

Secretariat of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) of the  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome, Italy  
[fao-hq@fao.org](mailto:fao-hq@fao.org)

**Ref: Support to the request from the Government of Mongolia for the International Year  
of Rangelands and Pastoralists**

Le Mont Pèlerin (Switzerland), July 17, 2019

To whom it may concern:

The [ICCA Consortium](http://www.iccaconsortium.org) is an international association based in Switzerland, which unites hundreds of organisations and federations of indigenous peoples, local communities and their supporters, as well as expert concerned professionals from over eighty countries. Its mission is to foster the appropriate recognition of, and support to, the **territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities**. These territories and areas, often referred to with the abbreviation 'ICCAs', are also appropriately called '**territories of life**' — as they are essential for the livelihoods of people as they are for the conservation of nature.

The ICCA Consortium has the honour of writing in support to the request of the Government of Mongolia for a **UN International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists**. We believe that the designation of an UN International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists would provide an excellent and much needed opportunity to raise the profile of rangelands and pastoral issues globally and nationally, to improve understanding of the relevant challenges and opportunities, and to direct increased attention and resources to them.

Some Members of the ICCA Consortium are national federations of mobile indigenous peoples and pastoralists. The approval of an UN International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists would give to the Consortium and its Members the perfect occasion to advocate for the **proper recognition and support of their territories of life, which the custodian communities are ready to govern, manage and conserve for local and global benefits**. Please help us to enhance the understanding and visibility of the many crucial issues related to that!

We look forward to hearing from you,



Teddy Browsers Baguilat Jr.  
President, The ICCA Consortium  
[teddy@iccaconsortium.org](mailto:teddy@iccaconsortium.org)



Dr. Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend  
Global Coordinator, The ICCA Consortium  
[gbf@iccaconsortium.org](mailto:gbf@iccaconsortium.org)