

Welcome Address (4 Minutes)

Fritz Schneider, Chair Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock



**Address**

Your Excellency the Minister of Livestock and Fisheries of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia  
Prof. Fekadu Beyene

Your Excellency the State Minister of Livestock and Fisheries of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia  
Dr. Mesrak Mokonnen

Respected Director General of ILRI  
Dr. Jimmy Smith

Respected Assistant Director General of FAO  
Dr. Ren Wang

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

**Welcome**

I am very happy to welcome you to the 7<sup>th</sup> Multi-Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) meeting of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock here in Addis Ababa.

**The Global Agenda**

The Global Agenda provides a platform, regionally and locally rooted, to comprehensively address the sector's multiple challenges towards sustainable development. Its main orientation is based on the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and aligns all its activities to advance the contribution of livestock to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**The 7<sup>th</sup> MSP**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Multi Stakeholder Partnership Meeting of the Global Agenda puts its focus on the multiple benefits livestock based solutions can provide for a broad range of stakeholders. This focus is a logical follow up of the 6<sup>th</sup> MSP in Panama (2016) where we developed and demonstrated the links between sustainable livestock sector development and the achieving of the SDGs.

I look forward to the 7<sup>th</sup> MSP with its multi-faceted program where, among others, tools to facilitate sustainable livestock sector development will be discussed, cases of practice change will be demonstrated and learning tours will show local efforts towards sustainable sector development.

### **Vote of Thanks**

Before we continue with the opening addresses, I already at the very beginning of the meeting want to thank the institutions, organizations and key persons who have made this meeting possible

- The Government of Ethiopia, and especially the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
- The FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa and the FAO National Office in Addis Ababa
- The International Livestock Research Institute
- The donors of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock
- The sponsors of this meeting.
- And of course most important many thanks to all the members of the organizing committee of this meeting.

Now, I encourage all participants to actively contribute to the debates in our many interactive sessions and look forward to an inspiring and interesting week.

Thank you very much.

Fritz Schneider

Chair, Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock