

Patricia, many thanks to the Options Team for preparing a new solid draft for comments.

It seems that CGIAR donors are not all ready for a major change in structure at this time (Option 5). With limited time to elaborate and being pragmatic, we at CIAT believe Option 2 provides space to continue with 'evolutionary change' and if not the best may be the safest to pursue at this time. We realize that Options 1 and 2 don't really go very far; and although Option 3 goes further it seems to go backwards (to the Alliance days) while at the same time greatly empowers the FC/FO with programmatic and fiduciary oversight. To make that workable important changes would be needed at ISPC level and beyond. Option 4 would be unworkable; creating lots of additional confusion by having a single office serving two boards.

Best personal regards. Ruben