20 February 2013

NOMINATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA, HIS EXCELLENCY MR EVO MORALES AYMA, AND THE FIRST LADY OF THE REPUBLIC OF PERU, HER EXCELLENCY MRS NADINE HEREDIA ALARCÓN DE HUMALA, AS FAO SPECIAL AMBASSADORS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF QUINOA

Your Excellency Mr Evo Morales, President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia,

Your Excellency Mr Vice President of the General Assembly of the United Nations,

Your Excellency Mr Representative of the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Your Excellency Mrs Nadine Heredia de Humala, First Lady of Peru,

Your Excellency Mr Rafael Roncagliolo Obregoso, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru,

Your Excellency Madam Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture and Fisheries of Ecuador,

Distinguished Representatives of the countries here today,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is for FAO a source of great satisfaction and a high honour to be able to confirm the President of Bolivia as FAO Special Ambassador for the International Year of Quinoa and to designate the First Lady of Peru Nadine Heredia de Humala as Special Ambassador.

This golden grain is the legacy of the Andean peoples that offers us *"a future sown thousands of years ago"*, to cite the slogan used in the declaration of the United Nations on this International Year.

In this brief ceremony, President Morales and First Lady Nadine join our efforts to share this food with the world as FAO Special Ambassadors for the International Year of Quinoa.

We are very proud that they have accepted this nomination. And in doing so, the President and the First Lady will not only be promoting quinoa but will also be contributing to FAO's mission to eradicate hunger in the world.

Your Excellency Mr President, Your Excellency Madam First Lady, I have the honour to present you with the diploma that recognizes you as FAO Special Ambassadors for the International Year of Quinoa.

THE DIPLOMAS OF AMBASSADOR ARE THEN CONFERRED