



## **SPEAKER'S BIO**

### **Mr. Qu Dongyu, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**



Qu Dongyu took office on 1 August 2019 as Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Born in 1963 to a rice-growing family in China's Hunan Province, Qu studied horticultural science at Hunan Agricultural University and then plant breeding and genetics at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences. He

later added environmental science to his knowledge portfolio while earning a PhD at Wageningen University, in the Netherlands. Before joining FAO, Qu served as China's Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, where one of his achievements was to promote inclusive and innovative development and make sure information and communication technologies (ICT) were available in rural areas so that more than 400 million farmers could use their smartphones as a new farming tool. His motto is "Simple life, but not simple work".