gov](mailto:abisson@usaid.gov)
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* Pablo Frere, Red Pastoramericas, Redes Chaco and World Pastoralist Association (WoPA) Argentina **-** [pablofrere@gmail.com](mailto:pablofrere@gmail.com)
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* Ilse Köhler-Rollefson, League for Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development**,** Germany/India **-** [ilse.koehlerroll@googlemail.com](mailto:ilse.koehlerroll@googlemail.com)
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