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TO THE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURAL SECRETARIAT
(COAG) OF THE
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS (FAO)

Date: September 16th, 2020
ORD: 0248

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am reaching out to you as the Regional Director of INIA Kampenaiké, an agricultural research center belonging to the Chilean Agricultural Research Institute (INIA Chile), in order to support the proposal of the Government of Mongolia, with collaboration from international organizations, NGO's, academia and herder's communities, to declare 2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists as to raise global awareness of these resources.

The mission of INIA is to "Contribute to the sustainability of the agri-food sector at a global level, creating value and innovative solutions for farmers, partners and strategic partners and society, through research and development, innovation, extension and technology transfer." INIA Kampenaiké is located in one of the largest rangeland areas of Chile, Patagonia, which is recognized by its tremendous relevance for the agriculture, with more than 5 million hectares allocated to sheep and cattle systems, and at the same time having a great relevance providing exosystemic services for Chile and the world.

At INIA, we recognize the relevance of pastoralism, re-affirming the need to recover and generate healthy rangelands. We are aware of the significant number of pastoralists in Chile and the world, noting that an important percentage of the 12.5 million hectares of Chilean rangeland have undergone a degradation process. We also acknowledge that FAO has a long-standing work developed in supporting sustainable rangelands and pastoralists and recognizing the significant contributions that we, as a research institution can make from different approaches towards achieving pastoralism and rangelands sustainability.

For the purpose of preserving and enhancing the value of natural rangelands and the sustainability of the culture and lifestyle of people developing their activity in these areas, INIA Kampenaiké, with the support of all Magellan farmers Associations, wish to have the United Nations General Assembly declare an international Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP).

We hope that under your valuable support and coordination, the abovementioned support will be considered by the COAG in future meetings and subsequently will contribute to the proposal approval by the United Nation's General Assembly.

This letter is also signed by all four regional Associations, supporting the declaration of the IYRP.

Yours Sincerely,

Francisco Sales Z, INIA Kampenaiké
Director



Luis Mladinic P. Hereford Association
Bryan Corcoran Angus Association
Cristian Concha Magallanes Farmers Association
Rene Milicevic Tierra del Fuego Association