



Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

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***STAKEHOLDER MEETING***

Report of the CGIAR-NGOC for the period MTM2001- AGM2001  
(June – October 2001)

**Agenda Item:** 5e – Updates, CGIAR Partners - NGOC

**This item is for:** Information  Discussion  Decision

**Proposed Action:** None

**Background:**

**Comments:**

# **Report of the CGIAR-NGOC for the period MTM2001 – AGM2001 (June – October 2001)**

## **1. Continuation of consultation with Civil Society**

During the last two years of CGIAR re-structuring parallel to the building up of regional fora facilitated by the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), the NGO Committee (NGOC) has been focusing its energies on increasing the awareness of NGOs and farmer organisations about current changes and opportunities, particularly in research priority setting at regional level. The budget available to the NGOC from the CGIAR, besides allowing participation of NGOC members in CGIAR meetings, is being used primarily as seed money for these regional activities, in addition to some global activities related to participatory research in agroecology and natural resource management (NRM). Further support for these activities has been obtained from the Ford Foundation, the governments of Germany and the Netherlands, Misereor (Germany) and CTA/EU.

Throughout 2001 the NGOC has conducted a broad consultation process with members of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) including small farmer organisations (SFOs), NGOs and universities in different parts of the South. The declaration that was prepared by CSOs from around the world convened by the NGOC in Frankfurt in May 2001 has been further circulated and endorsed by more organisations. This declaration and the one that came out of the Durban meeting of CSOs in Eastern and Southern Africa (also in May 2001) were shared at subsequent meetings in Asia and Latin America.

The CSOs in these meetings are demanding:

- a closer linkage between research and development activities;
- a focus in publicly-funded research on low-external-input and ecologically-sound agriculture and NRM, including the social, cultural, political and institutional aspects;
- a stronger regional organisation of agricultural research and development activities;
- inclusion of SFOs and NGOs in R&D priority setting, planning, implementation, evaluation and impact assessment, foremost at subnational and national levels but also at regional and global levels;
- representation of SFOs and NGOs in the governance of research bodies and programmes.

It is encouraging to see that the Interim Executive Council is proposing that at least two members of the Executive Council of the CGIAR come from “partners” such as farmer organisations and NGOs. However, a two-class system of membership (voting “shareholders” and non-voting “stakeholders”) will not be accepted by the NGOC. From our point of view, both SFOs and NGOs must have full representation.

Once again, we underline the importance of establishing a Farmer Committee that will give a voice to representatives of the farmers with whom the CGIAR is trying to work: the resource-poor farmers from the South. The CGIAR has – at least in its rhetoric – become more open to stakeholder participation, but failure to bring in the direct voices of farmers at global level will minimise the credibility of the CGIAR’s claims. As the CGIAR is a role model for agricultural

research, the creation of a Farmer Committee would send a strong positive signal to other research organisations not only internationally but also at regional and national level.

## **2. NGOC strategic planning**

An internal electronic listserver was set up for current and past members of the NGOC for discussions of NGOC strategy. A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis was made through e-mail in preparation for a strategy planning workshop on 27–28 October 2001 in Washington DC, immediately prior to the CGIAR's first Annual General Meeting (AGM2001). The revised NGOC strategy will be published after this workshop, which will be facilitated by NGOC member Tony Aquino.

## **3. Enhancing civil society input into the CGIAR**

With the support of a grant from the Ford Foundation, the NGOC initiated a series of activities aimed at strengthening the input of civil society into the CGIAR. This commenced with an electronic conference in January 2001 followed by a face-to-face conference in Frankfurt, Germany, in May 2001 (see the NGOC report for MTM2001). Peter Rosset, NGOC member and co-director of Food First (Institute for Food and Development Policy) in the USA and Miguel Altieri of the University of California Berkeley and former NGOC Chair, have continued to coordinate the activities. The report on the Frankfurt workshop was completed in July 2001, distributed to participants and posted on the NGOC website. During the workshop, a task force was set up to prepare an International Alliance for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD). The task force is composed of persons from NGOs and SFOs in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and North America, including Monica Kipiriri, one of the two African members of the NGOC. It is expected that the Alliance will be launched in November 2001. A proposal for funding support for the Alliance has been submitted to the Ford Foundation.

In August 2001, an international short course on agroecology and sustainable rural development was held at CATIE (Centre for Research and Training on Tropical Agriculture), Turrialba, Costa Rica, for professionals and technicians in Latin American NGOs and universities. Immediately thereafter, a meeting was organised at EARTH (Regional Agricultural School for the Humid Tropics) in Guacimo, Costa Rica, in the context of the pilot exercise in regional research priority setting being facilitated by the GFAR in collaboration with the regional research organisation FORAGRO (Regional Forum on Agricultural Research and Technology Development). This meeting was attended by representatives of major Central American peasant and indigenous organisations and NGOs. It ended with a declaration asking the GFAR to re-initiate the regional pilot exercise in order to be truly participatory and to include the views from the grassroots from the very beginning (see Annex 1).

The above activities are to be complemented by the production of three major reports that serve as intellectual inputs to the above process:

- Sharpening the agroecological research agenda: towards a natural resource management strategy for poor farmers in marginal environments, by Miguel Altieri
- A new green revolution for Africa: myths and realities of agriculture, technology and development, by Peter Rosset and Aaron de Grassi (a critique of the idea that what Africa needs is a new "green revolution" plus free trade and genetically modified organisms)

- Self-fulfilling prophecies: how mathematical models are designed to promote a new green revolution, by Peter Rosset and James Murrell (a critique of IFPRI population and food production models).

Preparations were made for a donor briefing by CSOs during AGM2001 in Washington DC.

#### 4. Regional activities of the NGOC

**Africa.** A report on the May 2001 workshop in Durban for NGOs and SFOs in Southern and Eastern Africa was completed and distributed. Monica Kapiri and Mutizwa Mukute further developed a proposal for an NGOC strategy in Eastern and Southern Africa to gain an overview of NGO activities and interests related to agricultural research, to raise awareness of NGOs about the CGIAR and GFAR (including the regional process of setting research priorities), to improve communications and linkages between them and to synthesise subregional and regional views of NGOs so that these views can be forwarded to fora at higher levels. They have approached several potential donors but thus far without success in raising more funds beyond those obtained for the NGO/SFO workshop in Durban.

Because of difficulties in obtaining funds in addition to the small amount of “seed money” that could be made available out of the NGOC budget, former NGO member Assetou Kanoute has been obliged to postpone the NGO workshop in West and Central Africa until April 2001. This is being planned in collaboration with CORAF (Conférence des Responsables de la Recherche agronomique africain) to inform NGOs about trends in agricultural research at various levels, to strengthen NGO representation in subregional and regional research fora, to generate an NGO vision for agricultural research and to improve partnerships between NGOs and international agricultural research centres (IARCs). Preparations for the workshop have already commenced.

**Asia.** From June to August 2001, the NGOC – through its Asian members Tony Quizon (Philippines) and Dwi Muhtaman (Indonesia), together with Angelina Briones (MODE/UPLB), the Asian CSO contact person to the GFAR – organised the following activities:

- a Pre-consultations discussions: E-mail discussions were conducted in June–July 2001 among the NGOC, ANGOC (Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development), LATIN (Indonesia Tropical Institute Foundation) and MODE (Management and Organisational Development for Empowerment), Philippines, regarding the overall framework and implementation arrangements for the regional consultative process with CSOs, including farmer organisations, about agricultural research and development.
- b E-conferencing: Prior to the Bangkok Regional Consultation on the World Food Summit – Five Years Later, LATIN facilitated an e-mail conference that included over 100 Asian NGOs and SFOs. A summary paper was then prepared by LATIN as an input for the Bangkok Workshops organised by ANGOC, LATIN and MODE on 28–29 August 2001.
- c Bangkok Workshops: In order to maximise the presence and participation of other CSOs, as well as to make the best use of limited resources, face-to-face consultations were conducted as thematic workshops within the “Asian Regional CSO Conference on the World Food Summit + 5” already scheduled for 28–29 August 2001 in Bangkok. During the main Bangkok Conference, two thematic workshops were organised on “Sustainable Paths to Food Security” and “Towards a New Agenda for Agricultural Research in Asia”. These two workshops were attended by 26 and 18 participants, respectively. Workshop outputs were then shared with the larger plenary, and these contributed to the overall Conference Statement entitled “End Hunger! Fight for the Right to Live!”. A summary report on the

NGOC-organised activities in connection with the Bangkok Conference can be found in Annex 2.

**Latin America.** Juan Sanchez (Peru) and Jean Marc von der Weid (Brazil) collaborated with former NGOC Chair Miguel Altieri in organising the above-mentioned consultation process in Central America that culminated in the Guacimo declaration (see Section 3 and Annex 1).

**West Asia North Africa (WANA) region.** Paths were explored to include more NGOs from this region in the exchange of information and the dialogue about international agricultural research. The NGOC Chair took up initial contacts with a small number of NGOs. Plans were discussed during the NGOC strategic planning to include at least one additional member from this region.

## 5. Other NGOC-supported activities

**Advancing PTD.** Former NGOC member Julian Gonsalves and NGOC Chair Ann Waters-Bayer were members of the organising committee of an international study-cum-workshop on mainstreaming Participatory Technology Development (PTD) in agricultural research, extension and education. PTD is an approach designed to strengthen capacities of farmers and farming communities to experiment and innovate, taking the lead in improving their livelihoods. The workshop was held at the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) in Cavite, Philippines, 17–21 September 2001. This project fits under the umbrella of the global programme PROLINNOVA (Promoting Local Innovation in Ecological Agriculture and NRM) and was financed by Rockefeller Foundation, the Netherlands Government (DGIS), Misereor (Germany), CTA (Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, ACP-EU), CIIFAD (Cornell International Institute for Food and Agricultural Development) and the NGOC. A two-page information sheet on the workshop is included in Annex 3. A policy paper based on the workshop findings is being prepared. The case studies on institutionalising PTD and the workshop proceedings will be published on a CD. If sufficient funds can be raised, the case studies may also appear as a book.

**LEISA Magazine issue on scaling up.** A special double issue of the *LEISA Magazine* (ILEIA Newsletter) was published in October 2001 on scaling up successful initiatives in farmer-led sustainable agriculture (ILEIA 2001). It included case studies and lessons from the two NGOC workshops on scaling up held in Washington in October 1999 and at IIRR in April 2000 and was co-edited by Julian Gonsalves, who coordinated the publication of the workshop highlights (*Going to scale: can we bring more benefits to more people more quickly?*). The NGOC partially funded this special issue brought out by ILEIA (Centre for Information on Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture) in the Netherlands. A Spanish version is now being prepared.

**Visits to CGIAR Centres.** The new NGOC member from Europe, Patrick Mulvany, ITDG Food Security Policy Adviser, took advantage of already planned visits to Rome, Nairobi and Lima to make brief visits to four Centres: CIP, ICRAF, ILRI and IPGRI. He met with the four Directors General (DG) and some staff and had the opportunity to discuss some of the key issues and challenges that confront each Centre, the CGIAR System overall and its links with civil society. Refocusing of research within constrained and increasingly restricted funding is the dominant challenge. The Centres are finding activities and procedures that contribute to the mission of the CGIAR, but these are often chosen by processes that leave farmers to the end. Involving farmers in the research is the preferred method for mission-focused work.

Patrick was pleased to have been invited to the formal opening by President Ciampi of IPGRI's new headquarters in Fiumicino, to hear the DG promote IPGRI as the Centre that focuses on agricultural biodiversity and to see staff in their much improved surroundings. The office houses the IPGRI Programme for Europe (the only European regional office of the CGIAR), which facilitates innovative networks across the whole of Europe.

At CIP, Patrick's visit coincided with the release of information about the Government of Peru's complicity in removing germplasm of Llacon from the CIP genebank and passing it to Japan for patenting. The new facilities to house the genebank provide much improved long-term security for the 5000 potato accessions, the 1200 other Andean root crop accessions and the 6000 sweet potato accessions free from virus and genetic contamination.

At ILRI the work to raise awareness of livestock's contribution to sustainable livelihoods continues, with focused practical and information outputs and the quest for East Coast fever solutions unabated.

ICRAF spearheads the climate change initiative but perhaps has more to offer in developing sustainable production systems that enhance agricultural biodiversity at all levels. Staff members were pleased to have been able to collaborate in a special issue of OXFAM's *Development in Practice* devoted to agroforestry research and development.

Patrick thus had a few glimpses of the last bastion of international publicly-funded agricultural research, perhaps now more open than ever before to the imperative of farmer involvement to achieve mutually desired goals.

**Website.** The NGOC website has now been transferred to its permanent site ([www.ngoc-cgiar.org](http://www.ngoc-cgiar.org)) and Juan Sanchez of CIED, Peru, continues to be the webmaster. Links have been established with the electronic GFAR website ([www.egfar.org](http://www.egfar.org)).

**NGOC brochure and poster.** The NGOC brochure was revised as a result of e-mail discussion among the members and a simple version was prepared by Gudrun Soergel, NGOC Administrative Assistant, for dissemination at AGM2001 (see Annex 4). This brochure was used as the basis for preparing a poster for display during AGM2001.

## **6. NGO(C) representation: conferences, steering groups, committees**

The NGOC is trying to increase CSO representation on the various boards, steering groups and committee related to CGIAR activities. It is also seeking funds to be able to bring these representatives together at least once a year for face-to-face discussions in an "NGOC Plus". First attempts to expand the NGOC meetings in this way are being made at AGM2001.

**Interim Executive Council (IEC).** In her role as Chair of the NGOC, Ann Waters-Bayer (Germany/Netherlands) participated in meetings of the IEC in Durban immediately after the Mid-Term Meeting (MTM2001) in May 2001, in Bonn in September 2001 and in Washington in October 2001. She also made e-mail contributions to the IEC discussions on the task force reports on the Challenge Programmes, the Executive Council, the Science Council and the Systems Office and on the integrated proposal for AGM2001.

**GFAR.** Jean Marc von der Weid continues to serve as NGO representative in the Steering Committee of the GFAR; the alternate is Christian Castellonet. They, plus the NGOC Chair, have been involved in intensive e-mail exchanges with the GFAR Secretariat in developing concepts for the Global Partnership Programmes and in monitoring the process and progress in the regional research priority-setting exercises.

### **German Forum Environment and Development International Agricultural Research**

**Project:** Monica Kapiriri, Patrick Mulvany, Peter Rosset and Ann Waters-Bayer participated in telephone conferences and e-mail discussions arranged by this project financed by Germany and the European Community. The main concerns were preparations for NGO activities – including workshops, publications and statements – to accompany the IFPRI conference on food security in September 2001, the World Food Summit Five Years Later (WFS–fyl) planned for November 2001 (now postponed to June 2002) and Rio+10 also planned for 2002.

**FAO NGO Forum.** Jean Marc von der Weid coordinated the preparation of case studies for the NGO Forum on food sovereignty to accompany the WFS–fyl.

**IFPRI Conference on Sustainable Food Security for All by 2020.** Monica Kapiriri was invited by IFPRI to attend the conference on Bonn, Germany, on 4–6 September 2001 on behalf of the NGOC. A further NGOC member, Ann Waters-Bayer, also attended. Former NGOC member Julian Gonsalves was an invited speaker in the final session of the conference. Monica's report on the conference can be found on the NGOC website.

**GFAR/IFAD workshop on global partnership programmes.** Monica Kapiriri and Ann Waters-Bayer of the NGOC and Angelina Briones (MASIPAG, Philippines) were the three representatives from NGOs who attended the workshop organised by the GFAR Secretariat and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Ann was a member of the Technical Advisory Group for the workshop and also presented the proposal for a Global Partnership Programme on Promoting Local Innovation in Ecological Agriculture and NRM (PROLINNOVA). Angelina gave the closing statement from an NGO perspective, and stressed the need for research going beyond agronomic matters to include political and institutional concerns of small farmers, particularly with respect to resource tenure.

**Centre Boards.** Former NGOC member Assetou Kanoute is currently serving as an NGO representative on the Board of Trustees of IITA. Camille Toulmin from the international Institute for Environment and Development is a member of the ISNAR Board. The NGOC intends to seek closer links with CSO representatives on the various Centre Boards and to increase such representation through making appropriate nominations.

**GRPC.** Rene Salazar of SEARICE (Philippines), the NGOC nominee who became a member of the Genetic Resources Policy Committee, attended the GRPC meeting in Sept. 2001 and has maintained e-mail contact with the NGOC. He will join the NGOC meetings at AGM2001.

**SP-IPM.** Abou Thiam of PAN (Pesticide Action Network) Africa, based in Senegal, has not been invited to a meeting of the Systemwide Programme on Integrated Pest Management Working Group since the one he attended in March 2001. He has received only some information by e-mail on IPM, notably training, and four booklets on cassava. The NGOC invited him to join its meetings at AGM2001 but he was unable to attend because of other commitments.

**SWI-PRGA.** Monica Kapiriri was asked in 2000 to be an NGO representative in the Working Group of the System-Wide Initiative on Participatory Research and Gender Analysis, but has not yet been invited to join any meetings or other discussions or activities in this connection.

## 7. NGOC membership

With a letter dated 6 August 2001 from the CGIAR Secretariat, the three new members of the NGOC – Monica Kapirori of Environmental Alert, Uganda; Mutizwa Mukute of PELUM (Participatory Ecological Land Use Management) Association, Zimbabwe (seat of the Regional Office) and Antonio (Tony) Quizon of ANGOC, Philippines – were officially invited to serve on the NGOC. They had been considered as “resource persons” since 1 January 2001.

Christian Castellanet (France,) stepped down from the NGOC because the work burden was too high in addition to his regular activities with GRET (Groupe de Recherche et d'Echanges Technologiques). Nominations were opened for a European to replace him. The woman who was selected could not accept the position because of difficulties in combining her professional and family responsibilities, when she discovered how time-consuming the work in the NGOC is. The second-ranked candidate Patrick Mulvany of ITDG (Intermediate Technology Development Group) in the UK agreed to assume the task.

The terms of two more members (one from Latin America and one from Asia) will come to an end in December 2001. Five of the six top-ranked candidates (three for each region) are women. The gender balance in the NGOC will therefore be improved in the coming year.

The NGOC currently has two members from Asia, two from Africa, two from Latin America, two from Europe and one from North America. Of the total of nine members, two are women. It is hoped that, by 2002, the NGOC will have at least ten members (including one from the WANA region), including at least four women. As of 1 November 2001, the NGOC will be co-chaired by Ann Waters-Bayer and Monica Kapirori.

The NGOC thanks Christian Castellanet, Jean Marc von der Weid (Brazil) and Dwi Muhtaman (Indonesia) for serving as members since 1999. We look forward to further close collaboration with them, just as former NGOC member Miguel Altieri (USA/Chile), Assetou Kanoute (Mali) and Julian Gonsalves (India/Philippines) have continued to collaborate with us in information-exchange and lobbying work in their respective regions as well as in international meetings and dialogues.

## 8. Publications and reports

*The papers marked with an asterisk (\*) can be accessed or will soon be accessible via the NGOC website <http://www.ngoc-cgiar.org>*

\* Altieri MA. **Sharpening the agroecological research agenda: towards a natural resource management strategy for poor farmers in marginal environments.** University of California Berkeley. 22pp

\* Altieri MA (ed.) **Strengthening the NGOC to strategically channel civil society input into the CGIAR: a report of a CGIAR-NGOC sponsored workshop held in Frankfurt, Germany, May 14-16, 2001.** University of California Berkeley. 39pp

ILEIA. 2001. **Lessons for scaling up.** *LEISA Magazine* 17 (3). 60 pp

\* Kapirori M. 2001. **IFPRI Conference on Sustainable Food Security for All by 2020: summary of key issues.** Kampala. 10pp

Mukute M 2001. **Meeting of non-governmental and farmer organisations in East and Southern Africa.** *Agricultural Research and Extension Network Newsletter* 44: 9.

Quizon A, Briones A & Muhtaman D. 2001. **Towards building Asian CSO consensus on agricultural research, extension and farmer linkages.** Report on NGOC consultations with CSOs in Asia.

\* Waters-Bayer A. & Kipiriri M. 2001. **Getting there – steps towards greater influence of civil society on agricultural research: an NGOC perspective on the CGIAR Mid-Term Meeting in Durban.** Goettingen / Kampala. 6 pp

\* Waters-Bayer A. 2001. **GFAR/IFAD workshop on Global Partnership Programmes – an NGO perspective.** Goettingen. 2 pp

\* Waters-Bayer A. 2001. **Prolinnova – the path from local initiatives to a global partnership programme.** Paper presented at GFAR/IFAD Technical Workshop on Methodologies, Organization and Management of Global Partnership Programmes, Rome, 9–10 October 2001. 6 pp

Waters-Bayer A. 2001. **Pour un accès libre!** In: Recherche agronomique internationale – un bien public à préserver. *Courrier de la Planète* 62: 62–64

## **Annex 1: The Guacimo Declaration on Agricultural Research in Mesoamerica**

Representatives of 9 Mesoamerican peasant-indigenous organizations, 8 NGOs and two Universities gathered at Guacimo, Costa Rica from August 26-28, 2001, to discuss in a participatory way an agricultural research agenda that would focus on the real needs of the peasant-indigenous-black communities of the region. This meeting was conceived as a part of the Mesoamerica region pilot exercise for the definition of research priorities at the regional level initiated by the Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR) and its Latin American expression FORAGRO. This exercise is supposed to be democratic and encourage the participation of a broad cross-section of stakeholders, yet to date it has not included, in any real and transparent way, the voices of peasants, indigenous peoples, black people, NGOs or local Universities.

After 2 days of deliberations the Guacimo group arrived at the following recommendations and conclusions:

1. Given that FORAGRO has for all practical purposes excluded peasant, indigenous and black groups, and NGOs and Universities (key actors for agricultural research the region) from the regional exercise for establishing a shared research agenda, we ask that FORAGRO cancel the pilot Mesoamerican priority setting exercise and initiate a new process that includes, from the beginning and in a transparent way, the representation of peasant-indigenous-black groups, and NGOs and Universities.
2. This new process must proceed with a pace and rhythm that allows peasant-indigenous-black organizations, as well as NGOs and Universities, to consult with their constituencies, in order to obtain, from a broad grassroots base, inputs about needs and priorities. GFAR and FORAGRO must provide the funds for such broad grassroots consultations.
3. As a starting point, the discussion should be based on the documents already prepared, or in preparation by FORAGRO, and on the Guacimo report, as well as other relevant documents coming from civil society, so that the various actors take into account all perspectives and thus advance towards a shared agenda.
4. Some of the key points that emerged at the Guacimo meeting include:
  - a Any Mesoamerican research agenda directed at solving the problems of poverty, food insecurity and natural resource degradation must be defined by the peasant-indigenous-black organizations, with the other actors in FORAGRO serving as facilitators and catalysts.
  - b The research agenda must aim at resolving the problems affecting rural communities, many of which transcend the biophysical-technological spheres, including economic, political, social and cultural dimensions, with issues such as equitable access to land, fair markets, farmers' rights, effects of globalization, etc., taken into account. Research must be conceived of as a process to create knowledge and human capital to empower communities, and thus as a tool for social change.
  - c It is critical that representatives from peasant-indigenous-black communities become part of the decision-making and policy-setting bodies in national and international agricultural research centers. An alternative mechanism is for rural communities to directly control research funds and resources, where they would then contract the services of national-

international institutions to conduct the participatory research at the community or watershed level and that best meets their needs.

- d Technological options must be based on traditional knowledge and on local resources, and must have an agroecological basis so that innovations do not create dependence on inputs, but rather promote synergies and stimulate ecological processes within farms. Innovations must also perform well in marginal environments, minimize risks, optimize total farm production, conserve resources and have additional positive effects on nutrition and health by fomenting local production as a fundamental requirement.
- e Initial relevant and priority research themes defined by the group include:
  - Reduction of ecological and social vulnerability
  - Enhancement of food security and economic security
  - Water harvesting and management
  - Recovery and in-situ conservation of local and indigenous agrobiodiversity
  - Ecological pest management emphasizing biocontrol mechanisms
  - Effects of global, regional and national economic policies on peasant agriculture, and search for alternative, supportive policies
  - Fair market options for peasant-indigenous farmers
  - Design of diversified agroecological systems, with low dependence on external inputs
  - Implementation of integral agrarian reform programs
  - Systematization of the principles that determine the success of farmer-led, productive and organizational experiences, and scaling-up of such principles through farmer to farmer exchanges at the regional level.

***Participating and signing organizations:***

COCOCH - Consejo Coordinador de Organizaciones Campesinas, Honduras  
La Via Campesina (International)  
Mesa Nacional Campesina ,Costa Rica  
CICAFOC, Coordinadora Indigena y Campesina de Agroforesteria Comunitaria (Central America)  
Alianza Democratica Campesina, El Salvador  
Asociacion de Trabajadores del Campo (ATC), Nicaragua  
UNORCA, Mexico  
APOT, Asociacion de Productores Organicos de Turrialba, Costa Rica  
CONIC, Coordinadora Nacional Indigena y Campesina, Guatemala  
CEDECO, Costa Rica  
COSECHA, Honduras  
DESAL, Mexico  
GEA, Mexico  
Vecinos Mundiales, Guatemala  
MAELA, MesoAmerica  
Fundacion Cordes, El Salvador  
INPRHU, Nicaragua  
Universidad Autnonoma de Nicaragua, Leon  
UNORCA, México

## **Annex 2: Towards building Asian CSO consensus on agricultural research, extension and farmer linkages**

### **A. Overview of the Bangkok Conference: Asian Regional Consultation on World Food Summit – Five Years Later, 28–29 August 2001, Bangkok**

Around 80 NGOs/CSOs from fourteen countries in Asia gathered in Bangkok, Thailand, on 28–29 August 2001 to assess and consolidate its position on the alarming state of food insecurity, especially in the region in preparation for the upcoming World Food Summit-Five Years Later (WFS–fyl). The consultation was co-organised by the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), the Pesticide Action Network for Asia and the Pacific (PAN-AP), the Institute for Motivating Self-Employment (IMSE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO-RAP).

The consultation allowed NGOs/CSOs in Asia to look at food security from four aspects, namely, Right to Food, Empowerment through Access to Resources, Sustainable Paths to Food Security, and Food Security and International Trade. Workshops were held on these four topics during the first day and the results were presented and refined the following day. A drafting committee was selected from the participants to draw the general and specific recommendations of Asian NGOs/CSOs to the WFS–fyl.

After five years, the same world governments and intergovernmental agencies that pledged to halve the world's hungry by the year 2015 have deemed it an impossible task. Food as a basic human entitlement has not been translated into the governments' action plans. Grassroots communities of peasants, indigenous peoples and women, among others, have continually been denied access to productive resources for food production. Distribution systems are not effective enough to reach the poorest communities desperate for food. Ironically, the small farmers themselves are the ones worst hit by the crisis of food insecurity.

The NGOs/CSOs present stressed that these institutions have approached these grave problems wrongly by enhancing trade conditions with the emergence of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and international agreements and national policies related to it. Including agriculture in the WTO will deprive the world's poor and hungry not only of adequate supply but also of their capacity to determine what they want to produce.

The NGOs/CSOs thus urged governments, FAO and intergovernmental agencies to end world hunger by taking the Agreement on Agriculture out of the WTO and to fortify national policies that would empower the small food producers at enhancing their production through sustainable means and with control and access to their resources.

This statement will be the collective call issued by Asian NGOs/CSOs before world governments and international agencies at the WFS–fyl.

### **B. Brief description of NGOC-organised activities vis-a-vis the Bangkok Conference**

From June 2001 to August 2001, the NGOC – through its Asian members from LATIN (Indonesia) and ANGOC, together with the Asian CSO contact person to GFAR (Dr Angelina Briones, MODE/UPLB), organised the following activities:

1. Pre-Consultation Discussions: E-mail discussions were conducted in June–July 2001 among the NGOC, ANGOC, LATIN and MODE/UPLB (Philippines) regarding the overall framework and implementation arrangements for the regional CSO/FO consultative process.
2. E-Conferencing: An e-mail conference was undertaken prior to the Bangkok Workshops with LATIN as lead agency. A list of over 100 NGOs and SFOs was drawn from across Asia and included in the e-conference mailing. A summary paper was then prepared by LATIN and constituted an input for the Bangkok Workshops organised by ANGOC, LATIN and MODE/UPLB on 28-29 August 2001.
3. Bangkok Workshops: In order to maximise the presence and participation of other CSOs, as well as to make the best use of limited resources, consultations were conducted as thematic workshops within the "Asian Regional CSO Conference on the World Food Summit + 5" held in Bangkok on 28-29 August 2001.

During the main Bangkok Conference, two thematic workshops were organised on the themes of "Sustainable Paths to Food Security" (28 August 2001) and "Towards a New Agenda for Agricultural Research in Asia" (28 August 2001) in order to discuss the issues, priorities and strategies for agricultural research and extension. These two workshops were attended by 26 and 18 participants, respectively. Workshop outputs were then shared with the larger plenary, and these contributed to the overall Conference Statement entitled "End Hunger! Fight for the Right to Live!"

It is noted that representatives of IRRI (International Rice Research Institute), APAARI (Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions) and FAO-RAP attended and participated in discussions at the NGOC-organised workshops. ANGOC, the Conference organizer, also provided an opportunity for Dr Patricio S. Faylon, APAARI representative, to address the main plenary during the closing session.

The objectives of all the above activities were:

1. to share information on activities in agricultural research and development;
2. to discuss key issues on agricultural research in Asia;
3. to identify mechanisms for better communication among stakeholders in agricultural research in the region;
4. to develop civil-society strategies for influencing agricultural research at country and regional levels.

### **C. A brief overview of the discussions**

#### ***Report of Dr Angelina Briones, MODE / U.P. Los Banos, to the plenary on the thematic workshop "Towards a New Agenda for Agriculture Research"***

The main discussion on agriculture research was on how it helps in poverty reduction, food security and natural resources management. Civil society wants to take advantage of this period when an international committee (i.e., Change Design and Management Team) was created to look at how the international public research can respond to these issues.

On the part of CSOs, the framework adopted for the agricultural research is found in page 2 of the Durban declaration. But there is still a need to put flesh into these motherhood phrases. There is also a trend with the international response to agricultural research going towards

regionalisation of research projects and proposals. The International Agricultural Research Centres claim they have this mandate for the last forty years. There is a clamour now for change, hence the consultation processes on the framework for these agricultural research institutions.

This is an opportunity for civil society to be counted in this re-orientation by drawing concrete actions for the new framework. There was a very strong sentiment on putting higher value to indigenous knowledge systems. Even if we say that we want scientific methods of research, we want to do this without losing the values from how indigenous peoples took care of the natural ecology.

The group also tackled doing research on research methods. Traditional scientific methods, especially in using statistics, which have limited variables, cannot address new research requirements today. There is a need now for integrated research not only in the natural sciences or bio-physical factors but also together with socio-economic and policy research. This is a challenge to our scientists to come up with better parameters to measure what we want from these integrated variables.

In addition, there was also a felt need for research on research institutions. Sample topics could cover their impact on the socio-economic lives of our people with the knowledge that, from the very start, these international research institutions were set up for the economic benefit of the rural poor. Actually, this is already part of their mandate. We also would like to advocate strengthening policy research both in government and non-government organisations.

Dr Briones then called for more suggestions from the participants on the possible research agenda for the region. The committee would like to come up with three proposals for Southeast, East and South Asia. They will be incorporating these comments into their drafts. Everyone was encouraged to fill-up and submit the form distributed to the participants to register these suggestions and perhaps join in the electronic consultation being done on the matter.

## Annex 3:

# Advancing Participatory Technology Development (PTD) in agricultural research, development and education

## Institutional change starts with personal change

### Background

A growing number of organisations are actively involving farmers in all stages of agricultural research and development from situation analysis and planning right through to impact evaluation. The ultimate aims are: 1) to strengthen the capacities of local people to experiment and innovate in farming techniques and social organisation, and 2) to strengthen the capacities of agricultural service providers to support these farmer-led processes. Such approaches are vital for sustainable development efforts in agriculture and natural resource management, especially in resource-poor, rainfed areas. In recent years, some promising efforts have been made to incorporate PTD into the regular work of large institutions of agricultural research, development and education.

### Case studies

The processes of scaling-up PTD (horizontal coverage to achieve geographic spread) and / or institutionalising PTD (vertical integration into structures at local up to national levels) were documented from 18 countries: Brazil, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Honduras, India, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. A total of 20 cases were produced.

### International workshop

From 17–21 September 2001, 23 PTD practitioners involved in these cases convened at the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) in the Philippines to draw lessons from their experiences in scaling up and institutionalising PTD not only in government organisations but also in large NGOs and farmer associations.

### **Southern Ethiopia: an example of institutionalising PTD**

*In 1998 a peer review of FARM-Africa's Farmers Research Project recommended that the approach be incorporated into the main institutions of agricultural research, extension and training in Southern Ethiopia. The EU-financed project aims to incorporate the tools and processes of PTD into the work of the Bureau of Agriculture, Bureau of Planning and Economic Development, Awassa and Areka Research Centres and Awassa College of Agriculture. A Steering Committee brings together the heads of these organisations in a multi-stakeholder platform to coordinate the process. A Technical Team comprising members from all the organisations implements the training, research and monitoring activities. Personal knowledge, skills and enthusiasm to engage in farmer participatory research are developed through training in participatory rural appraisal, participatory monitoring and evaluation and supporting farmer-led experimentation. Personal and institutional self-analysis is leading to changes in procedures and policies to facilitate the application of PTD tools, methods and strategies.*

### **Framework for analysing and synthesising the experiences**

<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Mission/Mandate</b>	<b>Structure</b>	<b>Human Resources</b>
<b>Administrative:</b> <i>"the nuts and bolts"</i>	<b>Operations</b> <i>Designing and implementing action plans</i> <i>Monitoring + evaluation</i> <i>Budgeting</i>	<b>Tasks/responsibilities</b> <i>Levels, positions, tasks</i> <i>Procedures and instructions</i> <i>Information and coordination</i>	<b>Expertise</b> <i>Quantity and quality of staff</i> <i>Job descriptions</i> <i>Infrastructure</i> <i>Training + coaching</i>
<b>Political:</b> <i>"the power game"</i>	<b>Policymaking</b> <i>Developing policies and strategies</i> <i>Influence from inside and outside</i> <i>Role of management</i>	<b>Decision making</b> <i>Formal and informal mechanisms</i> <i>Supervision and control</i> <i>Conflict management</i>	<b>Room to manoeuvre</b> <i>Space for innovation</i> <i>Rewards</i> <i>Career possibilities</i> <i>Working styles</i>
<b>Sociocultural:</b> <i>"identity and behaviour"</i>	<b>Organisational culture</b> <i>Symbols, traditions, norms and values behind staff and organisational behaviour</i> <i>Social and ethical standards</i>	<b>Cooperation and learning</b> <i>Norms and values behind arrangements for team-work, mutual support, networking, reflection</i> <i>Learning from experience</i>	<b>Attitudes</b> <i>Dedication to the organisation</i> <i>Commitment to work objectives and to partners/clients</i> <i>Willingness to change</i>

#### **A few of the many lessons:**

- Institutional change toward PTD starts with change in people's attitudes.
- Personal and institutional learning comes from reflection on practitioners' own PTD experiences.
- Situations must be designed to make scientists aware of farmers' creativity.
- Incorporation of PTD is facilitated by exchange visits, exposure of senior managers and policymakers to farmers' experimentation, travelling seminars, internal staff seminars, and participatory reflection and planning meetings.
- Series of training sessions interspersed with field assignments (e.g. identifying farmers' innovations and experiments) render staff confident to engage in PTD.
- PTD application should not be confined to a separate unit within an organisation.
- An internal taskforce can coordinate a process of institutionally embracing PTD.
- A consortium of partners, including donors, can foster cross-institutional learning.
- Policy influence for change toward PTD should be exerted simultaneously at the top and through upward pressure from field-level staff.
- Each group (scientists, extensionists, farmers etc) must identify its role in PTD.
- Accountability in PTD efforts changes radically when farmers are involved in governing research funds.

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## **Annex 4: Brochure**

### **The NGO Committee of the CGIAR**

The Non-Governmental Organisations Committee (NGOC) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)<sup>1</sup> provides wider civil society perspectives on, and engagement in, international agricultural research policy. It advises the CGIAR through its Chair and interacts through its membership with all parts of the CGIAR system. The NGOC currently consists of nine persons from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America, six from the South and three from the North.

### **Vision**

The NGOC sees farmers, their organisations and supporting NGOs as indispensable and equal partners of CGIAR Centres in agricultural research and development efforts to improve the livelihoods of resource-poor farmers in developing countries. Publicly-funded agricultural research must be focused on ecologically-oriented agriculture and natural resource management. The results of the research must be freely and widely accessible to humankind.

### **Objectives**

- To promote a people-centred approach to research and development of environmentally socially and economically sustainable agriculture
- To contribute to mutual understanding between the CGIAR and NGOs, including the farmers', herders / pastoralists and fisherfolk organisations they support, on issues of common interest and concern
- To facilitate two-way communication between the CGIAR and civil society, especially the NGO community.

### **Strategies**

With a view to achieving the above-mentioned objectives, the NGOC is examining and seeking to influence CGIAR policies and the way the Centres work in relation to:

- Participation of farmers, their organisations and NGOs in setting the priorities and research agendas of the CGIAR Centres
- Incorporation of viewpoints of civil society into the governance and decision-making processes of the CGIAR Centre Boards, the Technical Advisory Committee, the external reviews, staffing etc.

### **Background**

The Lucerne Declaration and Action Program adopted at the CGIAR Ministerial-Level Meeting held on 9-10 February 1995 in Switzerland encouraged the CGIAR to develop a more open and participatory system. The NGOC was established in that year as a system-level partnership committee to strengthen the CGIAR's dialogue with members of civil society and to complement existing efforts by CGIAR Centres to establish, maintain, strengthen and expand working

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<sup>1</sup> The CGIAR is an association of 58 members (22 developing countries, 21 industrialised countries, 3 private foundations and 12 regional and international organisations) established in 1971 under the joint sponsorship of the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO). Its mission is to contribute to food security and poverty alleviation in developing countries through agricultural research, capacity building and policy support. It operates through 16 "Future Harvest" Centres for international agricultural research.

relationships with NGOs. It was given the mandate to provide perspectives and experiences of civil society on policies, priorities, strategies and methodologies relevant to the work of CGIAR Centre managers, scientists and Boards. Such perspectives should contribute to making the science promoted by the Centres relevant to the needs and circumstances of poor farmers in developing countries.

### **Activities and mode of operation**

The NGOC participates in the regular (to date, twice yearly) meetings of the CGIAR, where it brings civil society perspectives into the discussions and deliberations and where it reports on the activities and viewpoints of the NGOC. During and between these meetings, also through direct communication with the Centres and other bodies of the CGIAR, the NGOC recommends ways to:

- improve farmer-scientist collaboration
- strengthen consideration of gender issues
- broaden the list of candidates for Centre Boards, review panels and other CGIAR bodies
- engage in a broad-based, worldwide consultation process with interested NGOs and other civil-society organisations, covering issues of common interest
- strengthen the CGIAR's linkages with national agricultural research systems (NARS), especially NGOs, farmer / community-based organisations and universities engaged in agricultural research and development activities.

The NGOC formulates and undertakes its own work programme and budget on an annual basis. This is presented for endorsement to the CGIAR at the annual October meeting. The funds allocated by the CGIAR for the work of the NGOC are utilised under the authorisation of the NGOC Chair. This budget does not cover the time inputs of the NGOC members but does cover the costs of their participation in the CGIAR meetings. The NGOC arranges its own support services and works independently of the CGIAR Secretariat in Washington DC, but is assisted as required by a focal point in the Secretariat.

Activities of the NGOC include organising and/or attending global, regional or national workshops and consultation meetings with NGOs and other members of civil society; elaborating position papers on various research and policy issues; visiting CGIAR research sites; and encouraging concrete collaborative partnership between NGOs, farmer organisations and CGIAR centres.

### **Membership**

The composition of the NGOC is meant to be balanced with respect to geographic coverage; thematic interest (macro-policy issues and farm-level concerns); outreach capability (to reach global, regional and national networks of NGOs); and gender. Members serve in their personal capacity, not as representatives of special interests or specific constituencies, but are expected to consult with civil society organisations and bring their concerns into the CGIAR.

Candidates for membership are identified through wide consultation within civil society. Upon the recommendation of the NGOC, candidates are formally invited by the CGIAR Chairman to serve as members for an initial two-year term, renewable for a further year. Rotation of the members provides opportunities to draw from a variety of perspectives.

*Details about the current membership of the NGOC, as well as about publications, reports on meetings and news on recent and upcoming events organised by the NGOC can be found in the website:*

<http://www.ngoc-cgiar.org>

