

## **ExCo 9 Conclusions and Recommendations<sup>1</sup>**

### **2. CGIAR Status Report**

#### ***Conclusions:***

- *ExCo agreed that the ad hoc committee's Option 2 on agreed criteria would be implemented for the second cycle (September 2005-March 2006) through completion of the two-year pilot period.*
- *ExCo expressed disappointment with the rejection of the ad hoc committee's suggestions by the Boards, but agreed that the two-year pilot phase should be completed before considering major changes to the process.*

### **3.a. Revised CGIAR Priorities and Strategies: 2005-2015**

#### ***Conclusions and ExCo Recommendations to the CGIAR:***

- *ExCo commends the SC for the advice it is providing on CGIAR priorities.*
- *ExCo recommends approval of the proposed CGIAR System priorities 2005-2015 by CGIAR Members.*
- *Implementation of the priorities is a crucial matter and will require further discussion.*
- *To ensure clear understanding of the priorities and their rationale by those stakeholders who have not actively followed the process, a major communications exercise is necessary. A short document should be developed for circulation at AGM05. A summary of the critical concepts and boundary issues (such as between research for development and research on development and between research and delivery systems) should be included in the summary document.*
- *The Chairman suggested that the Science Council should consider how in future it could react to shifts in the environment of agriculture and agricultural research (such as the recent avian flu crisis) by developing a quick review of the research available and recommending what, if any, the CGIAR should do to address the emerging issues.*

### **6.d. Strengthening the Research-Development Linkage in the CGIAR**

#### ***Conclusion:***

- *ExCo members are requested to submit to the CGIAR Secretariat any ideas and comments complementing the summary note. Those comments would be compiled and submitted as a background document for discussion at the Business Meeting during AGM05.*

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<sup>1</sup> Excerpt from Ninth Meeting of the CGIAR Executive Council (October 19-20, 2005) Summary Record of Proceedings, October 31, 2005.

### **3.b. Medium-Term Plans and 2006 Financing Plan**

#### ***Conclusions and ExCo Recommendations to the CGIAR:***

- *ExCo recommended CGIAR approval of the 2006 financing plan, with the caveat that the liquidity requirements of Centers be clarified prior to or at AGM05, thus helping the CGIAR avoid crises that impact the System as a whole.*
- *MTPs are a work in progress and should be improved and refined over time. Developing a common template could facilitate comparing MTPs.*
- *Future presentations on financial plans should recognize not only the large donors and investors, but also the Members with relatively smaller contributions.*
- *FAO's request for an annual meeting with CGIAR Centers was acknowledged and CDC/CBC were asked to consider the invitation.*

### **3.c. Report from Science Council**

#### ***Conclusions and ExCo Recommendations to the CGIAR:***

- *ExCo approved the 2006-07 SC workplan and budget, contingent on the filling of the funding gap for 2006 by AGM05.*
- *The CGIAR Secretariat, with assistance from the TF Chair, if needed, should explore with individual Members the possibility of providing funding for SC operations in 2006.*

### **4.a. CIMMYT EPMR Follow-up**

#### ***Conclusions:***

- *ExCo thanked CIMMYT for this update and expects membership to have a full discussion at AGM05 based on the requested full and detailed report.*

### **4.b. Pilot Performance Measurement System**

#### ***Conclusions:***

- *The PM system is a work in progress; the 2006 exercise (using 2005 actual data) should be refined to incorporate the comments expressed and the lessons learned.*
- *The PM system is already contributing to the CGIAR's regular reporting system (an example is the CGIAR 2004 Annual Report, which, for the first time includes results from the PM system).*
- *The purpose of the PM system is not to "rank" Centers, although individual Members may decide to use the data as they see fit, including decisions on resource allocation.*

### **5. Report from Centers**

#### ***Conclusions:***

- *Centers have laid out a good case for the need for collective action. Over the next 5-10 years the CGIAR will increasingly need to act collectively.*

- *The Centers should come to AGM05 with facts to highlight the value addition of the Alliance and by clarifying the following:*
  - a) *Indicate full and fully-loaded costs of the Future Harvest Alliance Office, including personnel, travel, overhead, etc., so Members have a clear picture;*
  - b) *Show that there is full buy-in by every Center;*
  - c) *Clarify how binding Alliance decisions are on each of its members. Will CBC have full governance authority over the Alliance.*
  - d) *Describe benefits, costs and disadvantages for an objective discussion at AGM 05 since the presentation by the Centers still focuses exclusively on the benefits*
    - a) *The governance ramifications of collective action, e.g. if the Alliance defines collective positions, is it necessary to have both the CBC and CDC Chairs sitting on ExCo? Would it not be better to have one Alliance representative instead?*

#### **6.a. SSA Task Forces Follow-up**

##### ***Conclusions and ExCo Recommendations to the CGIAR:***

- *ExCo recognized the difficult and complex nature of the process and took note of and commended the Centers and collaborators for the progress that has been made to date in implementing the CGIAR decisions, which approved the ExCo 8 recommendations to the CGIAR.*
- *ExCo urges alignment to proceed at an adequate pace along three tracks:*
  - i. *Programmatic;*
  - ii. *Corporate (including administrative and program support) services; and,*
  - iii. *Structural/governance (e.g., common board members).*
- *Part of the AGM05 Business Meeting should be devoted to providing a roadmap to the programmatic and structural alignment efforts in SSA.*

#### **6.b. CGIAR Engagement with CSOs**

##### ***Conclusions and ExCo Recommendations to the CGIAR:***

- *The CGIAR should be fully engaged with CSOs.*
- *The paper should be updated based on comments received from ExCo and discussed fully at AGM05. The engagement framework should clearly reflect what the CGIAR is already doing.*
- *There is a desire to fill the civil society seat on ExCo, but it is important to remember that ExCo is only one element of the overall approach. ExCo suggests:*
  - a) *The civil society seat on ExCo be filled with a representative of farmers' organizations bringing developing country perspectives;*
  - b) *In consultation with the GFAR Chair, the CGIAR Chair should identify an individual who could play the expected role in ExCo and report back to ExCo with a recommendation.*
- *The CGIAR should abolish the now-dormant NGO Committee.*

### **6.c. Funding System Priorities Task Force**

#### ***Conclusions:***

- *ExCo thanked the TF for its work thus far.*
- *The TF will take note of the comments received from ExCo; further comments should be sent to Finn Christensen.*
- *ExCo reiterated the need for a funding mechanism that results in full and predictable funding for the SC that protects its objectivity and integrity.*
- *The issue of a code of conduct for acceptance of restricted funding should be placed on the agenda of the CDC.*
- *ExCo looks forward to receiving the final report of the TF, which is to be submitted for discussion at AGM05.*