

April 2, 1979.

My dear Dr. Mengesha,

I thank you very much for your kind letter of March 29, 1979. I am very grateful to you for your generous sentiments concerning my taking over as Secretary in the Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development.

I am glad you are now discharging a very important function in the matter of conserving genetic resources of important crop plants. I hope, due to your deep interest, collaboration between India and countries in Africa in Agriculture will grow.

With my best regards,

Yours sincerely,

*M S*  
(M.S. Swaminathan)

*Recd 8/4*  
Dr. Melak H. Mengesha,  
International Crops Research  
Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT),  
1-11-256, Begumpet,  
Hyderabad-500 016.

*Back to me*

INTERNATIONAL CROPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
FOR THE SEMI-ARID TROPICS  
(ICRISAT)

March 29, 1979

2342 / 4/6/79

1-11-256, Begumpet  
Hyderabad-500 016, A. P., India.

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Secretary  
Department of Agriculture and  
Rural Development  
Union Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation  
Krishi Bhavan  
New Delhi - 110 001

Dear Dr. Swaminathan:

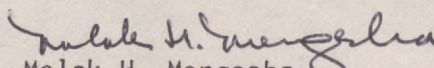
I like to take this opportunity to express my delight and best wishes on the occasion of your appointment as Secretary of the Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development. I can certainly state that, in view of our close professional association of about two decades, the architect of Indian Agriculture has now become its master.

Let it not be concealed that your arduous tasks and scientific feat in The Indian Green Revolution as well as in the entire developing world has served us in Africa as a living example and a constant source of inspiration. Many people have not been as fortunate as I have been to so closely know the extent of your illustriousness and courageous tasks throughout the world. Who can for example, believe ten years ago that India will today have a surplus of rice? As always, I have every confidence that, with your magnificent experience and records of achievement, you will shoulder your new responsibility with candour and thrust.

At this time I like to humbly beg of you in advance that you will continue to avail a small portion of your heavily taxed time and thoughts for the impetus of international agricultural development which, I fear, will otherwise lose momentum and reflection.

Best regards.

Most Sincerely and Respectfully Yours,

  
Melak H. Mengesha

MHM: ak