



FOREST AGENCY

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MONGOLIA

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TO 8TH INTERNATIONAL WILDLAND FIRE CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Excellency

The National Forest Agency of Mongolia congratulates the Government of Portugal for hosting the 8th International Wildland Fire Conference.

Due to its geography and climate in Central Asia, Mongolia is particularly affected by the consequences of climate change on our forest and steppe ecosystems. Along with socio-economic changes in the rural space, we have recognized that our country has become increasingly vulnerable to wildfires.

Since the early 2000s, Mongolia has intensified its programmatic and outreach activities in the management of steppe and forest fires. Principles of Integrated Fire Management have been applied successfully. This is expressed by our dual approach of integration. First, we have been considering the historic role of fire in shaping our ecosystems and have learned that sustainable fire management must include the wise use of fire for the benefit of natural and cultural ecosystems.

The second dimension of our approach concerns the integration of rural communities in fire management.

In 2008, Mongolia took over the responsibility of convening the Regional Central Asia Wildland Fire Network within the family of the Global Wildland Fire Network. In 2012, Mongolia became the 57th Participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. In 2015 the OSCE through funding by Switzerland and the support of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe – Mongolia assisted our country to establish the Regional Fire Management Resource Center for Central Asia – the third in sequence of meanwhile eight Regional Centers throughout the continents. In the same year, the regional center took over the function of Co-Directorate of the Global Fire Monitoring Center.

With the creation of the National Steppe and Forest Fire Committee, Mongolia has applied the principles of inter-agency, cross-sectoral and – through the inclusion of local communities – governance principles that have been reviewed at this conference.

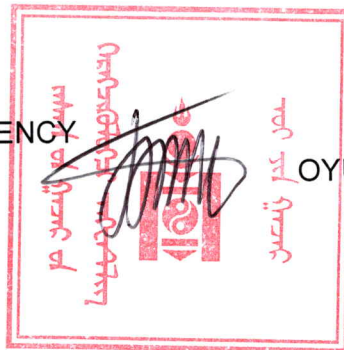
At the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Indonesia in May 2022, the government of Mongolia, represented by Deputy Prime Minister Amarsaikhan Sainbuyan, has stated that Mongolia is available in supporting the development of an International Landscape Fire Management Framework.

There are two ways Mongolia will contribute. First, as the current chair Dr.Oyunsanaa Byambasuren (Director-General of National Forest Agency) of the FAO Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC), Mongolia endorses the concept of the establishment of the Global Fire Management Platform – now called “Fire Hub”.

Second, in our function in the Global Wildland Fire Network Mongolia is authorized and available to provide all inputs of the Directorates of the Global Fire Monitoring Center and the Regional Central Asia Fire Management Resource Center.

In following-up this conference, the National Forest Agency of Mongolia will support the endeavor of the 8th International Wildland Fire Conference towards developing the Landscape Fire Governance Framework as well as the preceding initiatives and proposes a recognition by a United Nations General Assembly resolution.

NATIONAL FOREST AGENCY
DIRECTOR-GENERAL



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