

**Expressions of Appreciation
and Collaboration to Promote the GIAHS Initiative
27 September 2014**

1. We, the participants from Asia and the Pacific (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam), having participated in the **First High Level Training on Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) under the South-South Cooperation Programme** from 14-27 September 2014 in China, sincerely express our gratitude to **MOA, Department of International Cooperation and CICOS of China and FAO.**

2. For all of us, this is the first exposure to the conceptual framework and dynamic conservation approaches to the GIAHS initiatives. The well-organized mix of classroom lectures and field visit program made the training sessions useful to appreciate the benevolent motive and intent of the GIAHS. The opportunity to meet and interact with different people such as academicians, bureaucrats, technocrats, and farmers gave us the depth of the GIAHS significance. It also allowed us to observe, feel and experience the diverse and unique heritage of this Great Nation, China, which includes knowledge, culture, landscape, environment and many others.

3. It is most appropriate to put in record our sincere appreciation to the Government of Peoples Republic of China and the FAO in taking the stewardship of leading the GIAHS initiatives. The GIAHS has given platform to the often voiceless indigenous farming communities of the world by adequately and appropriately recognizing their knowledge and wisdom of sustainable farming and sustainable living.

4. Through this experience, it is our commitment to serve as an ambassador of the GIAHS. We will educate our policy makers and stakeholders on the profound principles of GIAHS and accordingly mainstream it in our regular workplan and usher it to new height. In the years to follow, we hope to build strong regional GIAHS network that will serves as the living repository of traditional agricultural knowledge system that would lead towards fulfilling the sustainable development agenda of securing food and nutrition security not only in the respective countries but in the region as well. In the era of environmental and climate adversity, GIAHS provides tangible options and solutions to sustainable development. GIAHS is therefore LIVING, EVOLVING, PROSPEROUS and SUSTAINABLE.


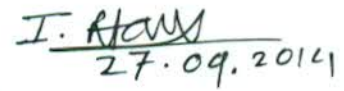
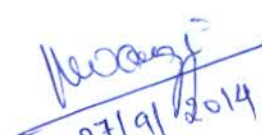


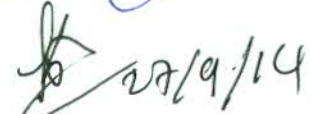




5. We assure that we will remain connected and will help each other and we also remain highly hopeful that the experts from FAO and China will extend necessary assistance whenever required.

6. Lastly all of us would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate the warm hospitality extended to us by all stakeholders and making our stay in China fruitful. Your kindness and commitment had strengthened our conviction to take GIAHS to greater heights and we collectively pledge to do that for the well being of Humanity.

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谢谢

[Name and Signatures]

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(II) Bhutan	1.		
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(iii) Cambodia	1.		
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(IV) Fiji	1.		
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(V) India	1.		
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VI. Indonesia

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VII. Maldives

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VIII. Nepal

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IX. Mongolia

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X. Sri Lanka

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XI. Thailand

1. *B. Luyangh*

2. ~~*Shah*~~

(XII) Vietnam

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