



MESSAGE

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On behalf of the Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, I am pleased that we jointly with Bioversity International, are organising the *1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress from 6-9 November 2016* in New Delhi. It is encouraging that several national and global organisations such as ICAR, NBA, PPV&FRA, DST, ISGPB, MSSRF, NIF, TAAS, ACIAR, CIMMYT, ICRISAT, ICARDA, BISA, CABI, APAARI, EcoAfrica, FAO, GCDT, GIZ, JIRCAS, Kirkhouse Trust and some seed companies are co-sponsoring the congress.

Considering the importance of agrobiodiversity for human welfare and for achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs), the congress is expected to deliberate for the first time important issues concerning scientific, technical, policy, and the legal matters affecting the management, conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity.

It is highly encouraging to see an overwhelming response for the participation in the congress. More than 100 invited key speakers and around 800 delegates from 45 countries are expected to attend. It is expected that the deliberations would help us in defining a clear 'Road Map' for the sustained management and use of agrobiodiversity for over all betterment of humankind.

New Delhi is a beautiful capital representing both traditional and modern culture and known for its warm hospitality. It is our expectation that the delegates would find time to enjoy its flavour especially during pleasant weather at this time of the year.

I wish the 1st IAC 2016 a great success and look forward to see that it eventually becomes a rolling event and provides a neutral platform to deliberate most emerging issues concerning sustainable agricultural development and for global food, nutrition and environmental security through efficient management and use of agrobiodiversity.

Date : 14 October 2016

(Raj S. Paroda)

President, ISPGR, Chairperson, TAAS
and

Co-Chair, IAC 2016