



The leading voice for economically and environmentally sound forage focused agriculture.

March 12, 2021

His Excellency Jambaldorj Tserendorj
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
Embassy of Mongolia

Dear Excellency:

Subject: Support to the request from the Government of the Mongolia for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists

The American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC) presents its sincere greetings to you and your office of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. AFGC is privileged to present this letter of support for the Government of Mongolia's request for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.

Rangelands, pastures, and other forage production is the largest ecosystem in the world, spreading over 50 million square kilometers, and constitutes more than one third of the world land area and 70% of the world agriculture area. With the demand for food and fiber production growing, and the need to protect the environment by through permanent vegetation, this is an immense cause that AFGC is willing to support to help bring the importance of this issue into an international focus.

AFGC's primary objective is to promote the profitable production and sustainable utilization of quality forage and grasslands and is dedicated to advancing the use of forage. Our members represent the academic community, producers, private industry, institutions, and foundations. Together, they unite in a common cause to promote and develop the forage industry.

An International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists is a worthy and appropriate cause that aligns with AFGC's vision to be "the leading voice for economically and environmentally sound forage focused agriculture." Please accept our support for the Government of Mongolia for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Penrose
President, American Forage and Grassland Council

Tina Bowling
AFGC Executive Director

CC:

Dr Batmunkh Damdindorj, Director of Livestock Department, MoFALI, Mongolia, & Chair of National Support Group of IYRP
Ganbayar Ganbold, Permanent Representation to FAO, Mongolian Embassy in Rome
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