



Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning, everyone.

I am very pleased to be invited to participate the first Bamboo and Rattan Conference (BARC). Through three days of contact and learning at the conference, I am confident that this is not only a grand event in the field of bamboo and rattan, but also an outstanding meeting in the plant and life science fields.

I have just listened that Prof. Jiang introduced the research achievements of Bamboo and Rattan in recent years. I was very excited and encouraged, particularly in genome aspect. As we known, the genome data play a significant role in basic biological research. At present, about 300 plants released their genome sequences. As an institute, ICBR will complete and maintain more than 10 genomes of bamboo and rattan. Additionally, the genome sequences are provided freely to all scientific researchers. This contribution is enormous and it also reflects ICBR has a strong ability of bamboo and rattan. Both bamboo and rattan have remarkable characteristics and research value in the field of life sciences. In particular, the rapid growth of bamboo, the long time to reach the flowering period, and the long cane of rattan are all traits of concern. The study of regulatory mechanisms not only helps elucidate the scientific issues of diversity, evolution, and ecological balance of bamboo and rattan, but also facilitates the transformation and application of high-quality agronomic traits of bamboo and rattan.

"Rather the food does not have the meat, cannot occupy without the bamboo" People have always loved the bamboo since ancient times. Bamboo is also one of important non-wood natural resource developed and used by humans. So how did the ancestors of modern bamboo diverge from the Grass family and how did they evolve in the short term? The Global Genome Atlas of Bamboo and Rattan (GGABR) Project, jointly sponsored by ICBR and BGI, was officially launched on the 25th June. The large-scale genomic data constructed the evolution of species. It is hopeful that the important issues concerning the biological evolution of bamboo and rattan can be fully answered. This is also the most basic scientific issue in the study of the biological evolution of bamboo and rattan.



According to the latest statistics, there are currently 300,000 species of plants in the world, but about 300 plants were sequenced and released their genome sequences. Due to the abundance of plant species and the current researches focusing on crops, it is necessary to initiate some international scientific research cooperation projects to accelerate the balanced development of plant research. As an active participant in the international cooperation scientific research programs, ICBR had participated in “1K plant transcriptome project” as early as 2012 and provided many precious samples. Currently, I am one of the initiators of the “Earth BioGenome project” and “10K Plant genome Project”, as the larger-scale international cooperation scientific research projects. I warmly welcomed the participation of the ICBR. I have believed that your joining will surely promote the smooth development and completion of the above-mentioned two major international cooperation projects.

Bamboo and rattan have unique advantages in terms of restoration of degraded forest land, forest reforestation, biomass power generation, carbon sequestration, prevention of soil erosion, watershed protection and so on. As a booming sunrise industry, the bamboo and rattan industries are increasingly radiating a green and healthy development. In the end, I sincerely wish the first BARC to be held successfully, and wish the basic scientific research achieved important results in the future.