



The Hon. Tony Burke MP

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

20 JAN 2010

I look forward to meeting delegates at the 19th World Congress of Soil Science in Australia on 1–6 August 2010 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

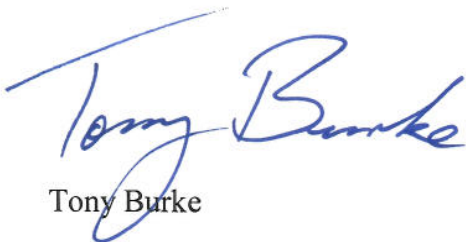
The congress theme, Soil Solutions for a Changing World, is a crucial matter for scientists, researchers, academics, soil professionals and governments around the globe. The Australian Government recognises that this shared discussion will prove critical for effective natural resource management and to achieve sustainable production and environmental benefits into the future.

Farmers manage up to 70 per cent of the Australian landscape, and their practices have a significant impact on Australia's natural resources, including soil. Healthy soils underpin sustainable food and fibre production, and clean air and water, and bolster the landscape's resilience to climate change.

Under the Australian Government's Climate Change Research Program a \$20 million Soil Carbon Research Program will create national standards for sampling and analysing soil carbon.

The 2010 World Congress of Soil Science is an opportunity for Australia and other countries to share soils research, information and experience, and to better understand soil issues in a global context.

Yours sincerely



Tony Burke