

CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Seventy-First Meeting, ILRI, Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), 26-28 November 1996

FUTURE REVIEWS

Progress Report

(Agenda Item 6)

For Information and Comments

The attached progress report provides an update on the preparation of the External Reviews of ICRISAT, IPGRI, ISNAR, IFPRI, CIMMYT and CIFOR, and the Study of the CGIAR Regional Commitments in Latin America and the Caribbean.

TAC Members are invited to provide comments on the organization of the External Reviews of the Centres and the Regional Study.

TAC SECRETARIAT

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

November 1996

FUTURE REVIEWS

Progress Report

1. External Programme and Management Reviews

1.1 ICRISAT

The Fourth External Review of ICRISAT is being chaired by Dr. Ronnie Coffman (USA), Associate Dean for Research, Cornell University. The panel is composed of Drs. David Norman (UK), Don Plucknett (USA), Randy Hautea (Phillipines), Fred Wangati (Kenya) and Jean-Yves Maillat (France). The panel is being supported by a consultant on financial management aspects (John Griffiths, Australia) and a consultant on ICRISAT-ICAR relationship (Graham Jenkins, UK). Dr. Amir Kassam from the TAC Secretariat is serving as panel secretary and Dr. Pammi Sachdeva from the CGIAR Secretariat is serving as resource person on management aspects.

The panel chair and one panel member attended the Board meeting held in Bulawayo in February 1996 to observe the functioning of the Board and to identify key strategic issues the Review should focus on.

The initial phase of the Review was conducted from 2-10 September 1996 to coincide with ICRISAT's Board meeting at ICRISAT in Hyderabad, followed by field visits to the ICRISAT Sahelian Centre in Niamey and to locations in Mali and Nigeria. In India, the panel met with ICAR representatives, and travelled to Rajesthan and Maharastra to look at ICRISAT's work in the field.

The main phase of the Review will be conducted from 2-19 December 1996 at the Headquarters in Hyderabad. The panel report will be considered at TAC 72.

1.2 IPGRI

The Fourth External Review of IPGRI is being chaired by Dr. Calvin Qualset (USA), Director, Genetic Resources Conservation Programme, University of California, Davis. The panel comprises Drs. Ayfer Tan (Turkey), Samuel Jutzi (Switzerland), Jaap Hardon (Netherlands) and John Griffiths (Australia). The panel is being supported by a consultant on Board and governance aspects (Bill Carlson, USA), a consultant on legal and policy aspects (Carlos Correa, Argentina) and on banana and INIBAP (Rodrigo Tarte, Panama). Dr. Amir Kassam from the TAC Secretariat is serving as panel secretary, and Dr. Pammi Sachdeva from the CGIAR Secretariat is serving as resource person on management aspects.

The panel chair attended the IPGRI Board meeting held in Rome in March 1996 to observe the functioning of the Board and to identify key strategic issues the Review should focus on.

The initial phase of the Review was conducted from 12-21 September 1996 at Cotonou, Benin to coincide with the Board meeting, followed by a visit to IPGRI's Headquarters in Rome to interact with staff, and FAO. Dr. John Griffiths also visited INIBAP. In Cotonou the panel met with the representatives of several NARS from sub-Saharan Africa.

The panel chair and Dr. Rodrigo Tarte visited Costa Rica and Honduras in October to assess the work of IPGRI and INIBAP in Latin America. The panel chair and Dr. Ayfer Tan will visit India from 15-28 November to interact with a number of plant genetic resources experts attending the International Science Congress meeting, to assess the work of the national programme and of IPGRI. In December the panel chair and Dr. Rodrigo Tarte will visit INIBAP at Montpellier and the banana transit centre at Leuven.

The main phase of the Review will be conducted from 2 to 21 February 1997 at IPGRI in Rome. The panel report will be considered at TAC 72.

1.3 ISNAR

The Third External Review of ISNAR is being chaired by Dr. Samuel Paul (India), Chairman, Public Affairs Centre, Bangalore. The panel comprises Drs. Mandi Rukuni (Zimbabwe), Jesus Mancada (Mexico), Jacques Brossier (France), Roberto Vasquez-Platero (Uruguay) and Ken Hoadley (USA). Dr. Guido Gryseels from the TAC Secretariat is serving as panel secretary and Dr. Pammi Sachedeva and Dr. Selcuk Ozgediz from the CGIAR Secretariat are serving as resource persons on management aspects.

The panel chair attended the ISNAR Board meeting in The Hague in May 1996 to observe Board performance and to interact with the Board on key strategic issues for the Review.

The initial phase of the Review was conducted from 23-27 September 1996 at ISNAR in The Hague to coincide with the Board meeting. Thereafter, the panel chair visited a number of Washington-based institutions such as IFPRI, World Bank and the IDB to discuss their collaboration with ISNAR. Three panel members attended the global forum of NARS at ICW'96 and conducted interviews with selected NARS leaders. Panel members also made an in-depth study of ISNAR's activities in Mexico, Uruguay, Zimbabwe and India. Panel members also attended meetings of SACCAR in South Africa and of AARINENA in Egypt.

The main phase will be conducted from 9-20 December 1996 at ISNAR in The Hague. The panel report will be considered at TAC 72.

1.4 IFPRI, IRRI, CIMMYT and CIFOR

The External Reviews of IFPRI, IRRI and CIMMYT are scheduled to be conducted during 1997 and the External Review of CIFOR in early 1998.

The exact timings of the Reviews are under discussion with the Centres. Once the panel chairs have been identified, a short list of suitable candidates for panel membership will be put together in consultation with the panel chairs and the Centres.

2. Study of the CGIAR Regional Commitments in Latin America and the Caribbean

At TAC 70 the Committee approved the terms of reference and the timing of this Study as follows:

The focus of the study will be on joint work by the CGIAR Centres and programmatic and organisational coherence. The study will:

- (a) characterise current CGIAR activities in the region, including CGIAR facilities and personnel through a desk study;
- (b) assess alternative research strategies for future CGIAR activities in the region, including opportunities for increasing complementarities on regional agricultural research between CGIAR Centres and governmental and non-governmental sectors and the private sector;
- (c) identify and propose cost-efficient options for organising and operating future CGIAR activities in the region.

The study will be carried out in three phases by a four to five member external panel supported by the TAC Secretariat, and in consultation with the CGIAR Centres active in the region.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Phase 1 (March-July 1997): | Preparatory phase including desk study and consolidated proposal by panel chair to TAC 73. |
| Phase 2 (August-November 1997): | Analysis and regional visits and preliminary report to TAC 74. |
| Phase 3 (December-March 1998): | Report writing, consultation with main stakeholders, and submission of final report to TAC 75. |

At TAC 70, the Committee requested that the TAC Secretariat write to the Latin American regional forum to ask for suggestions for possible panel membership. At TAC 71, the Committee will consider the names that have been submitted and make a shortlist of proposed panel chairs.