

Letter of Invitation

October 5, 2023

Dr. Minzan Li
Professor, China Agricultural University
Beijing, China

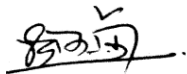
Dear Dr. Li,

It is my great honor to invite you to attend and contribute to the first in-person meeting of ‘Agricultural Automation and Robotics’ experts to be held in Seattle, WA from Dec 12 to 14, 2023 with a goal to form an **"International Consortium of Ag Robotics (I-CAR)"**.

Briefly, the consortium would be a venue to discuss past accomplishments, and current and future challenges, and put forward the vision and potential direction that we could collectively take in the future. This will be, consequently, a policy/vision level forum that can guide policymaking, funding, and research and development efforts on Agricultural Robotics and Smart Farming around the world so that the industry and society could benefit from more robust, affordable, and sustainable farming solutions of the future. In this meeting, we will formulate a road map to establish this consortium including the discussion on the name, mission, vision, direction, and activities of the group as well as identification of official platform for the organization. There will also be a half-day tour of the Washington Agricultural Industry.

I sincerely hope that you would be able to join the team of experts from all over the world in this initiation meeting. With your excellence, expertise, and insights in this area, your contribution to this new initiative would be critically important for accomplishing the intended goals as discussed before. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

If you have any questions or need more information about this invitation, please feel free to reach out to me as follows.



Sincerely,

Manoj Karkee
Professor and Director, Center for Precision and Automated Agricultural Systems
Washington State University
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