



Minutes of Online Meeting of RISG for IYRP “Central Asia & Mongolia”, 12 August 20122

Informed and discussed:

1. Dr. Hijaba opened the meeting. He asked all the presenters and participants whether or not they received the agenda, sent previously by email. All presented participants of the meeting responded that they received the agenda.
2. He invited to self-introduction of participants. Mr. Hongxu Du introduced himself first. He is from Inner Mongolia. He is a researcher on the animal herd and grasslands. Mrs. Maamnkhuu was the second introducing herself. Ms. Oyun Erdene translated for Maamnkhuu. She is the member Steering Committee of WAMIP, and she is from Southern Province of Mongolia. Dr. Hasrat Arjjumend was invited to introduce himself. He is the President of The Grassroots Institute (TGI) based in Canada. TGI is working at international and regional level, but not in local level, on the issues of rangelands and pastoralism. TGI is publishing journal on ‘Pastures and Pastoralism’ apart from operating Rangelands Initiative. Ms. Oyun Erdene has introduced herself. She has been assisting the Mamaankhuu voluntarily. She is working with herders in South Gobi region. Mr. Jigden introduced that he is working for WAMIP. Mr. Erkbayar also works for WAMIP in Mongolia. Mr. Erkin, Manager of JASIL, had introduced himself. Ms. Tsetsegee Yundordji translated for Davaasure Mandakh. She is Co-Founder and CEO of an NGO in Mongolia working on nomadism. Ms. Davaasuren Mandakh is a herder from South Gobi province. Lastly, Dr. Hijaba introduced himself representing the JASIL, which is working on advocacy and training, research on pastures, NRM and Pastoralism. He is serving as focal point for CAPA, Central Asian Pastoralist Alliance, and also for RISG CAM. He narrated about the activities of the JASIL and the CAM for IYRP.
3. Dr. Hijaba moved to the next agenda item. It was the priority issues in the Central Asia region. Around January-February 2022, there was an exercise of the prioritizing the issues at the regional level and global level. The issues were in social, economic and ecological aspects in the region. In the meeting/workshop, there were comments received on the document. There are 10-12 regions in IYRP contexts, and almost all have similar issues prioritized. Suggestions of everybody were also invited once again. Priority Issues document was screened to be discussed once again. Dr. Hijaba explained different 12 themes in the document, and the issues identified and prioritized. Dr. Hasrat raised a concern on the issue “Livestock/Wildlife Health”. The integration of wildlife with the livestock health will blur and dilute the importance of livestock health, he apprehended.

4. Next agenda item “Grassland Restoration in Wulatezhong Banner and Fencing by Wire Netting in Inner Mongolia” was taken up by Hongxi Du, Xueling Yao. Dr Hijaba called him to explain it. Hongxi explained with the help of screen presentation. “Livestock Alternated and Mixed Management” was major topic. Wulate grassland is located in western part of Mongolia bordering China. This was a kind of research paper presentation. At the end of the presentation, Dr. Hijaba put a question about the water management in this grassland. Oyun Erdene (Maamakuu) also asked similar question. The presenter answered the question.
5. The Announcement of Annual award for Pastoralist Communities-2022 was explained by Dr. Hijaba Ykhanbai. The announcement was already circulated by email. The Award will be announced and conferred during the Rangeland Forum in October, or during Interregional Asia Grassland Workshop, ICCA, November 2022.
6. Interregional Asia Grassland Workshop, ICCA, November 2022 will take place on 14 -16 November. It is a big event for pastoralists. Last year, JASIL was also part of the workshop. This workshop is a global initiative. Anyone interested to be nominated in the workshop, Dr. Hijaba can facilitate to nominate.
7. Global initiative on Outreach to Pastoralist Groups in Remote Area is the last item in the agenda. IYRP Global Coordination Group representing several regions is preparing the document. The activities may start from beginning of 2023 and to continue until end of 2026. This initiative is to source the resources and donors for IYRP.
8. The meeting was concluded by Dr. Hijaba. Dr. Hasrat also intervened briefly and extended thanks. Maamakhuun (Oyun-Erdene) wanted to meet Dr. Hijaba in person after the meeting.

Next meeting of RISG “Central Asia and Mongolia” can be held in second half of October 2022; however, exact date and agenda will be developed and disseminated according to the need of the RISG CAM.

Meeting started at 7.00 pm ULT (1.00 pm CEST) and closed at 8.27 pm ULT (2.27 pm CEST).

Minutes compiled by

Dr. Hasrat Arjjumend, The Grassroots Institute and Dr. Hijaba Ykhanbai, JASIL