



جمعية المركز الفلسطيني لتطوير الثروة الحيوانية

Palestinian Livestock Development Center

**Palestine \Tubas City 28-05 -2019**

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

Dear Madams/Sirs,

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

Palestinian Livestock Development Centre \ In Tubas City- Palestine PLDC . presents its sincere greetings to you and your esteemed office of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Marie .M. Shawahina the general director of PLDC, has the honour of writing in support of the request of the Government of Mongolia for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.

We believe that the designation of an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists would provide an opportunity to raise the profile and support for rangelands and pastoral issues globally and nationally, improve understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by rangelands and pastoralists, and direct increased attention and resources to them.

Bedouin and herder communities are among the poorest and most marginalized populations in our country ( Occupied Palestine). In the West Bank, an estimated 30,000 Bedouins live in 183 communities in Area C, 1 under complete Israeli control, and with many under a constant threat of forcible transfer due to what the UN defines a coercive environment created by the Israeli military occupation, However, the The livestock sector makes a substantial contribution to the Palestinian economy: The value added by the agricultural sector in Palestine for the year 2012 was USD 322.6 million, about 5.9% of GDP. In addition to the above, These rangelands have been exposed to severe overgrazing for a long period of time, which has led to disappearance of many palatable plant species and eventually in soil erosion.

All this and more reasons, leads us to support this important initiative (for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists

With this in mind, please accept our support for the request of the Government of Mongolia for an International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists.

Yours sincerely,

PLDC