

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

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From: The Secretariat

Consultative Group Meeting

May 16-20, 1988

Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany

Regional Representation to the CGIAR

Agenda Item 11

Attached is the paper on Regional Representation to the CGIAR for discussion under Agenda Item 11.

Attachment

Distribution:

CGIAR members  
Center board chairpersons  
Center directors  
TAC chairman  
TAC members  
TAC secretariat

April 1, 1988

Representation of Developing Countries in the CGIAR

Summary

Prepared at the request of donors voiced during the Montpellier meeting, this paper reviews the role of the regional representatives to the CGIAR who are from countries elected at the five regional conferences of the FAO. It outlines the purposes for which developing country representation is desired in the CGIAR meetings, and discusses alternative means of selecting representatives. Various proposals to strengthen the existing system are reviewed. In conclusion, the paper suggests that the present system be retained and reviewed after four years, during which steps to improve it would be taken, including establishment of a stable funding source.

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Ever since the early days of the Group, there has been concern about ensuring that the viewpoints of developing countries are adequately considered in the workings of the CGIAR. Most activities of the system require interaction with the countries where the technology produced is expected to have its impact. The largest and most important interface is that between the centers and the national research systems who are their collaborators.

A particularly troublesome piece of this large puzzle is the participation of developing country representatives at meetings of the CGIAR itself. From the start of the Group each of the five regional conferences of the FAO has been asked to fill one seat at the table with two representatives from different countries. Each conference selects two countries which in turn name individuals to participate in the meetings.

In evaluating the effectiveness of this mechanism, the Group has tended to overlook the outstanding people who have participated in its deliberations in this role. Instead, it has focussed on the fact that the participation of regional representatives, as they have come to be called, has not always been very satisfactory to the CGIAR collectively nor in some cases to the individual representatives.

The reasons why this is so have been analyzed many times, for example in the Second Review of the CGIAR. That review also made a number of recommendations for improvement, which (after some delay) are being implemented.

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Attached to this paper are the relevant excerpts from the Second Review, and the Progress Report prepared by the Research Development Center of the FAO and circulated at ICW87. These documents are both brief and informative, and provide essential background to further discussion of the topic.

The issues addressed in this paper are:

- whether there are alternative, possibly more effective means of having developing countries participate in meetings of the CGIAR;

- if not, whether there are any further steps that should be taken to strengthen the present system;

- whether there are supplemental actions open to the Group to help achieve the same goals.

#### Purposes of Developing Country Representation in the CGIAR

Before going further, it would be well to state explicitly the objectives of having developing countries participate in meetings of the CGIAR. At a general level, the purpose is quite obvious: it would be wrong to have a group making important decisions about research for the benefit of developing countries without the participation of representatives of those countries.

Getting more specific becomes more complicated. The Group operates at two levels. Donor participants represent and speak for their agencies; but they are also expected to participate as individuals, offering what expertise and judgement they can about the topics that are discussed. Similarly, the CGIAR hopes that the regional representatives can work at the individual level, as well as expressing views that can be ascribed to the group of countries in their FAO region, or to the professional element they represent; leaders in agricultural research in the third world.

Their critical role is to represent developing country viewpoints, at the minimum the viewpoint of their own country, on the issues that come before the Group. Ideally they need knowledge of country policies and the interests of national research institutions and scientists, and enough knowledge of the international centers to make the connection in discussing issues before the CGIAR. To the extent that they can generalize about the views of developing countries of the region, this will be helpful. But they are not expected to put forward a formal consensus view of their constituencies.

Their interventions should take account of previous interactions with developing countries on the particular topic under discussion, not

addressing the topic as if it were being considered for the first time. Turnover should be staggered in each region to help preserve an institutional memory. A part of their role is to serve as the consciences of the CGIAR, and to identify for the Group any places where there has been inadequate consultation with developing countries affected by CGIAR decisions, and suggest mechanisms for overcoming such deficiencies.

An additional objective is to communicate back to their own countries and to others whom they represent, information about the CGIAR and what it is doing in the interest of those countries. This sort of communication might have several audiences including the governmental authorities charged with policies related to agricultural research. It might also reach directly to the scientists and institutions engaged in research and extension, and thus indirectly to the farming and agro-industrial community.

The second most important mode of participation for the regional representatives in CGIAR meetings is their ability to speak as scientists and managers of agricultural research in developing countries, i.e. as professional representatives of the consumers of the product of the CGIAR, and of its major collaborators. Their participation as knowledgeable individuals is in effect an extension of this role into areas that depend on more general knowledge and experience, including their own scientific and managerial work.

#### Alternative Mechanisms

The suggestions of alternative approaches on the record are the following:

1. to call upon the International Federation of Agricultural Research Systems for Development (IFARD) to name representatives. IFARD is a young organization with limited resources. It does not yet have regular scheduled meetings through which the selection of representatives could take place, or those representatives could feed back information gained at CGIAR meetings to the members. Representatives selected by IFARD would be in the position of presenting mainly their private views. Centers have provided assistance to IFARD and presumably will continue to do so, but it is hard to see that IFARD could do a good job of selecting persons to represent developing country views in the CGIAR without a great deal of assistance. It would be possible, however, to invite IFARD to send an observer to meetings of the CGIAR, or to the expanded systems meetings at centers week, as described in the paper on future meetings for discussion in Berlin.

2. to ask Instituto Interamericano de Cooperacion para la Agricultura (IICA) to represent Latin America in the Group, or to do a substantial amount of staff work to support the present representatives. This idea would apply only to Latin America since counterparts to IICA do not exist in other regions. It is clear that IICA is a strong enough organization to make significant inputs to the CGIAR and to the work of the Latin representatives to the Group. (IICA is already being invited to send observers to Group meetings.) IICA's structure would also give it a reasonable claim to represent the opinions of Latin American governments on agricultural issues.

While there might be a question who would pay for this activity, the principal problem with this approach would be that it would tend to codify a "Latin American" view within the CGIAR, contrary to the self-image of the Group where regional or political groupings are not viewed with favor. While donors from some parts of the world occasionally meet to discuss CGIAR business, they continue to participate individually and not collectively in the work of the organization. Were this creation of a formal Latin American structure to be followed by the expression of an African, or Asian, or Arab or European viewpoint in an organized way, the consequences for the atmosphere of the CGIAR could be undesirable.

3. Another suggestion is that the CGIAR should make its own choice of regional representatives, based on ability to contribute, and that the representatives would serve in an individual capacity. The idea is that this could make it possible for the Group to select individuals meeting its own criteria, instead of relying on others to do so.

Even if considerable resources were devoted to selecting persons on this basis, it is not at all clear that the CGIAR could perform this task effectively. Representatives chosen in this manner could very well encounter difficulty in attempting to communicate with their constituencies. And such a process would open the Group to the charge that it was arranging to receive from the developing world the message that may be convenient for CGIAR purposes, rather than unfettered and possibly critical views.

4. A more general proposal is that a different international organizational structure be employed to select the representatives of the regions. It is hard to think of one that could be used and that would offer

any advantages over the FAO structure. The regional development banks have shown no interest in the possibility, which would take them into a field quite far from their mandates.

5. A final suggestion is that regional representation as such should be dropped, and instead there should be a major campaign to recruit new donors among the developing countries, by reducing the minimum contribution level, or arranging methods for pooling contributions so that a number of countries could pool resources to meet the minimum level collectively. This raises a number of quite fundamental issues about the organization of the Group as a whole, the main one being to identify the threshold level of financial commitment that justifies full membership and an equal voice. These issues go well beyond the scope of this paper. As a substitute for regional representation, however, the process might well produce a skewed presence for the developing countries in the Group, in which the richer and larger countries would have a voice, and the poorer and smaller ones would be excluded. At the same time, the participation of developing countries in the system as donors is something that should grow over time. As it does grow, it should contribute to the strength of the voice of the using community in the governing body of the CGIAR.

It seems reasonable to conclude from the above discussion that there is no present alternative to election by the FAO regional conferences as a means to ensure representation of non-donor developing countries in meetings of the CGIAR.

#### Steps to Improve the Present System

Action has been taken on many of the points suggested in the Second Review, such as the extension of the term to four years, informing the appointing government specifically about the types of individuals wanted, using the FAO regional conferences as occasions to inform the participants about the work of the CGIAR, and encouraging the governments to include the representatives to the Group in their delegations to the FAO regional conferences. The representatives now meet regularly together and with representatives of the responsible FAO office and the CGIAR secretariat prior to each meeting of the Group to go over the agenda and other matters of interest, reports on their work are distributed to the Group, and more importantly they report back to the members of the regional conference on the work of the CGIAR. Funding is provided for their travel to Group meetings, with visits to centers included en route.

In considering further improvements, it is important not to have unrealistic expectations about the amount of time and effort that can be

put into CGIAR business by individuals who are in most cases in management positions in their own national research systems or related agencies. The demands placed upon them should mesh with their full time jobs, or at least make efficient use of the time they can spare from such jobs.

1. Funding has been available in the past several years from the special activities account, but quite a lot of special effort has been necessary to get the money. A more stable source of funding is clearly desirable. Donor members of the Group should consider whether they wish to provide the funds on a regular basis, in which case they should enter this item as a normal requirement to be funded each year. It might be more efficient to try to find a single donor, or perhaps two or three, which could assume this responsibility. If the Group wishes, the CG secretariat could seek a continuing source for the required funds which are estimated to be \$100,000 to \$120,000 per year for the range of activities presently financed.

2. To implement the concept that ten persons share five seats, the representatives have been grouped together at the end of the table during Group meetings. This places them at a considerable disadvantage in participating in the business. As an experiment, their seats at the Berlin meeting will be placed in alphabetical order among the donors. If successful, this change could be continued.

3. Additional selective travel might be arranged, such as one visit to a TAC meeting, possibly during the second year of the four year term. Centers are already encouraged to invite the nearby representatives to appropriate center occasions, and this might be expanded, within the limits of time available to the representatives, particularly when leaders from other national systems will be present.

4. It is not yet clear whether the regional conferences of the FAO can become effective fora for interaction between the representatives and the leaders of other national systems in the region, or their political or bureaucratic superiors. A good deal of such interaction may be possible by seizing opportunities afforded by meetings for other purposes. A greater effort could be made by the CG secretariat, the FAO, donors and the regional representatives themselves to watch for such opportunities, and to take advantage of them.

5. Given that the representatives have limited time, and that the degree of developing country interest varies considerably among issues discussed in the Group, the regular pre-Group meeting discussions might be used to look ahead to items on future agendas and assign responsibilities by agreement to individual representatives with a special interest. Representatives could select issues of relevance to their own work, to ease the task of preparing to take a role in the discussion.

6. The Group might invite the representatives to act as its conscience on the issue of consultation with national systems, and to point actively to needs for and opportunities for such consultation.

7. Reports to the Group need not be frequent: one per year should be adequate. Rather than go over issues already discussed in the Group, they might concentrate on activities of the representatives to report to their constituents, and feed-back they obtain. These reports might be supplemented by an annual analytical discussion of progress from the Research Development Center of FAO.

The issue has been raised whether it is appropriate for center board members to serve as regional representatives. The concern expressed is that they may use their positions to express interests of centers rather than developing countries. There may be some validity to the concern, but since board members sometimes occupy donor seats in the CGIAR, it does not seem appropriate to bar them from regional representative seats.

#### Supplemental Actions

1. There may be occasions where discussion of a particular topic in the Group would benefit from a substantial input from informed representatives of developing countries, but that input requires a specialized background which might not be available among the regional representatives or TAC members or perhaps requires more preparation than can be expected without advance arrangements. In such cases, the CG secretariat might arrange for the participation of appropriate individuals as consultants to the CGIAR. In practice, this is already done on some occasions, for example through participation of a number of developing country experts in the discussions of gender issues at ICW87.

2. The Group can continue to seek developing country donor members. Progress is likely to be slow in obtaining new commitments of funds at a time of debt crisis when even the richer developing countries are very short of foreign exchange. While no broad effort to establish mechanisms for collective membership for developing countries seems called for, the Group should be prepared to consider any such arrangements that are proposed.

3. There is scope for more assiduous consultation with developing country institutions in the course of preparing center and group strategies and other major positions. Perhaps equally important is the need to reflect the content of such consultations in bringing the final recommendations to the Group, particularly where there are substantial differences between some of the opinions expressed and the recommendation for Group approval.

4. While there has been recognition for some time of the importance of informing the public in developing countries about the work of the centers and its importance for their welfare, not very much has been done along these lines. A strategy for more effective communication with public in developing countries might be worked out, including a role for the regional representatives, if they have the inclination to participate.



5. In drawing up lists for participation in the expanded system meetings during centers week, if the Group approves such an approach, special consideration could be given to organizations such as IFARD and IICA which can contribute to the consultative process insights into the viewpoints in the developing countries.

### Conclusions

The following points are offered for the Group's consideration in an effort to provide a framework for decision-making:

1. Instead of continuing to discuss whether some better mechanism is available, it is suggested that the Group give the proposals of the Second Review as amplified and modified above, a reasonable chance. After four years, which should be long enough for the measures to have their full effect, the situation should be evaluated.
2. Generally, the measures to strengthen the existing system and to supplement it by related actions as listed above and modified during the Group's discussion should be tried during the four year period, together with such additional steps as experience suggests.
3. More stable funding should be obtained either by authorizing the CG secretariat to include support for the regional representatives as a regular item in the annual budget for contributions by donors, or alternatively requesting the secretariat to seek continuing contributions from a limited number of donors.

### **Attachments:**

1. Excerpts from the Second Review of the CGIAR
2. ICW/87/23: Progress Report on Regional Representation to the CGIAR.

Excerpts from the Second Review of the CGIAR

The Views and Aspirations of Developing Countries

8.4 In general, the developing countries recognize the great potential value of active collaboration with the CGIAR Institutions but specific problems remain to be solved if more of that potential is to be realized. Some of the criticisms presented to the Study Team related more to individual programmes rather than to the Institutions themselves. Although the Institutions have already made great progress in forging productive associations with developing countries, it is vitally important that all the international staff in the System should be constantly aware of the need to foster and maintain good relations with the Government officials in the countries in which they operate or reside.

8.5 Individuals from developing countries consistently voiced the need for strengthening their participation in the System at all levels, but especially at the level of programme determination. The Committee agrees that participation of individuals from the developing countries in the affairs of the System is most needed and most effective at the level of programme formulation and on Boards of Trustees. Moreover, having regard to the aims of the System and to the need to preserve its international nature, we also agree that effective participation by individuals from developing countries is essential at all levels in the System. Consequently, we examine how their participation could be improved and make recommendations accordingly.

Involvement at the CGIAR Level

8.6 The Consultative Group includes ten member countries elected through the biannual Regional Conferences of FAO. Two countries are elected from each of the five regions. The countries then nominate individuals, either research administrators or senior scientists, to attend meetings as their representatives, but the understanding in the CGIAR is that only one person from each region acts as spokesman on any particular issue. Election is for two years, with the possibility of re-election. Attendance of these regional representatives has not been very good and only three were present at the CGIAR meeting in 1980.

8.7 CGIAR membership includes additional representation from individual developing countries by reason of their participation as donors. There were three such members in 1980, recently increased to five, with the possibility of some further increases in the future.

8.8 As far as the service units of the Group are concerned, half of the members of the Technical Advisory Committee come from the developing countries and half from industrialized countries. Currently, neither of the two Secretariats includes staff members from the developing countries, but the existing staff, though small in number, have wide international experience.

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8.9 Interviews with individuals revealed a range of opinions concerning the relative importance of participation by the developing countries in such CGIAR activities as Centers Week. However, recommendations drafted in the three Regional Symposia, as well as at the Bellagio Conference in 1977,<sup>1/</sup> stressed the usefulness of maintaining this participation in the Group's deliberations. Dissatisfaction with the present method of participation was expressed, and explained mainly by the lack of briefing and commitment of those attending Centers Week. Recommendations to improve this participation were:

- (i) that appropriate mechanisms should be developed for information about the System and the agenda of Centers Week;
- (ii) that the mechanism for selecting representatives should be improved in order that those selected would be interested in and knowledgeable of the System;
- (iii) that a mechanism should be developed whereby scientists and administrators of each region could deliberate and provide an informal briefing to their representatives; and
- (iv) that the CGIAR should support the cost of the participation of developing country representatives.

8.10 We have already established the principles of operation under which the System may legitimately justify its non-political character. Provided these principles are followed, the effectiveness of developing country participants in the deliberations of the Group need not be as much related to their numerical strength, manner of selection, or their strong association with specific governments, as to the extent to which they are well-informed and effective in debates.

8.11 Furthermore, the weight of representation required at the Group level is also related to the type of management model followed. In a model where most of the control is decentralized, decisions in the central body are less important from the point of view of developing countries, particularly as the central function of the Group is mainly concerned with funding. It is then more important for developing countries to be strongly represented on Boards of Trustees, Programme Committees, etc., where they can effectively influence policies that affect them more directly. It would appear, therefore, that the greater the extent to which the mechanisms for policy-making are centralized, the greater the need for developing country participation within the Group.

8.12 Given that the general spirit of the recommendations in this report is directed towards keeping a decentralized system of management and operat-

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<sup>1/</sup> "Potentials of cooperation among Agricultural Research Systems". Conference held at Bellagio from October 17-21, 1977.

ing principles that are compatible with the non-political nature of the System, it follows that the present spirit of representation by developing countries in the Group does not need to be changed. However, this argument does not negate the need to ensure that qualified, articulate and well-informed representatives of developing countries have opportunities for interacting with donors and others in the process by which policy decisions are made. This participation is healthy for the operation of the System as a whole and constitutes an effective mechanism for the development of a clear understanding of the System on the part of the professional community in the developing countries.

8.13 Against this general background, the Committee considers that a concentrated effort should be made to strengthen the present method of representation before any new methods are tried. The present mechanisms could be strengthened if the following action were taken:

- (i) the CGIAR Secretariat and TAC should establish, in collaboration with FAO, mechanisms by which individuals who participate in meetings of the Group could be better informed about the System;
- (ii) FAO should seek ways of increasing the continuity of attendance of those individuals chosen as representatives;
- (iii) FAO regional meetings should provide opportunities for more extensive discussion of subjects that are relevant to the briefing of the representatives; and
- (iv) the Group should ensure that funding is provided to enable the representatives to attend meetings of the CGIAR.

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From: The Secretariat

15 October, 1987

ICW/87/23

International Centers Week

October 26-30, 1987

Washington, D.C.

Attached is a copy of the Progress Report on the Regional Representation to the CGIAR, prepared by the Research Development Centre of FAO.

Attachment

PROGRESS REPORT

ON

THE REGIONAL REPRESENTATION TO THE CGIAR

Prepared by the Research Development Centre, FAO

1. Introduction

This report has been prepared with the objective of presenting the CGIAR with background information on the regional representation to the Group, including information on the election and nomination of the Regional Representatives (RRs), their participation in CGIAR activities, and progress made, especially since November 1986 in efforts to enhance their effectiveness.

The CGIAR includes ten member countries 1/, elected through the biennial Regional Conferences of FAO. Two countries are elected from each of the five FAO world regions. Each elected country nominates an individual to attend the CGIAR meetings as regional representative. The term of representation is four years, extendable to six.

2. The Terms of Reference for Regional Representatives (RRs)

Based on the experience gained in previous years, revised terms of reference have been prepared for the RRs in 1987, which specify that they should:

- (i) be well informed about the agricultural situation and the research systems in the region (current state, major needs and constraints, relations with IARCs, etc);
- (ii) be well informed about the CGIAR system (objectives, strategies and priorities, activities, modus operandi, IARCs, etc.);
- (iii) study, analyze and be prepared to discuss agenda items of the CGIAR meetings in special briefing sessions for Regional Representatives to be held prior to the plenary Group meetings, whenever possible;
- (iv) attend and participate actively in all CGIAR meetings to which Regional Representatives are invited;
- (v) report periodically to the CGIAR on matters covered at Group meetings which are considered of relevance to the region.

1/ Present membership is shown in Annex 1

To fulfil the above, the representative must be a sound research scientist/ administrator with substantial professional experience and international exposure, and must have a strong commitment to international efforts in research cooperation. English language competence is essential, too. Therefore, the procedures for electing member countries and nominating RRs must be such that well qualified individuals become appointed to the CGIAR.

### 3. The Election/Nomination of Regional Representatives

The appointment of specific individuals as RRs to the CGIAR is a two-step procedure. First, a country must be elected by the FAO Regional Conference (held on even years) to represent the region in the CGIAR as a fixed-term member; second, that country must nominate one of its nationals as delegate to the CG meetings. FAO has always indicated its readiness to assist Member Governments in their selection of the most suitable national to represent the region.

The FAO Regional Conference agenda always includes a specific item on "Representation of the Region in the CGIAR", for which a Conference document is prepared, providing information on the CGIAR and its activities in general and those relevant to the Region. It also highlights new developments of interest to member countries. Quite often these matters are extensively discussed by delegates and as such the Regional Conferences are becoming regular biennial fora where ministers and high level officials of agriculture have an opportunity to become acquainted with activities of the CGIAR Centres and related agricultural research concerns.

At each Regional Conference, country delegates elect two countries to the CGIAR membership. As of 1986, the term of membership has been extended to four years, with the possibility of re-election for a further two years, in order to benefit from a longer experience by representatives and to avoid that both RRs from a region change at the same time.

The elected country subsequently nominates the person who will be representative, and transmits his qualifications to the other countries of the Region through the FAO Regional Office. This nomination has often fallen upon directors of national research institutes.

In an effort to improve the process of election and nomination so as to get RRs of adequate calibre appointed, a set of criteria for the selection of member countries to the CGIAR and an enumeration of responsibilities have been specified and included in the document for the relevant agenda item at the 1988 FAO Regional Conferences. (See Annex 2).

### 4. Briefing of Regional Representatives

Recently a centralized responsibility for the servicing and monitoring of Regional Representatives has been introduced, and hence deficiencies in attendance and performance can readily be followed up and remedied. As of 1987 a specific unit within the Organization, i.e. the Research Development Centre of the Research and Technology Development Division, has been assigned responsibility for assisting the regional representation. A first step has been to improve the briefing of RRs, for

which FAO in cooperation with the CGIAR Secretariat have arranged the following:

- (i) Preparation of background notes for the RRs (description of the CGIAR, regional representation to the Group, revised terms of reference, guidelines for debriefing reports, administrative and travel instructions)
- (ii) Assembling background documentation for the RRs (CGIAR and TAC reports and papers).
- (iii) Setting up, prior to CGIAR meetings an information and discussion meeting of the group of RRs.
- (iv) Attendance by RRs to other relevant activities (namely visits to IARCs in October 1987).
- (v) In general, maintaining a flow of information to the RRs on matters of interest for their duties.

Besides briefing, FAO is providing other backstopping services to the RRs, not only in regard to travel arrangements, but also in combining and distributing their reports, contacting research institutions in their regions, supplying specific information on request, etc.

It is felt that the present "service" to the Regional Representation is helping to make the operation more effective; the RRs now understand better their connexion with the System and receive more complete logistical support. This enhances their sense of responsibility and their performance at the CG.

The current RRs held their first group meeting in Montpellier in May 1987, prior to the mid-term meeting of the CGIAR, which was attended by all of them, the highest attendance to a CGIAR meeting so far. The representatives expressed their satisfaction with the preparatory arrangements and the support they are receiving. They stressed the great convenience of having in future always a meeting of RRs prior to the meetings of the Group.

The representatives also agreed to prepare brief personal attendance reports presenting comments and views on issues of particular importance to their respective regions. These have been combined into a summary group document for distribution to the CGIAR at ICW 87.

##### 5. Interaction of RR with Their Region and Among Themselves

At the Montpellier meeting the RRs also expressed the desire to attend the FAO Regional Conferences (every two years) as part of their countries' delegation to report to the Conference on their activity as representatives to the CGIAR and to interact with delegates. They pointed out as well, the convenience of knowing and visiting research institutions in the countries of their constituency. FAO supports their views and will approach the elected countries on this.



## 6. Calendar of Events

Given that certain events like the CG meetings and FAO Regional Conferences are fairly well fixed in time, a typical time-schedule and related logistics for the Regional Representatives include annually the following:

- May
- RRs meeting just prior to mid-term meeting of CGIAR.
  - RRs' report distributed to CGIAR and regions.
  - mid-term meeting of CGIAR - RRS ATTEND..
  - RRs encouraged to visit IARCs on their way to/from CG meeting.
- November
- RRs meeting just prior to ICW, at Washington D.C.
  - RRs report distributed to CGIAR and regions.
  - ICW, Washington D.C. - RRs attend.
  - RRs encouraged to visit IARCs on their way to/from ICW.

In addition to the above schedule, the representatives would attend during the period March to October in even years the FAO Regional Conference of their particular region where they would report on their CGIAR related activities. The Regional Conferences also elect one new representative in each region.

## 7. Budgetary Implications

Implementation of the revised process described above for the participation of Regional Representatives in the CGIAR since November 1986 has been possible with the funding made available by CGIAR donors and with FAO's contribution of the necessary staff time and supporting facilities.

For 1987, CGIAR donors pledged an amount of US\$100,000 to the travel fund for the regional representation; US\$60,000 have been contributed so far. Cost of attendance (travel and per diem) of nine RRs at the mid-term meeting at Montpellier amounted to US\$31,000. Attendance of ten RRs at ICW 87 in Washington D.C., including visits of five RRs to four IARCs, is estimated at US\$42,000.

If the full amount pledged for this year is made available, further assistance to and visits of RRs can be arranged. In view of the present experience and anticipated activities and costs in 1988, an amount of US\$120,000 will be required.

ANNEX 1

Present Regional Representation in the CGIAR

<u>Region</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Africa	Guinea	Dr. O. N'Diaye
	Zambia	Mr. N.E. Mumba
Asia and the Pacific	Bangladesh	Dr. M.E. Ahsan
	Thailand	Dr. P. Weerapat
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina	Dr. E.B. Moscardi
	Venezuela	Dr. R. Pinto Montenegro
Near East and North Africa	Egypt	Dr. A.R.H. Shehata <sup>1/</sup>
	Turkey	Dr. N. Demir
Southern and Eastern Europe	Portugal	Dr. J. Carvalho Carçoso
	Poland	Prof. A. Wos

1/ The representative for Egypt for 1988 is Mr. Ahmed A. H. Momtaz.

ANNEX 2

Criteria for selection of Countries as Regional Representatives to the  
CGIAR and their Responsibilities

These criteria and responsibilities include the following:

- (i) The country should express interest in being a fixed-term member of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and should be willing to take the responsibility for representing all the countries in the Region and meeting some of the expenses of such representation.
- (ii) The country should have a reasonably effective national agricultural research system with cooperative links to other such systems and international organizations.
- (iii) The country will nominate to the position a strong research leader, who is a sound research scientist/administrator with substantial professional experience; his qualifications will be transmitted to the member countries of the Region.
- (iv) It will be the responsibility of the representatives of the countries elected to consult periodically with other member countries on regional research needs and priorities so as to ensure adequate liaison between the Region and the CGIAR System. This consultation may be effected as follows:
  - (a) by convening periodic meetings with representatives of interested member countries at a suitable location within the Region, which might be, for example, at the FAO Regional Office;
  - (b) by informing interested member countries at the FAO Regional Conferences and at the FAO biennial Conference;
  - (c) by correspondence with interested member countries.
- (v) The representatives should, in their capacity as liaison officers between the Consultative Group and the member countries of the Region, not only represent the views of the Region to CGIAR meetings but should ensure a proper feedback by circulating a report on each meeting of the Consultative Group attended to other member countries of the Region.