1st Climate Farmers Congress
Schloss Kirchberg 09.-11.11. 2021

Dear Friends & Colleagues!

We are proud to host the 1st Climate Farmers Congress here at the Farmers Castle in Kirchberg!

This is the very place which was converted peacefully into a hotspot for the Agrarian Change, for sustainable organic and rural development.

We call it now the „Farmers Castle", owned be the Foundation House of Farmers in close cooperation with the Farmers Association of this region.

First attempts to the Farmers Liberation took place in 1524 and you can see here the symbol of the liberation movement painted on the wall.

In March 2017, it was here where we held the Congress for Global Peasants Rights. More than 450 participants and delegates from all over the world discussed and finalized the draft of the „Declaration of Global Peasants Rights" which passed the United Nation General Assembly on December 2018 with 74 % of the votes.

This was a milestone in the movement for justice and basic rights for all farmers and farming families around the globe.

During this Climate Farmers Congress, we have the Climate challenge on our agenda and we also have to fight for solutions and action.

Because it is our one and only planet and we have to take responsibility and action for a sustainable future and to save our planet.

So this 1st Climate Farmers Congress will contribute to the change towards Climate Positive Agriculture which we need urgently. We need this change, we need the Agrarian Change worldwide.

And about the term „regenerative agriculture" on which we focus during this congress, I want to say that we should interprete this practices as „beyond organic" or „organic plus".

Since organic agriculture has to be our basic approach we need to focus additionally on the aspects of climate friendly methods and tasks and include regenerative agriculture methods.

Our common task is not less than to come up with a climate positive Food Culture from the ground till the dining tables. This is the challenge, and nothing less.

Together, we will built a foundation for this great challenge and we will come up during this 1st Climate Farmers Congress with a declaration which will be spread around the globe – in the same way we did it with the Global Peasants Rights Declaration.

But spreading these issues and methods is the one side of the medal; the other side will be localizing the measures, to get them to the ground, down to the earth, down to our holy soil. By real sustainable, organic and regenerative farming practices.

And as in Glasgow these days experts and political leaders are discussing the matters of climate change,
we here in Kirchberg are focusing on the ground and we will implement the necessary tasks in our daily farming efforts!

But: all this has also to be financed. So we have to focus on the compensation for the valuable work and efforts of our farmers and farming families around the globe who are practicing and will practice climate friendly farming!

They have to be compensated for their additional costs, and the funds therefore have to be generated from those who are CO2 emitters which are mainly the industry and abundant traffic around the globe.

Since we dont want the farming families and people working in rural areas to be again the losers within industrialized economies!

And we have to find measures that these compensations will reach the climate positive farmers and agriculture in straight line without any middlemen.

We want the farming families to be compensated for their positive climate contributions out of the profits from the emitters! We want that climate positive farming is compensated by Carbon Credits from the emitting industries.

Great thanks to the team, especially to Ivo, Frederik and Josephine, for organizing the Congress, but also to all the others who have been involved!

Great that you are here and I want to wish this 1. Climate Farmers Congress a great Vision and Contribution to Global Agrarian Change!

Rudolf Bühler
Vorsitzender
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