**Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn**

President Emeritus - The World Food Prize Foundation

September 8, 2022

It is my great personal honor to join with an array of distinguished international leaders and diplomats in extending my warmest congratulations to Roots of Peace and its charismatic leader and my dear friend Heidi Kuhn, as they celebrate the 25th anniversary of turning “Mines Into Vines” around the globe.

In January of 2020, I had the unique privilege to join Heidi in Quang Tri Province of Vietnam, where we pushed a button to detonate a newly uncovered mine that was left over from the War that had ended almost 50 years ago. Earlier that day, we had visited with farmers who had been maimed by these insidious silent killers, but now lead productive lives with fruit tree orchards provided by Roots of Peace.

In the spirit of Princess Diana, whose example 25 years ago inspired Heidi Kuhn to found Roots of Peace in her living room, through her passionate commitment and dynamic leadership, in collaboration with her husband Gary, Heidi has built Roots of Peace into a global humanitarian force for good, impacting farmers in countries from Afghanistan to the Middle East to Central America.

From my own experience in confronting landmines, unexploded ordnance and ending conflict during both my diplomatic career and in leading the World Food Prize Foundation, the central theme of my endeavors, one that I share with Heidi Kuhn, is building Peace Through Agriculture.

Warmest Congratulations.



Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn (ret.)

President Emeritus

The World Food Prize