## Entering into a Host Country Agreement between the Government of Sri Lanka and The International Center for Research in Agroforestry

The Cabinet approved an agreement with The International Center for Research in Agroforestry to obtain international scientific, technical and financial support to empower Sri Lanka in the face of the adverse effects of climate change. Accordingly, today i.e. on 14.09.2022, the signing of the host country agreement between the Ministry of Environment and The International Center for Research in Agroforestry, representing the Government of Sri Lanka, was done with the knowledge and guidance of the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Dr. Anil Jasinghe.

The Host Country Agreement was signed by Mr. Ajith Abeysekere, Director General of the Department of External Resources on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka and Dr. Anthony Simons, Director General on behalf of The International Center for Research in Agroforestry.

The International Center for Research in Agroforestry was recognized as the flagship international research center of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research in 1992. The International Center for Research in Agroforestry is recognized worldwide as a scientific center of excellence working to ensure the contribution of plants to the well-being of man and the environment.

This institute ensures food security and environmental sustainability and promotes knowledge and related activities from the farm to the global level in developing countries as well as research on agroforestry.

The International Center for Research in Agroforestry has provided technical support, expert advice and financial support for the preparation and implementation of project proposals on environmental conservation, high watershed conservation, water source conservation, soil conservation and agroforestry in Sri Lanka.

Also, The International Center for Research in Agroforestry, through its South Asia Regional Center, is also carrying out research work supporting the achievement of sustainable development goals regionally.

It is expected that this institution will make a leading contribution to the management and conservation of the upper watershed catchment areas in the central mountains of Sri Lanka, which are currently facing various environmental problems and will be implemented in the future.

This host country agreement will greatly strengthen and contribute to Sri Lanka to work closely with the International Center for Research in Agroforestry and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.





