

H.E. Mendsaikhan Zagdjav
Minister of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry of Mongolia
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Subject: Commitment Letter for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists

Penampang, Malaysia, 31 August 2020

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the **ICCA Consortium**, we offer you sincere greetings. We are glad to learn that the resolution proposal submitted by the Government of Mongolia with other countries in support of the designation of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) is included in the agenda of the 27th session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) in September-October 2020. On 17 July 2019, we submitted a letter in support of the IYRP and hereby submit the present letter to reiterate our support for this initiative and encourage the adoption of this resolution.

The ICCA Consortium is an international non-profit association based in Switzerland that unites hundreds of organisations and federations of indigenous peoples, local communities and organisational and individuals supporters in over 80 countries. Our mission is to promote appropriate recognition and support for **territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities** (abbreviated as 'ICCAs' or simply '**territories of life**'), which are as essential for the identities, cultures, livelihoods and wellbeing of the people and communities who care for them as they are for the conservation of nature.

Rangelands governed, conserved, sustained and regenerated by mobile Indigenous peoples and pastoralists around the world through their institutions and systems of knowledge and practices contribute hugely to our global heritage and are an embodiment of the deepest human nature to sustain life through movement. Some of our Member organisations are grassroots organisations and national federations of mobile Indigenous peoples and pastoralists and we stand with them in their commitments to their territories and ways of life, including through support for self-strengthening their communities and organisations, documentation and communication (such as through short videos, reports, media and online events) and national and international policy advocacy.

The designation of an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists would provide opportunities globally and in specific national contexts to: raise the profile of and political will and support for rangelands and pastoral issues; improve understanding of and compassion for the challenges and opportunities faced by mobile Indigenous peoples and pastoralists, including in the context of climate and ecological breakdown and rising inequality; and mobilise diverse forms of support to respond to their self-determined priorities and needs.

In line with our mission and vision, we reiterate our commitment to supporting mobile indigenous peoples and pastoralists and their territories of life before and during the IYRP.

Yours sincerely,



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