

## Dr. Hawtin Continues as CIAT DG

April 2008



The Board of Trustees of the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) unanimously confirmed the continued appointment of Dr. Geoff Hawtin as CIAT Director General (DG) pending the selection of a new DG in early 2009. The appointment was announced during the April 2008 Board meeting at CIAT headquarters in Cali, Colombia.

Over the past two weeks CIAT scientists from around the world met at the CIAT international headquarters in Cali, Colombia, to plan how to best respond to the challenges of the global food crisis, climate change and poverty. At the same time, CIAT's Board, Management Team, and international and national staff discussed the preparation of the CIAT Strategic Plan that will serve as blueprint for ensuring the Center's financial health and sustaining its scientific excellence in agricultural research, while contributing to reducing hunger and poverty, improving health and nutrition, and enhancing natural resource management in Latin America and the Caribbean and in the world.

The strategic planning process is in line with the system-wide strategic visioning process initiated by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research ([CGIAR](#)) and involves all 15 member institutions, including CIAT.

In the search for a new DG, the Board considered a number of candidates to succeed Dr. Hawtin but concluded that the best option at this time is to proceed expeditiously with the design of the new CIAT under the leadership of Dr. Hawtin.

Dr. Hawtin, who has the full support of the Board and the CIAT staff, has agreed to stay on as DG until the Strategic Plan and the CGIAR change process have advanced significantly and a new DG has been appointed.

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