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10 February 2022

Prof. Machito Mihara
President, Institute of Environmental Rehabilitation and Conservation
Professor, Tokyo University of Agriculture

Dear Prof. Mihara,

This is in reference to your invitation requesting the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) to co-organise the 13th International Conference on Environmental and Rural Development (ICERD) to be held on 4-5 March 2022. It is our great honour to accept the invitation.

The Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD (RCE) is a unique and powerful mechanism to accelerate sustainable actions at the local level through multi-stakeholder collaboration. I am glad to learn that RCE Greater Phnom Penh and other RCEs in the Asia-Pacific have made significant contributions to advancing sustainable development, especially in the area of rural development.

UNU-IAS is grateful for a great partnership that has enabled us to co-organise the ICERD conference for the last twelve years. The Innovation and Education Programme at UNU-IAS is a newly created academic programme whose mission is to undertake research, capacity development and policy dialogues to facilitate the achievement of the global SDG agenda. I assure you that our cooperation with your institute will grow even further through the new programme.

I look forward to an enhanced partnership and tangible impact from the co-organisation of the 13th CERD Conference and beyond. I wish you a great success of the conference.

Sincerely yours,

Shinobu Yume Yamaguchi
Director
UNU-IAS