



THE GROUP OF 77 & CHINA

ROME CHAPTER

Rome, 15th May 2012

Dr. Robert G. Guei
Secretary of the Committee on Agriculture
Rome

Dear Dr. Guei,

In my capacity as Chair of the Group of 77, I am pleased to inform you that:

- During the G77 Plenary of 4 May 2012, the Group of Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean requested the G77 to endorse a candidature from the GRULAC to Chair the Committee on Agriculture for the 2012–2014 biennium, to be elected during the 23rd COAG session in May 2012.
- The GRULAC Chair indicated that this aspiration is based upon the long-standing rotation for the COAG Chair (adhered to since the creation of the COAG in 1972), which assigns two terms to developing countries for every developed-country term, and that the GRULAC is the G77 Regional Group that has not held this post for the longest period of time. The G77 agreed that this is a fair and accurate understanding of established practice, because developing countries represent more than two-thirds of the FAO membership.
- The GRULAC Chair further explained that on 16 March 2012 the Regional Group had unanimously endorsed the candidacy of Ambassador Mario Arvelo, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic, for COAG Chair.
- Consequently, the G77 duly endorsed the candidacy of Ambassador Arvelo to become COAG Chair for the 2012–2014 term.

Please find Ambassador Arvelo's CV as an attachment to this letter.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Gladys Urbaneja Durán
G-77 & China Chairperson

Cc: Mr. Shobhan Pattanayak, COAG Chair