



## **Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats**

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### **Hon. Oyun Sanjaasuren, MP**

Co-Chairperson, Civil Will Green Party of Mongolia  
Chairperson, Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats  
President, United Nations Environmental Assembly

Dear Madame Oyun:

On behalf of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD), let us extend our warmest greetings to the Civil Will Green Party (CWGP) of Mongolia on the occasion of its 15<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary this 9 March 2015. We also like to congratulate you, as CWGP Co-Chairperson, for leading and steering the party, from its formation as Civil Will Party, to what it is today – a growing political force in Mongolian politics. With the assistance of CWGP Co-Chairperson and CALD Secretary General Demberel Sambuu, we have no doubt that the Party will reach greater heights in its struggle for a more democratic and developed Mongolia.

Mongolia has been ranked by Freedom House, in its Freedom in the World Survey, as one of the few "free" countries in the Asia-Pacific. In Friedrich Naumann Foundation's (FNF) Freedom Barometer, your country is doing better compared to Asia's relatively 'old' democracies like the Philippines, and emergent ones like Indonesia. In a region currently witnessing an erosion of political rights and civil liberties, it can be said that Mongolia has consistently proved its commitment to freedom and adherence to democratic values.

We believe that the strength of Mongolia's democracy is, to a large extent, derived from the work of political parties like the CWGP. In the past 15 years, CWGP has been a consistent and dedicated advocate of promoting liberty, democracy, justice, respect for private property, transparency, accountability, free market and human rights in Mongolian society. That your Party has taken steps to encourage the participation of non-members in Party decision-making is not only proof of you practicing what you preach, but also of your dedication to the advancement and institutionalization of democratic principles and practices. CWGP's unwavering commitment to liberal values, even in the face of the pervasive influence of money politics and populist rhetoric in Mongolia, is truly remarkable and worthy of commendation.

And what better way to celebrate CWGP's 15<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary than you receiving the 2015 Jeane J. Kirkpatrick Award last 4 March 2015 for your outstanding contributions to the advancement of women in politics and civil society, for which we send our warm congratulations. We are proud of your achievements in advancing the role of women, not only by your example, but also through your work as Mongolian Member of Parliament since 1998 and as head of the Zorig Foundation. Moreover, your advocacy of health, education and the environment, critical issues

which confront Mongolia and many other countries today, has inspired many to pay more attention to these concerns.

As incumbent president of the United Nations Environment Assembly and as a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Water Security, we are confident that you can do more to advance these issues in a global platform. Your Asian liberal family will be here to support you in any way we can.

Again, please accept our felicitations to the CWGP on its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and to you for your inspiring and visionary leadership that transformed the Party to what it is today. We trust that under your stewardship, CWGP would become a stronger and more powerful voice for the cause of liberalism and democracy in Mongolia and beyond. We wish you the best, and we look forward to seeing you again in future CALD events.

Sincerely yours,

**Mu Sochua, MP (sgd)**  
Chairperson, CALD Women's Caucus  
Member of Parliament, Cambodia  
Cambodia National Rescue Party

**Celito F. Arlegue (sgd)**  
Executive Director  
Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats