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 நிதி, பொருளாதார உறுதிப்பாடு மற்றும் தேசியக் கொள்கைகள் அமைச்சு  
 MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC STABILIZATION AND NATIONAL POLICIES

මහලේකම් කාර්යාලය, කොළඹ 01,  
 ශ්‍රී ලංකාව

செயலகம், கொழும்பு 01,  
 இலங்கை.

The Secretariat, Colombo 01,  
 Sri Lanka.

කාර්යාලය } 011-2484500  
 அலுவலகம் } 011-2484600  
 Office } 011-2484700

ෆැක්ස් }  
 தொலைநகல் } 011-2449823  
 Fax }

වෙබ් අඩවිය }  
 இணையதளம் } www.treasury.gov.lk  
 Website }

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PRESS RELEASE

Signing of Host Country Agreement (HCA) between the Government of Sri Lanka and  
 International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF)

The Host Country Agreement between the Government of Sri Lanka and the International Center for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) provides international scientific, technical, financial assistance and the latest expertise in agroforestry to empower Sri Lanka's agroforestry sector by mitigating the adverse effects of climate change. Other priority activities under the Host Country Agreement include supporting the emergence of a climate-resilient green economy by mainstreaming the tools of collaborative research into national policies that address mitigation and adaptation, green development, ecosystem services, and social forestry and tenure. ICRAF will continue efforts to strengthen Sri Lanka's capacity to carry out ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change, including support to upgrade value chains and improve ecosystem resilience through agroforestry. It will also develop new and productive partnerships across public and private sectors, while conducting research that positively impacts development at scale. Furthermore, it will provide employment opportunities to local residents by establishing an in-country office.

ICRAF has been trusted partner in development of Sri Lanka's agricultural and forestry landscape for over two decades. ICRAF supported Sri Lanka to break barriers to agroforestry development, adaptations and capacity building through national and regional partnerships. The signing of the Host Country Agreement will mark a new and important chapter in the relationship, offering ICRAF more scope and responsibility to contribute to Sri Lanka's development agenda.

The Exchange of Notes pertaining to the above agreement were signed by Mr. Don Ajith Perera Abeysekera, Director General of the Department of External Resources, Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies on behalf of the GOSL and DR. Anthony John Simons, Director General, International Centre for Research in Agroforestry on September 14, 2022 at the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies.

Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies  
 Colombo 01  
 On September 14, 2022.

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 பணிப்பாளர் நாயகம் } 94-11-2484693  
 Director General }

කාර්යාලය }  
 அலுவலகம் } 94-11-2484500  
 Office } 94-11-2484600

ෆැක්ස් අංකය }  
 தொலை நகல் } 94-11-2447633  
 Fax } 94-11-2387153  
 94-11-2434876