

Ref: AS0825

H.E. Mr. Enkhbayar Jadamba
Minister of Food, Agriculture, and Light Industry of Mongolia (MoFALI)
13381 Governmental Building 9<sup>th</sup>, Peace Avenue 16a,
Bayanzurkh District, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

## RE: Letter of Support for International Year of Rangeland and Pastoralist (IYRP) 2026

August 2025

Your Excellency,

Afriscout is a Global Communities (GC) social enterprise dedicated to supporting pastoralists in managing and restoring their rangelands, improving herd health, and enhancing livelihoods through the integration of Indigenous and local ecological knowledge with technology. With more than ten years of experience across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania, Afriscout has been actively involved in strengthening pastoralist communities in the eastern African drylands.

We take this opportunity to express our strong support for the United Nations International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) 2026. We recognize the critical importance of this initiative in highlighting the vital roles that rangelands and pastoralist communities play in global food security, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience.

The IYRP 2026 aligns closely with Afriscout's mission to restore degraded rangelands and empower their stewards across Africa. We believe this international focus will provide a valuable platform to amplify pastoralists' voices, enabling communities to share their local knowledge and experiences while advocating for supportive policies that improve their livelihoods.

We are committed to participating actively in IYRP 2026 through a range of activities before and during the year. This includes conducting workshops and training sessions in collaboration with regional partners, focusing on sustainable rangeland management, climate change adaptation, and advocacy.



Additionally, we plan to engage in regional and global consultations, contributing our research findings and best practices particularly around the use of technology and AI to the IYRP knowledge base.

To support these efforts, Afriscout is pursuing a diversified funding strategy, seeking partnerships with international organizations, foundations, government agencies, and private sector stakeholders. Our goal is to mobilize the necessary resources to sustain and expand our initiatives aligned with IYRP's objectives.

We believe that IYRP 2026 presents a transformative opportunity to improve the lives of pastoralist communities worldwide. Afriscout is eager to collaborate with the Government of Mongolia and other partners to ensure the success of this initiative and to contribute meaningfully to the future of pastoral communities and rangeland stewardship.

We look forward to productive collaboration and engagement together

Warm regards,

**Tom Mortimore** 

Managing Director – Afriscout. Global Communities <u>tmortimore@globalcommunities.org</u>