Asociación Argentina de la Ciencia del Suelo Dr. Guillermo A. Studdert Presidente



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Dr. Terry L. Roberts President International Plant Nutrition Institute 5550 Triangle Parkway, Suite 300 Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30092-6515 United States of America

This letter is on behalf of the *Asociación Argentina de la Ciencia del Suelo* (Argentinean Soil Science Association, **AACS**) and all its full members to express our worrying, disappointment, and sorrow about the International Plant Nutrition Institute (**IPNI**) dissolution. **IPNI** has been a remarkable member of the **AACS** and its Regional Director, Dr. Fernando O. García, a more than outstanding affiliate that presided the Association for several years.

IPNI has actively participated of our activities with principles, objectives, and a message coincident with those of the **AACS**: soil care and conservation, efficient nutrient use, food production increase, food sovereignty, society welfare, environmental concern and protection, sustainability. The action of **IPNI** and particularly of its Regional Director, has been a benchmark for soil science in Argentina and the whole Latin American Southern Cone. **IPNI** setting in Southern Latin America has been a real inflection point helping our soil researchers and scientists not only doing their jobs promoting and supporting their investigations and motivating young researchers, but also reaching producers with their findings and results. Fertilizer and plant nutrition management has changed since **IPNI** started working in our country and helped installing the message about the possibility of agricultural production preserving the environment. In other words, promoting agricultural sustainability.

We do not know exactly the reasons why **IPNI** is going to be dissolved, but we can suspect why the decision was taken. We have no doubts about the excellent and sincere intentions and strength and solidity of principles of **IPNI** officers (President, Directors, others), and we are very sorry and worried about their future. We sincerely hope not to have to realize that all of us (who worked with the Institute and also its officers) have been dealing with a "wolf in a lamb skin". Is it possible that all principles mentioned above that moved **IPNI** action ("lamb skin") could have been knocked down and dismissed because of any other concern not related to humanity welfare (wolf)?

We offer all what is at our hand to give containment and support to Dr. Fernando O. García and, if possible, to help re-installing **IPNI** activities in Argentina and in the whole Latin American Southern Cone.

Sincer ely yours

Df. Guillermo A. Studdert President