**IYRP Steering Committee Agenda**

**Conference Call - Thursday, February 16 at 1:00 MST (3:00 East Coast US time)**

Attendees: Jim, Maryam, Barbara, Rikke, Iain, Ann, Katherine, Ray, Dana, Jurgen

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

YouTube Channel/Playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9bs98fSwEjSp2MIsmRQ7hT5kznTqsUFw>

1. **Documents added to IYRP webpage** – Barbara provided an update on the following:
2. Minutes of January 18, 2017 – added
3. Seven presentations from SRM IYRP workshop – added
4. SRM Resolution for IYRP - added
5. Process Document - added
6. Terms of Reference – added
7. Master List of Upcoming Events - added
8. **Open Flyer** – waiting for final version to add to website
   1. Has been reviewed and edited; question about using “natural grasslands” term; also question about intensive systems…Maryam suggested deleting that entire sentence for the latter. ILRI suggested complete rewrite as it is too academic. So what do we do next? Possibly two different versions? Need to be more positive in approach. Maybe a briefing note as well as a marketing flyer?
   2. **ACTION:** Iain, Jurgen and Ray will work on refining the language. Then this flyer will be considered final. Then we can move on to preparing a Briefing Note. There was general agreement to do this.
9. **Steering Committee membership** – do we need to add a pastoralist on the Committee?
   1. Agreement that it would be hard to have one who represents all.
   2. Further discussion of who would constitute a Steering committee and an Advisory committee
   3. Ann: Conclusion in previous meeting was that an Advisory Group could be made up of people from the key countries that express interest in taking the resolution forward.
   4. **DECISION**: wait until there is a group of countries ready to take forward the resolution.
10. **On-line Registry**
    1. Possibly Google Forms and Google Sheets – Fiona and Barbara will continue to test options. This would give us a way to keep everyone informed of interested parties.
11. **Update on Resolutions by Country**
    1. Should SC do a Full Briefing Note? – Would be good for NY, include why this is an important issue along with statistics. **DECISON** was made to start on a draft.
    2. Sample ‘Example of a Resolution’ – is everyone comfortable with our using this in country-level meetings? General agreement.
    3. Mongolia – group had a meeting two weeks ago; well-connected in Ministry of Environment. There was enthusiasm but then met a brick wall. Did not know what to do next. Need something to take to Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Perhaps an “example resolution” would help?
    4. Tanzania and Ethiopia – Fiona is meeting with officials in these countries and there is interest. Ray and Jim will be in Kenya and will be working on the IYRP at end of February and first of March.
    5. South America – connections have been made, particularly in Peru
    6. Katherine reported her meeting with the Ministry of the Environment in Norway was delayed to last day of this month; they will go over Cancun Statement; also talked with Reindeer Assn and they are interested in putting a call for the IYRP in their statement.
    7. There have been conversations about the IY in Morocco, too.
    8. Jurgen believes South Africa could be a strong lead. Also, he is working with contacts in Mexico to take forward the resolution. In particular, the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture may be willing to work together on an IYRP designation.
    9. Question about whether there can be too many countries taking forward a resolution, in terms of efficiency. Maryam believes ‘the more the better’ as that will help gain a positive vote in the General Assembly. Needs to have coordination.
    10. Jurgen suggests asking Sarah Frazee to join the next meeting on behalf of South Africa.
    11. Iain – will help with contacts in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Senegal.

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1. **Update on gap analysis**  -  Abdelkader was not able to participate
   1. Mounir and others have said they stand ready to help
2. **List of Upcoming Events**: prioritizing a few actions
3. World Bank in Washington DC in March 2017 – Fiona is ready to organize a side event. SC would like to find out what type of participation is needed; in looking at the papers, there are not many on rangelands so we might want to include more information on those issues.
4. Meeting to plan Seminar at UN – March World Bank conference is an opportunity to discuss holding an event at the UN in NYC.
5. High Level Forum on Sustainable Development Goals in July 2017 in NY – Maryam suggested this annual meeting could be a useful venue to discuss implementation process and hold a side event…a number of sustainable development goals mention rangelands and pastoralism. A country or institution needs to make the request and 3-4 to commit to organizing it. Panel with dialogue for 60-90 minutes. Does this group want to do this? Other benefit is that we could make a big show (depending how far the countries have gone on submitting a formal request). This would help get word directly to the ambassadors. Could also have breakfast briefings, seminars, etc. Could this be discussed in March at the WB conference? Maryam will check on deadline for proposals; usually 2-3 months before the event. We could ask SRM to assist. Iain agrees this is a high profile event and he could put some resources into this. Jurgen suggests a contact at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation could possibly help. **DECISION:** **Need to determine in the next week or two who is interested; suggestion to hold another call about this specifically. Need one or two countries, organizations etc. Iain, Jurgen agreed to assist along with Maryam – Jim will follow up immediately.** Rikke will check with Gregorio, but might be better for them to work on event in Bonn.
6. Side Event at COP 23 in Bonn, Germany in November 2017 – This seems to be another important event for the IYRP. Climate Change group might be more complicated so need to think through how we might organize a COP 23 event.
7. **Logo – comments?** In discussions with Fiona, she suggested changing field to plants. Jurgen and Ann felt there was more general approval for the second version.
   1. Maryam and Dana think second version doesn’t explain/demonstrate what rangelands and pastoralism is so would prefer another try
   2. Jim will contact Elizabeth

Next Meeting: Had difficulty finding a good day and time for everyone. The timing was good for Dana at 5:00am, but she could participate a bit earlier; Iain would like one or two hours earlier as it was 11:00pm for him. We will put out another Doodle poll to find a convenient day and time.

Update from Fiona re: World Bank conference:

As mentioned the WB have given me a room to hold a meeting on the IYR&P at the WB conference on Land and Poverty in Washington in March. There are a lot of pastoral papers being presented due to the support we  (ILC Rangelands Initiative/ILRI, FAO-PKH, Rangelands Partnership and CELEP) have been providing - probably an extra 12 papers than would have otherwise been submitted. Not only is it good to have the space in the meeting, but also good to see it in the programme in order to give publicity. For the programme see: <https://www.conftool.com/landandpoverty2017/sessions.php> ; agenda available: <https://www.conftool.com/landandpoverty2017/sessions.php>