THE CGIAR RESEARCH AGENDA: FACING THE POVERTY CHALLENGE

Jakarta, May 15--Priorities and strategies guiding the future research programs of the 16 international agricultural research centers are high on the agenda of the upcoming Mid-Term Meeting of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). The annual meeting, held for the first time in Jakarta (May 20-24), is expected to reach consensus on a longer-term framework for research programs and allocation of resources.

The CGIAR maintains the world’s largest international research system for food and agriculture, consisting of 16 specialized research centers dealing with important aspects of developing country agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Group membership is made up of 52 countries in the North and South, international and regional organizations, and private foundations. The Group is jointly sponsored by the World Bank, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The CGIAR was established in 1971. Its mandate is to contribute, through its research, to promoting sustainable agriculture for food security in developing countries.

The meeting is held upon invitation of the Government of Indonesia and organized by the Ministry of Forestry in association with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Indonesian Scientific Research Institute (LIPI). Indonesia joined the Group in 1992 and hosts one CGIAR research center, the Center for International Forestry Research in Bogor.

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