Dear Ms. Natasha Hayward,

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) presents its compliments to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP).

On behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), I am pleased to confirm that FAO stands ready and willing to serve as the supervising entity (SE) for technical assistance (TA) of the “Strengthening Producer Organizations in Kyrgyz Republic” proposed for GAFSP financing by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

FAO has been thoroughly involved in the preparation of the proposal in close collaboration with the Government (in particular the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Regional Development of the Kyrgyz Republic) and the World Bank as the SE for investment selected by the Government. From the FAO side and along our own procedures, the “Strengthening Producer Organizations in Kyrgyz Republic” TA project would be a new stand-alone project.

Subject to GAFSP decision by the end of 2021, we expect the following tentative project milestones. Please note however that the schedule for processing of the FAO TA project documentation is also dependent on the processing of the investment components by the Government and the World Bank as its investment SE. The tentative schedule is as follows:

- By July 2022, the project document would be prepared according to the FAO format and submitted for clearance within FAO and for no objection by the GAFSP steering committee;
- By September 2022, the project document would obtain all internal FAO clearances and the document could be signed with the Government;
- By November 2022, FAO expects that the TA project activities could start implementation.

In the Kyrgyz Republic FAO has a current portfolio of thirty-one projects (global, regional and country level) under implementation for a total value of USD 12.819.630 million all providing technical assistance in the fields of agriculture and food security. FAO does not have a performance rating mechanisms and is implementing a number of range of projects financed from its own resources, Government resources and bilateral and multilateral donors. The projects most relevant to this proposal are the following:

- Enhancing capacity for food safety management in the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry.
- Sustainable, resilient and inclusive food systems development.
- Promoting accelerated green investment in agriculture through capacity building of national financial institutions (RKDF)
- Assessment and improvement of institutional capacities on food control, food safety management systems and international standards.
• Support for development of sustainable value chains for climate-smart agriculture
• Support to establish the legal and institutional framework for organic farming in the Kyrgyz Republic
• Integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected agricultural production landscapes in Central Asia and Turkey
• Developing capacity for strengthening food security and nutrition in selected countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia
• Creating enabling environments for enhanced climate resilience in agriculture

The FAO Representation in the Kyrgyz Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program the assurances of its highest consideration and looks forward to our continued fruitful cooperation.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Adnan Qureshi
FAO Representative in the Kyrgyz Republic

To: Ms. Natasha Hayward,
GAFSP Manager