

**ILRI Ref: DG/Let/111/2020**

17<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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H.E. Mendsaikhan Zagdjav  
Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia  
13381 Zasglin gazriin IX bair  
Enkhtaivnii urgun chuluu 16a Bayanzurkh duureg  
Ulaanbaatar MONGOLIA

Your Excellency,

ILRI has already provided a letter in support of the Government of Mongolia's call for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP). We are now honoured to write to you to confirm our willingness to commit in-kind resources to the preparation for and implementation of the Year once approved.

### **The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)**

The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) works for better lives through livestock in developing countries. ILRI is co-hosted by Kenya and Ethiopia, has 14 offices across Asia and Africa, employs some 700 staff and has an annual operating budget of about USD80 million.

ILRI is a CGIAR research centre, a global research partnership for a food-secure future. CGIAR science is dedicated to reducing poverty, enhancing food and nutrition security, and improving natural resources and ecosystem services. CGIAR research is carried out by 15 CGIAR centres in close collaboration with hundreds of partners, including national and regional research institutes, civil society organizations, academia, development organizations and the private.

Pastoralism and rangelands are a key area of ILRI's work. We conduct research to improve the resilience of pastoral systems, and improve the ecosystems, livelihoods of the millions of people who depend on them. We believe that greater attention and support should be given to these rangeland systems and pastoralists.

*Patron: Professor Peter C Doherty AC, FAA, FRS  
Animal scientist, Nobel Prize Laureate for Physiology or Medicine–1996*

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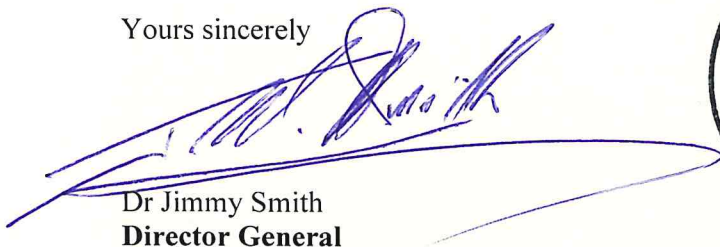
## Support for the IYRP

ILRI commits to supporting the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) in a number of ways. We commit to contributing towards the cost of a planning meeting for the IYRP once the Year has been approved by the Committee on Agriculture. ILRI will also avail staff from its communications and knowledge management team to support the Mongolian government and steering committees in raising awareness and garnering support more generally for the Year.

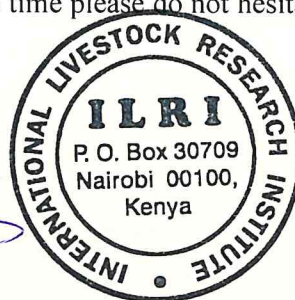
During the Year itself, ILRI is willing to support a number of key events, as to be decided and agreed with the Mongolian government and partners as part of the proposal and action plan for the Year. This could include making available the use of ILRI campus facilities and staff for the preparation and implementation of key events including meetings, experience sharing, and documentation, as well as support to pastoralist- and government-led events in the countries where ILRI operates. Again, ILRI's communication and knowledge management team will be on hand to assist with the production of publications, publicity material and media interactions.

In the meantime, we wish you every success in your application to FAO for the approval of the Year, and if you require any assistance from us at this time please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do our utmost to assist you.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jimmy Smith  
**Director General**



Cc: Dr. Batmunkh Damdindorj, Director of Livestock Department, MoFALI , Mongolia, and  
Chair of the National Support Group of the IYRP  
Mr. Ganbayar G., Permanent Representation to FAO, Mongolian Embassy in Rome. COAG  
Secretariat