



International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems

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Birthday and Anniversary Message from ISME

Dear Dr MS Swaminathan,

Congratulations to your 94th Birthday and to the 30th Anniversary of MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), which will be celebrated in conjunction with 'The Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on Achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Strengthening Science of Climate Resilience' from 7-9 August 2019, Chennai, India.

Please be informed that the International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems (ISME) was truly honoured for having you as the Founding President from 1990-1993. ISME was formed in August 1990 during its Inaugural General Assembly (GA) held at the Yokohama Conference Centre in Yokohama, Japan. The occasion was graced by Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Hitachi.

For your kind and strong support as the President, the ISME Secretariat was seated at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of the Ryukyus in Okinawa in August 1990. In March 1991, ISME was officially affiliated to the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the International Association for Biological Organization (IABO). In June 1992, ISME submitted the Charter for Mangroves to the Secretary General of UNCED as an annex of the World Charter for Nature. In October 1992, ISME was certified a Foundation under the Japanese Law of Foundation. The Second GA was held in Okinawa in June 1993, graced by Their Imperial Highness Prince and Princess Hitachi.

From 1990–1993, ISME secured funding from the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to implement three projects. The projects were 'The Economic and Environmental Values of Mangrove Forests and Present State of Conservation (1991–1992)', 'Workshops on Conservation and Sustainable Utilization on Mangrove Forests in the Latin America and Africa Regions (1992–1994)' and 'Manual and a World Mangrove Atlas for Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration (1993–1997)'. Those projects were implemented fruitfully and successfully because of your kind supervision.

Dr MS Swaminathan, we salute your contributions to the establishment and early activities of ISME.

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