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MESSAGE

I am happy to know that the **1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress (IAC 2016)** is being organized in India; in New Delhi from 6-9 November 2016. Science led innovations in agriculture in the past century have led to new openings and capacity building all over to harness biotechnologies for solution-finding research. India endeavours to work in partnerships with other countries and private sector on a sustainable basis to help maintain the rich agrobiodiversity evolved by the generations of farmers and also use it diligently with the newer tools of science and technology. In this context, the regulation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) including their trans-boundary movements and biosafety/biosecurity; and handling of the environmental, public order and morality/ethical issues is critical. I will be happy to receive any futuristic recommendation emerging from the in-depth deliberations on germplasm-centric science led innovations as well as Quarantine, Biosafety and Biosecurity Issues during IAC 2016.

I congratulate Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and Dr. R.S. Paorda for the initiative and all the organizers of IAC and convey my best wishes to all the participants for purposeful deliberations.

Date : 5 October 2016

(Dr. Harsh Vardhan)