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## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**



# PREPARATORY SESSION<sup>1</sup>

## 0.1 Opening of the session

The Preparatory Session of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) was called to order at 08:50 on 13 November 2003, in the Hotel Caesar Park, Panama City, Panama.

## 0.2 Election of the Chair and Rapporteur of the Meeting

0.2.1 The Plenary elected Ms. Lynette Stanziola, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama, to chair the meeting.

0.2.2 Salvador Urrutia, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of El Salvador, was then chosen to serve as Rapporteur.

0.2.3 Pursuant to Article 35 of Rules of Procedure of the IABA, the Delegate of Paraguay was appointed as vice chair of the meeting.

0.2.4 The officers of the meeting were elected as follows:

Chair:	Lynette Stanziola
Vice Chair:	Antonio Ibañez Aquino
Rapporteur:	Salvador Urrutia
<i>Ex officio</i> secretary:	Chelston W. D. Brathwaite

## 0.3 Agenda of the Meeting

The Agenda presented in Document IICA/JIA/Doc.270(03) rev. was approved.

## 0.4 Working Committees

The Plenary decided not to set up any working committees.

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<sup>1</sup> IICA/JIA/ACTA 12 (XII-O/03). November 13, 2003. Original Spanish

0.5 *Deadline for Submitting Proposals*

Thursday, 13 November at 16:00 was set as the deadline for submitting proposals.

0.6 *Duration of the meeting*

The Plenary agreed to hold the closing session of the meeting on Thursday, 13 November, at 17:00, as proposed by the Technical Secretariat of the meeting.

0.7 *Order of Precedence of the Member States*

0.7.1 Pursuant to Article 34 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA the order of precedence was determined following the alphabetical order in Spanish and beginning with Panama, the Member State whose delegate would be presiding over the meeting.

0.7.2 Furthermore, in accordance with Article 35 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA, the regular delegates of the Member States would be *ex officio* vice chairpersons of the meeting and replace the Chairperson in the event of her incapacity, following the order of precedence.

0.8 *Right to Vote of the Countries*

0.8.1 Dr. William Berenson, Chief Legal Advisor of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS), explained to the Plenary that, under Article 24 of the Convention and Article 69 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA, countries more than two years in arrears with their quota contributions lose the right to vote. Nonetheless, the IABA could allow them to vote if it felt that the failure to make payments was due to circumstances beyond the control of the Member State concerned. Rules had been adopted at the Ninth Regular Meeting of the IABA, held in 1997 in Santiago, Chile, for application of the aforementioned article. At the present time, he added, nine countries were in arrears. The delegates of the Member States in arrears said that the delay was due to difficult situations in their countries that had prevented them from honoring their commitments to the Institute. They pledged to do so as soon as possible.

0.8.2 The Chair asked that the countries in arrears be allowed to retain the right to vote during this meeting and that the Director General meet with the delegates of the countries in question, with a view to devising and reaching agreement on solutions.

0.8.3 The Legal Adviser said that the existing rules established the conditions under which countries could justify their arrearages.



- 0.8.4 The Delegates of the United States of America and Mexico felt that granting special treatment to countries in arrears was neither fair nor equitable. They acknowledged that some of the relatively less developed countries had made an effort to keep up with their payments despite their internal crises. Paying quotas on time was a way of acknowledging IICA's important role in solving problems that limit the development of the agricultural sector and rural well-being in the Americas.
- 0.8.5 The Delegate of Canada said that the reasons given by the countries in arrears were understandable. Nonetheless, he was concerned that the amount of quotas owed represented roughly 45% of IICA's regular budget. It would be difficult for the Institute to meet the needs of the countries with only 55% of the income budgeted.
- 0.8.6 The Delegate of Dominica said that his country had faced internal crises and he understood the situation of the countries that were in arrears. Nevertheless, paying quotas reflected a sense of responsibility. He warned that granting concessions with regard to quota payments could undermine the operation of the Institute. He proposed that the Director General meet with the delegates of the States in arrears and explain the repercussions of the situation on the attainment of the objectives established in IICA's 2002-2006 Medium Term Plan.
- 0.8.7 The Delegate of Chile recommended that a structural solution be found to the problem of quota arrearages before the next meeting of the IABA.
- 0.8.8 The Delegate of Ecuador expressed concern at the rules that made it possible to justify arrearages.
- 0.8.9 The Delegate of Guyana suggested that, in the meetings that the Director General would be holding with the Delegates of the Member States that were in arrears, deadlines and penalties be established.
- 0.8.10 The Director General thanked the delegates for their comments on the matter at hand. The IABA's decision with regard to quotas owed to the Institute was important not only in terms of the meeting itself, but vital for the future of IICA. The Institute has enormous potential as a platform for cooperation in the hemisphere, but the quota arrearages jeopardized its technical capabilities. Quota contributions had also been frozen since 1995, while the costs of services had increased and staff salaries had not been adjusted. He suggested that, in addressing the issue of quota arrearages, the delegates consider the right to vote and measures that could be taken with regard to the supply of technical cooperation to the Member States who owed quotas to the Institute. The Executive Committee and the Administration had prepared a document entitled "The Financing of IICA: Recommendations from the Executive Committee on the Collection of Quota Arrearages"

(IICA/JIA/Doc.275a(03)), containing guidelines for dealing with the question of quotas owed to the Institute. He recommended that the Member States in arrears be allowed to vote, provided that the aforementioned proposal was discussed at the meeting.

- 0.8.11 The Delegate of Barbados endorsed this recommendation. The Delegate of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was in favor of all the Member States being allowed to vote and agreed that all the Member States should honor their commitments to the Institute.
- 0.8.12 The plenary agreed to permit the Member States who owed quotas to the Institute to vote and to change the agenda so that the first item discussed would be the proposal contained in the document "The Financing of IICA: Recommendations from the Executive Committee on the Collection of Quota Arrearages" (IICA/JIA/Doc.275a(03)).
- 0.8.13 The Delegates of Canada and the United States of America presented a procedural motion, asking for a roll-call vote on the matter, which was approved.
- 0.8.14 The Delegate of Nicaragua thanked the plenary for generously allowing the Member States in arrears with their quota payments to vote. He explained that, even if his country was unable to contribute government funds, it encouraged international financial organizations to channel large amounts of resources through IICA for the implementation of technical cooperation activities.
- 0.8.15 The Chair said it was important to deal with the question of arrearages and also to review the structure of spending in the IICA Offices in the countries.

0.9 Close of the session

The session was adjourned at 10:30.

# FIRST PLENARY

## SESSION

### 1.1 *Opening of the session*

The First Plenary Session of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture was called to order at 11:05 on 13 November 2003, with Lynette Stanziola, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama, presiding.

### 1.2 *Draft Resolution: "Proposal for the Collection of Quota Contributions Owed to the Institute"*

1.2.1 The Deputy Director General presented the proposal contained in the document "The Financing of IICA: Recommendations from the Executive Committee on the Collection of Quota Arrearages" (IICA/JIA/Doc.275a(03)). The Chair threw open the floor for discussion.

1.2.2 The Delegate of Costa Rica explained that, under his country's legislation, quota contributions to international organizations were to be made in twelve monthly payments. As a result, Costa Rica could not be up-to-date with its payments as of 30 June. The Delegate of Bolivia said the same was true for his country.

1.2.3 The Deputy Director General explained that Member States in the situation described by the Delegates of Costa Rica and Bolivia were not regarded as being in arrears with their quota payments. Technically, quotas should be paid at the start of the calendar year.

1.2.4 The Delegate of Venezuela justified his country's quota arrearages. He reiterated the request by his country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Director General that the amount of the quota be reviewed. The review should take into account the new situation of Venezuelan agriculture, where the agricultural sector's contribution to GDP had declined and the country was heavily dependent on agricultural imports.

1.2.5 The Director General pointed out that the Institute was not authorized to change the system used to determine quotas. According to Article 23 of Chapter 7 of the Convention on IICA, the Member States were to help support the Institute by means of quotas established in accordance with the system used by the OAS.

- 1.2.6 The Delegate of Paraguay was unsure whether he had the power to sign the proposed resolution, as in point 3 of section A of Chapter IV of the Appendix it said that the Payment Plan should be signed by the “appropriate authorities of the debtor Member State.”
- 1.2.7 The Legal Adviser explained that the text in question was a special and transitory provision. For the draft resolution, IICA’s Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the IABA to be consistent, the wording of section D of chapter I should be changed so that the second and fourth lines read “...more than one full quota” instead of “one or more quotas.” Furthermore, point 1 of section C of Chapter II should be changed to read “quotas for more than two...” instead of “quotas for two...”
- 1.2.8 The Chair asked the Legal Adviser to make the pertinent corrections to the text of the draft resolution.
- 1.2.9 The Delegate of Haiti noted that, according to the definition contained in the document, his country was not “in arrears.”
- 1.2.10 The Chair confirmed that this was consistent with “up-to-date status.” The Director General explained that official documents were sent out 45 days before the IABA was held. The situation of a given Member State could change during that period and make its status different as far as the payment of quotas was concerned.
- 1.2.11 The Delegate of the United States of America asked for the names of the Member States that had made up the Executive Committee during the Twenty-third Regular Meeting.
- 1.2.12 The Director General said that the members of the Executive Committee at the Twenty-third Regular Meeting, held 23-24 July 2003 in San Jose, Costa Rica, were: Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Paraguay and Venezuela.
- 1.2.13 The Legal Adviser said that a concurring vote of two-thirds of the Delegates of the Member States (23 votes) were needed for the resolution to be approved.
- 1.2.14 The Chair asked for a roll-call vote on the draft resolution. The resolution was approved with the concurring vote of the Delegates of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominica, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. The

Delegate of Ecuador abstained and the Delegates of Peru, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Colombia were absent at the time of the voting.

- 1.2.15 The Chair gave the floor to the Director General, who thanked the plenary for the decision it had taken and said that the adoption of the resolution was a manifestation of the countries' support and confidence in IICA's future.

- 1.3 *Close of the session*

The first plenary session was adjourned at 12:45.



# **S**ECOND PLENARY

## **SESSION**

### 2.1 Opening of the session

The Second Plenary Session of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture was called to order at 14:46 on 13 November 2003, with Lynette Stanziola, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama, in the chair.

### 2.2 Reports of the External Auditors on IICA's 2001 and 2002 Financial Statements (IICA/JIA/Doc.273(03))

2.2.1 The Deputy Director General presented the Reports of the External Auditors on IICA's 2001 and 2002 Financial Statements.

2.2.2 Antonio Ibañez, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Paraguay, temporarily took over the chair of the meeting and gave the floor to the Delegates. There was no discussion.

### 2.3 Eighth and Ninth Reports of the Audit Review Committee (ARC) (IICA/JIA/Doc.274(03))

2.3.1 Carlos Gutiérrez, a member of the Audit Review Committee, presented the ARC's Eighth and Ninth Reports. The Chair asked the Delegates for their comments.

2.3.2 The Delegate of Mexico congratulated IICA and the Audit Review Committee for the work they had done.

### 2.4 Recommendations from the Executive Committee on Measures for Restructuring the Institute's Finances (IICA/JIA/Doc.275b(03))

2.4.1 The Deputy Director General presented the measures recommended by the Executive Committee for restructuring the Institute's finances.

2.4.2 The Delegate of Mexico thanked the members of the Executive Committee for the effort they had made to identify measures for restructuring IICA's finances. He suggested that, to strengthen its technical capabilities, the Institute could incorporate

personnel on sabbaticals from academic and research institutions. He also proposed that a database be set up containing information on professors and scientists of national institutions who could participate in programs of this kind.

- 2.4.3 The Delegates of Bolivia and Chile seconded Mexico's proposal.
- 2.4.4 The Chair felt that the proposal would permit better use to be made of the human resources of the Member States.
- 2.4.5 The Director General pointed out that this option for recruiting personnel was considered in the draft resolution on Associate Personnel and would be discussed in greater depth later on in the meeting. He also felt that it was important for IICA's technical personnel to be seconded temporarily to other institutions, to update their expertise. The Directorate of Human Resources was working on a proposal of this nature.
- 2.4.6 The Delegate of Haiti mentioned the proposed system for distributing income received from CATIs/INR, and expressed concern that the measure would have a negative effect on countries like his.
- 2.4.7 The Chair noted Haiti's concern and recalled that the principle of solidarity had always prevailed in allocating and managing the Institute's resources.
- 2.5 2004-2005 Program Budget (IICA/JIA/Doc.276(03))
- 2.5.1 The Director General explained the scope of the 2004-2005 Program Budget. The Chair asked the Delegates for their comments.
- 2.5.2 The Delegate of Uruguay informed the plenary that the ministers of the Southern Agricultural Council (CAS) had prepared a proposal for the creation of an information system on agricultural policies. He asked whether the activities envisaged in the project in question could be financed with resources from the budget that had been presented.
- 2.5.3 The Director General said that the information system proposed by the CAS did not require additional funds, as it was included in the Inter-American Program for the Promotion of Trade, Agribusiness and Food Safety, financing for which was included in the 2004-2005 Program Budget.
- 2.5.4 The Delegate of Canada offered to try to secure additional resources for the Agricultural Health Program, as IICA was so strongly interested in the issue, as reflected in the 2004-2005 Program Budget.



2.5.5 The Delegate of the United States of America stressed the importance of agricultural health and food safety, and expressed satisfaction at the resources allocated in the proposed Program Budget. He mentioned the possibility of supporting the participation of the countries in the Codex with additional funds. He urged the other Member States to make extra contributions for addressing these issues.

2.5.6 The Director General noted that the Program Budget was a reflection of the priorities and political will of the Member States. He explained that it gave high priority to the issues of trade and agribusiness, agricultural health and food safety.

2.6 Reading out and approval of Draft Resolutions

Lynette Stanziola took over the Chair of the meeting again and asked the Rapporteur to read out the following draft resolutions: i) 2001 and 2002 Financial Statements of the Institute and Reports of the External Auditors; ii) Eighth and Ninth Reports of the Audit Review Committee (ARC); iii) Special Expenditures Financed by the General Subfund; iv) Measures Approved by the IABA for Restructuring the Finances of the Institute; v) Tribute to Mrs. Jocelyn Thompson; and, vi) 2004-2005 Program Budget. They were all approved as read.

2.7 Draft Resolution: Associate Personnel

The Delegate of Mexico asked that the draft resolution include a request for IICA to create a database of experts who, when on sabbatical leave, were available to offer services to the member countries, in the agricultural sector. The draft resolution was approved with that amendment.

2.8 Draft Resolution: "Proposal for the Collection of Quota Contributions Owed to the Institute"

The Rapporteur read out the revised version of the draft resolution, which was approved.

2.9 Message from the Director General

The IICA Director General presented a report on the first two years of his administration. He reported on the administrative and strategic actions implemented to modernize the Institute and provide better services to the Member States, and to reposition the Institute so it could tackle the challenges of the 21st century. He thanked the Member States for the support he had received during that period.

2.10 *Progress Report on the Implementation of IICA's 2002-2006 Medium Term Plan (IICA/JIA/Doc.272(03))*

2.10.1 The Chair gave the floor to the Director of the Technical Cooperation Secretariat, who described the progress made in implementing the Institute's 2002-2006 MTP.

2.10.2 Mario Seixas, Director of the Technical Secretariat and Assistant Deputy Director General, presented a summary of the Institute's work and described the process involved in reaching agreement on IICA's Cooperation Agendas, as an innovative instrument for adapting and harmonizing IICA's activities with the priorities of the governments and the institutions that IICA serves in its 34 Member States.

2.11 *Implementation of and Follow-up to the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action*

2.11.1 The Delegate of Honduras presented to the plenary the draft resolution "Implementation of and Follow-up to the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action."

2.11.2 The Director General stressed the importance of the draft resolution, which would permit IICA to support the implementation of the activities agreed upon in the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action. The Institute would endeavor to forge partnerships with regional and hemispheric, technical and financial cooperation institutions, to support the actions called for in the Plan in a cooperative and coordinated manner.

2.11.3 The Delegate of the United States of America asked that a reasonable period of time be allowed for studying the draft resolution before voting on it. The Chair agreed to the request.

2.12 *Interagency Group on Rural Development*

The Chair gave the floor to Ruben Echeverria, Head of the IDB's Rural Unit, who explained the objectives, scope and projects of the Interagency Group on Rural Development.

2.13 *Forum of the Americas on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO)*

The Chair gave the floor to David Berroa, President of the aforementioned Forum. He presented the plenary the results of the Third Meeting of FORAGRO, held in Brasilia, Brazil, which focused on the joint efforts of national and international

institutions in the area of technological development of agriculture in the hemisphere, and which required the endorsement and political support of the IABA.

2.14 2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE)

Pedro Emilio Ferreira Rossi, Director General of CATIE, presented the report of this research and education center to the plenary.

2.15 2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)

The Executive Director of CARDI, Frank Bruce Lauckner, presented the biennial report for 2001-2002.

2.16 Reading out and approval of Draft Resolutions:

2.16.1 The Rapporteur read out the following draft resolutions: Rotation Mechanism for Appointing the Delegates of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) to the Governing Council and Board of Directors of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE); ii) 2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE); iii) 2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI); iv) Participation in the Forum of the Americas on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO); and v) Hemispheric Information System on Agricultural Policies.

2.16.2 All the draft resolutions were unanimously approved as read.

2.17 Draft Resolution: Agricultural Biotechnology and Biosafety

2.17.1 The Delegate of the United States of America asked for the phrase “and development” to be added to the end of the first operative paragraph, and the phrase “document of understanding” to be replaced with “arrangement” in the second.

2.17.2 The Delegate of Mexico asked for the names of the countries that would be forming part of the team to be included into the third operative paragraph and said that his country was interested in being a member of the team.

2.17.3 The Director General suggested that mention be made in the operative paragraphs that the countries making up the team contribute technical and financial support for

the implementation of the activities. While IICA regarded biotechnology as a key element for the future of agriculture, the 2004-2005 Program Budget did not include the resources needed to address this issue adequately.

- 2.17.4 The Delegate of Mexico said that the resolution was intended to make it possible to share the experience acquired by the United States, Canada and Mexico with the other Member States. Those three countries had signed an agreement aimed at preventing national biotechnology regulations from becoming an obstacle to trade. As a hemispheric agency, IICA could facilitate the sharing of such experiences among the Member States.
- 2.17.5 The Delegate of Canada agreed with the Delegate of Mexico and added that his country would be providing financial support for the initiative. He hoped that IICA would convene meetings to discuss the importance of agricultural biotechnology and its impact on trade and development, and that a forum would be organized before the next ministerial meeting to discuss the matter in depth. If that were not possible, he suggested that the Third Ministerial Meeting focus on biotechnology and its impact on agriculture.
- 2.17.6 The Director General said that the Institute would facilitate whatever conditions might be necessary for organizing such forums. IICA also pledged to prepare a document on the role of biotechnology in the hemisphere, which could be presented at the next Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee. Although the Institute did not generate technology, it could serve as the platform for dialogue on the subject.
- 2.17.7 The Chair said that a meeting was scheduled to be held in Costa Rica in April 2004 to continue the discussion of the subject that the Ministers of Agriculture had initiated at the meeting on science and technology held in Sacramento, California. She suggested that the Member States make a pledge to give technical and financial support within the framework of the resolution under discussion.
- 2.17.8 The Chair asked the Technical Secretary to incorporate the suggested changes into the draft resolution under discussion, so that it could subsequently be presented to the plenary.
- 2.18 *Draft Resolution: "Modifications of the Financial Rules and the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate on Miscellaneous Income"*
- 2.18.1 The Chair gave the floor to the Legal Adviser, who explained the significance of the draft resolution. He said that it had previously been studied and endorsed by the Executive Committee. The Resolution was adopted as read.

- 2.19 *Draft Resolutions: “Official Languages at the Meetings of the Executive Committee” and “Official Languages at the Meetings of the IABA”*
- 2.19.1 The Chair gave the floor to the Rapporteur, who read out the draft resolutions.
- 2.19.2 The Delegate of the United States of America said that it should be made clear in the fourth preambular paragraph that the quota arrearages of the Member States were one of the main reasons for the Institute’s current financial situation, and not the freeze on quotas.
- 2.19.3 The Delegate of Haiti asked the Legal Adviser to clarify how these resolutions related to the provisions on the subject in IICA’s Convention. There was a need to differentiate between what was essential, what was indispensable, and what was secondary, vis-à-vis the materials utilized in official meetings. He was concerned that the resolutions could affect the interests of the small and relatively less developed countries.
- 2.19.4 The Legal Adviser said that the purpose of the resolutions was to cut costs. He pointed out that the final reports would be available in IICA’s four official languages.
- 2.19.5 The Delegate of Belize asked whether the resolutions applied only to the meetings of the Executive Committee. The Chair clarified that the proposed change would also apply to the meetings of the IABA.
- 2.19.6 The Delegate of Jamaica said that the documents sent out prior to the meetings should not be reproduced again.
- 2.19.7 The Delegates of Brazil, Costa Rica and Paraguay supported the resolutions. The Delegate of Belize said that the wording needed to be changed. The Delegates of Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines were opposed to the idea. The Delegate of Canada said he would refrain from giving an opinion on the resolutions.
- 2.19.8 The Delegate of Ecuador felt that simultaneous interpretation should also be limited at the meetings of the IABA. The Delegate of Saint Kitts and Nevis disagreed and said that during official meetings simultaneous interpretation should be available in the languages of the Member States.
- 2.19.9 The Chair pointed out that simultaneous interpretation would continue to be provided in IICA’s four official languages. The cost of reproducing documents was not high, but having translators on hand at the meetings was.

- 2.19.10 The Director General and the Legal Adviser agreed that the main purpose of the draft resolutions was to give the Institute greater flexibility with the working documents. The aim was to reduce the costs involved in producing documents in the Institute's four official languages. There was never any intention of disregarding the rights of the Member States.
- 2.19.11 The Director General said there was no intention of undermining the rights of the Member States in any way. Given the concerns raised by the Delegates of the different Member States, he asked the Chair to withdraw both draft resolutions.
- 2.20 Draft Resolutions: "Deadline for delivering the working documents for the meetings of the Executive Committee" and "Deadline for delivering the working documents for the meetings of the IABA"
- 2.20.1 The Delegate of the United States of America felt that reducing the deadline for delivering documents benefited neither IICA nor the Member States. The Delegate of Ecuador endorsed this position.
- 2.20.2 The Technical Secretary explained that reducing the deadline would give the General Directorate greater flexibility in preparing documents and also ensure that they were as up-to-date as possible. He also said that in years when meetings of both the Executive Committee and the IABA were held, it was more difficult to meet the deadlines.
- 2.20.3 The draft resolutions were submitted to a vote but not approved.
- 2.21 Reading out and approval of Draft Resolutions:
- 2.21.1 The Rapporteur read out the following draft resolutions:: Extension of the Term of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI); ii) Reports on the Status of the Resolutions of the Eleventh Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture and the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee; iii) Membership Table of the Executive Committee; iv) Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector; v) Vote of Thanks to the Government and People of Panama; vi) Consolidation of the Institute's Transformation Process; vii) Implementation of and Follow-up to the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action; and, viii) Agricultural Biotechnology and Biosafety.
- 2.21.2 All the draft resolutions were approved as read.
- 2.22 Draft Resolution: "Date and Site of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Agriculture Board (IABA)"

- 2.22.1 The Chair announced that the Governments of Chile and Ecuador had made written offers to host the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture in 2005.
- 2.22.2 On behalf of his government, the Delegate of Trinidad and Tobago offered his country as the site of the next meeting of the IABA. The Chair explained that under the rules currently in force, offers must be submitted in writing.
- 2.22.3 The Delegate of Paraguay said that Chile's proposal to host the Thirteenth IABA was supported by the Member States that belong to the Southern Agricultural Council (CAS) (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay). If the proposal were accepted, it would strengthen the CAS. The Delegates of Mexico and Uruguay supported Chile's offer.
- 2.22.4 The Chair asked for clarification of the procedure for determining the site of the IABA. The Legal Adviser said that the Institute's Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the IABA stated that the principle of rotation and geographical distribution should be taken into consideration. The same principles were applied in choosing the sites for OAS meetings.
- 2.22.5 The Chair took a roll-call vote on the choice of the site for the Thirteenth Meeting of the IABA, based on the offers made by Chile and Ecuador. The Delegates of Paraguay, Uruguay, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Mexico voted in favor of Chile as the site of the next IABA, while the Delegates of the United States of America, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica and Panama voted in favor of Ecuador as the site. Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana and Haiti all abstained. Since a majority vote of the members present was needed for the resolution to be adopted, the site of the next meeting of the IABA could not be decided.
- 2.22.6 The Delegate of Chile then withdrew his country's offer to host the IABA.
- 2.22.7 The Delegate of Ecuador thanked Chile for withdrawing and indicated that the gesture was in keeping with the rules.
- 2.22.8 The Delegate of Paraguay reiterated that six countries supported Chile's candidacy. He accepted the withdrawal of Chile's candidacy but disagreed with the criteria used, since one of the CAS countries was an Andean nation.

- 2.22.9 The Chair said that the rules had been observed and asked the Legal Adviser whether it was necessary to submit Ecuador's candidacy to a vote.
- 2.22.10 The Legal Adviser recommended that a regular vote be taken to formalize the choice of the site of the meeting, even though there was only one candidate.
- 2.22.11 The Chair put Ecuador's candidacy to a vote. There being 19 votes in favor, the draft resolution "Date and Site of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA)" was duly approved.
- 2.23 Close of the session

The session was adjourned at 21:00.



# CLOSING SESSION

## 3.1 *Opening of the session*

- 3.1.1 The Closing Session was called to order at 21:10 on Thursday, 13 November 2003, in the Hotel Caesar Park, Panama City, Panama, with Lynette Stanziola, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama, presiding.
- 3.1.2 The Chair announced that IICA and the Ministers of Agriculture of Central America, Mexico and Dominican Republic had signed a technical cooperation agreement to strengthen the operation of CORECA.

## 3.2 *Closing Remarks by the Director General*

- 3.2.1 The Director General spoke of the conclusion of three days of intensive work, during which the Second Ministerial Meeting and the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture had been held. The work of the delegates from the Member States had been key to the positive results obtained.
- 3.2.2 He thanked the Chair, Lynette Stanziola, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama, for her assistance, which had made it possible to carry out the program as planned and take important decisions for the modernization of the Institute. He thanked the Delegates of the Member States and the staff of IICA for their cooperation, spirit of service and technical expertise, and the Technical Secretariat for its work. He assured participants that the Institute would implement the mandates of the Member States.
- 3.2.3 He thanked the Government of Panama for the support, hospitality and cooperation it had provided in organizing and holding the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the IABA. He said that IICA was at the service of the Member States, and would continue with its modernization in order to provide effective cooperation to the countries.
- 3.2.4 Finally, on behalf of the Institute and himself, he gave the gavel to the Minister of Agricultural Development, as a memento of her chairmanship of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture and the Second Ministerial Meeting.

3.3 *Signing of the Report of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture*

The Chair of the IABA and the IICA Director General, in his capacity as *ex officio* Secretary, signed the report of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.

3.4 *Closing Remarks by the Chair*

On behalf of her country, the Chair thanked the IABA for allowing it the honor of hosting the Second Ministerial Meeting and the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the IABA. She thanked the staff of MIDA and IICA for their dedication and sterling work in preparing and holding both meetings. Finally, she made special reference to the efforts of the Secretary of the Second Ministerial Meeting, Lizardo de las Casas, the Technical Secretary of the IABA, Fernando del Risco, and Leda Avila, who had played such a big part in the events.

3.5 *Close of the session*

The Closing Session was adjourned at 21:25 on 13 November 2003.

## **RESOLUTIONS**



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IICA/JIA/Res.384(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 384**

**CONSOLIDATION OF THE INSTITUTE'S TRANSFORMATION PROCESS**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**CONSIDERING:**

That the States of the Americas are engaged in a series of actions that form part of their efforts to modernize agriculture, make progress in the area of food security and achieve the well-being of rural communities, in compliance with the mandates issued at the Third Summit in Quebec City, Canada, and in the Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro, Dominican Republic;

That this set of mandates forms part of the efforts of governments and civil society to respond to the challenges posed by the new environment and to seize the opportunities that it offers, working together in partnership to achieve the millennium development goals;

That, following the approval of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action at the Second Ministerial Meeting held within the Summits of the Americas process, it is important that IICA and other regional and hemispheric international organizations provide the support that governments and civil society need to implement it;

That, in Resolution IICA/CE/Res.362(XXII-O/02), the Executive Committee endorsed the General Directorate's efforts to continue transforming the Institute, within the framework of the present Convention, to make it an effective development organization that promotes the sustainable development of agriculture, food security and the prosperity of rural communities in the Americas;

That the Director General of IICA has been keeping the Executive Committee and the IABA informed of the progress being made with the strategy and process of transforming the Institute to equip it with technical capabilities that will allow it to support the Member States more effectively and form part of the new institutional framework required in the Americas for achieving agricultural and rural development,

## RESOLVES:

1. To endorse the efforts undertaken by the Director General, with support from the Member States and within the framework of the present Convention, to transform IICA and equip it with the technical capabilities it needs to support its Member States more effectively.
2. To recognize the importance of the “Working Together” strategy that IICA has been implementing as a means of improving the service that the group of international organizations provides to the Member States and, in order to strengthen that strategy, to instruct the Director General to actively promote IICA partnerships with multilateral and regional financial organizations.
3. To urge the Member States to lend the support needed to consolidate the transformation of the Institute and achieve the expected results, and, through their participation in the governing bodies of financial institutions to encourage the latter to strengthen their ties with the Institute and their involvement in the execution of high-priority agricultural and rural development projects.



IICA/JIA/Res.385(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 385**

**HEMISPHERIC INFORMATION SYSTEM ON AGRICULTURAL POLICIES**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That the executive and technical officers of the ministries of agriculture and private sector organizations are in permanent need of reliable, up-to-date information on agricultural sector and trade policies, and forecasts of production and consumption in the countries of the hemisphere;

That this information should make it easier to conduct comparative studies, take advantage of successful initiatives, facilitate the design and modification of national strategies and policies, and make progress with regional and hemispheric integration processes;

That there is a need to enhance technical cooperation capabilities and facilitate the countries' access to such cooperation keyed to the specific agricultural development requirements of the Institute's Member States,

RESOLVES:

1. To entrust the General Directorate, with support from the institutions of the Member States, with:
  - a. Implementing and maintaining an information system on agricultural policies, the agencies that formulate them, experiences related to their implementation, and the availability of high-level experts on these subjects; and
  - b. Continuing the efforts under way to strengthen horizontal cooperation in this field.

2. To pledge to provide the General Directorate of the Institute with the information required for operating the system and to collaborate in its development and implementation.

IICA/JIA/Res.386(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 386**

**AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That at the Second Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural life, held in Panama on November 11-12, 2003, the Ministers recognized the importance of agricultural biotechnology and its impact on the trade in goods, especially with regard to the transboundary movement of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs);

That the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB) recognizes that Parties and non-Parties may reach arrangements for the purpose of complying with the regulations governing trade and development;

That, in this regard, efforts have been made in the Region to establish strategic partnerships, such as the initiative undertaken by the Central American countries with support from IICA, as well as the high-level discussions among the countries of the Southern Cone;

That Canada and the United States of America (non-Parties to the CPB) and Mexico (Party to the CPB), signed a trilateral arrangement which constitutes one of the first global initiatives to emerge from this Protocol; and

That the ministers of agriculture have expressed interest in learning of the contents of this document,

RESOLVES:

1. To entrust IICA with convening meetings, in consultation with its Member States, to discuss the importance of agricultural biotechnology, and its impact on trade and development.

2. To ask IICA to disseminate among its Member States the arrangement signed by the three countries of North America to facilitate trade and the transboundary movement of LMOs, with a view to considering the possibility of implementing such measures.
3. To establish a task force comprised of IICA staff and interested Member States to develop a plan for agricultural biotechnology and biosafety in the hemisphere.
4. To urge the Member States to contribute to IICA the additional resources necessary to support the activities considered under this resolution.

IICA/JIA/Res.387(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 387**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF AND FOLLOW-UP TO  
THE AGRO 2003-2015 PLAN OF ACTION**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**CONSIDERING:**

That as a result of the Summit of the Americas process and the agreements adopted by the ministers to implement the decisions of the Heads of State and Government, a new institutional architecture is being constructed to contribute to: (i) economic growth with equity; (ii) social development; and (iii) democratic governance;

That the Second Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life, within the framework of the Summits of the Americas process, made it possible to reach consensus on issues of strategic importance to agriculture and rural life;

That within this framework, the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas (AGRO 2003-2015 Plan), which was the chief output of the Second Ministerial Meeting, constitutes the common agenda to be used by our countries in developing national and regional plans of action;

That the Hemispheric Forum of Ministerial Delegates, Group for the Implementation and Coordination of the Agreements on Agriculture and Rural Life (GRICA), has been playing a key role in the process of analyzing, discussing and building consensus among the countries of the hemisphere for the preparation of the Plan of Action;

That IICA, as a partner institution in the Summits process, has been helping the countries to implement the mandates of the Heads of State and Government and serving as a link with the follow-up mechanisms of the Summits of the Americas process; furthermore, as the Secretariat of the Ministerial Meeting it provides support to the GRICA and the Ministerial Meetings on Agriculture and Rural Life;

That, at the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), held in 2000 in New Orleans, United States of America, and attended by the ministers of agriculture from the hemisphere, we promoted the creation of the Interagency Group on Rural Development, as a hemispheric network designed to complement the action of its member agencies and, especially, to implement joint, national and regional training, technical assistance and investment projects and projects aimed at generating and disseminating important information for the development of the rural economies of the Latin American and Caribbean countries;

That the ministers of agriculture are involved in four forums on agriculture and rural development, namely: the Ministerial Meetings on Agriculture and Rural Life within the framework of the Summit of the Americas process; the Inter-American Board of Agriculture; the FAO Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean; and the Ibero-American Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture,

#### RESOLVES:

1. To entrust IICA with continuing to provide support to the ministers of agriculture in the process to implement the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action.
2. To instruct the Ministerial Delegates and their hemispheric forum (GRICA), assisted by the Secretariat of the Ministerial Meeting, to present to the Third Ministerial Meeting a progress report on the implementation of the 2003-2005 Hemispheric Agenda of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action and the proposal for updating it.
3. To ask the Interagency Group on Rural Development, comprised of the World Bank, the IDB, ECLAC, FAO, IFAD, GTZ, IICA and USAID, to draw up a proposal for an interagency agenda, with a view to gradually aligning international cooperation with the actions established in the Hemispheric Agenda of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action.
4. To adopt the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action as the Common Agenda to be used as an instrument of joint and common action by the nations of the hemisphere in the four ministerial forums, as a support for the transformation of agriculture and the improvement of rural life.

IICA/JIA/Res.388(XII-O/03)  
13 November 2003  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 388**

**2001 AND 2002 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE INSTITUTE  
AND REPORTS OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.259(01) “2001 Financial Statements of the Institute and Report of the External Auditors” and document IICA/CE/Doc.431(03), “2002 Financial Statements of the Institute and Report of the External Auditors,”

CONSIDERING:

That, at its Twenty-second and Twenty-third Regular Meetings, by means of Resolutions IICA/CE/Res.373(XXII-O/02) and IICA/CE/Res.393(XXIII-O/03), the Executive Committee approved the Financial Statements of the Institute for 2001 and 2002;

That the External Auditors have attested to the sound management of the organization’s financial resources, pursuant to the regulations of the Institute;

That, in its Eighth and Ninth Annual Reports, the Audit Review Committee (ARC) stated that it studied the reports of the external auditors on IICA’s 2001 and 2002 Financial Statements and found the work performed to be thorough and in accordance with IICA’s rules and with international auditing standards,

RESOLVES:

To approve the Financial Statements of the Institute for 2001 and 2002 and the Reports of the External Auditors on said financial statements.

IICA/JIA/Res.389(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 389****EIGHTH AND NINTH REPORTS OF THE  
AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.274(03), "Eighth and Ninth Reports of the Audit Review Committee (ARC),"

**CONSIDERING:**

That the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), at its Seventh Regular Meeting, approved Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.231(VII-O/93), in which it created the Audit Review Committee ("ARC") and approved its Statute;

That, in accordance with Article 3(k) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, it is the function of that body "to appoint the members of the Audit Review Committee ("ARC") and to receive and approve the ARC's reports and recommendations";

That the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-second and Twenty-third Regular Meetings, by means of Resolutions IICA/CE/Res.374(XXII-O/02) and IICA/CE/-Res.395(XXIII-O/03), respectively, approved the Eighth and Ninth Reports of the ARC,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To accept the Eighth and Ninth Annual Reports of the Audit Review Committee.
2. To thank the members of the Audit Review Committee for their valuable work.



IICA/JIA/Res.390(XII-O/03)  
13 November 2003  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 390**

**2004-2005 PROGRAM BUDGET**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.276(03), "Draft 2004-2005 Program Budget,"

CONSIDERING:

That the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-third Regular Meeting, by means of Resolution IICA/CE/Res.389(XXIII-O/03), recommended that the IABA approve the proposed 2004-2005 Program Budget presented by the Director General;

That the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) establishes:

- i) In Article 8.b, that a function of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) is "to approve the biennial Program Budget and to determine the annual quotas of the Member States";
- ii) In Article 23, that "the Member States shall contribute to the maintenance of the Institute through annual quotas established by the Board, in accordance with the system for calculating quotas of the Organization of American States;" and,
- iii) In Article 14.(b), that a function of the Executive Committee is "to examine the proposed biennial program budget that the Director General submits to the Board and to make such observations and recommendations as it deems appropriate";

## RESOLVES:

1. To approve the amount of US\$30,000,000 annually from the Regular Fund as the overall allocation of the Institute's 2004-2005 Program Budget, financed with quota contributions from the Member States in the amount of US\$27,167,572 per year, as per the amounts indicated on the Quota Scale attached hereto as "Appendix A," and with the expected receipt of miscellaneous income in the amount of US\$2,832,428 per year.
2. To approve the use of the resources of the 2004-2005 Program Budget in accordance with the allocations for each of the Chapters, line items and Strategic Areas detailed in document IICA/JIA/Doc.276(03) "Draft Program Budget for the 2004-2005 Biennium," the summary of which, by Chapter, is attached as "Appendix B."
3. To authorize the Director General to make transfers between the Chapters of the Program Budget, provided that total transfers neither increase nor reduce the affected Chapters by more than ten per cent, and do not substantially affect the priorities approved.
4. To authorize the Director General to make the necessary adjustments in the allocation of resources approved in this Resolution, should the combined income for each of the fiscal years 2004 and 2005 fall below estimated levels for the biennium. The Director General shall inform the Executive Committee and the IABA of this situation.

## APPENDIX A

**Quota Scale of the Member States and Miscellaneous Income  
2004-2005**  
(US\$)

MEMBER STATE	% OAS		% IICA		AMOUNT IICA	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Antigua and Barbuda	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	5,502	5,502
Argentina	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.90	1,347,925	1,347,925
Bahamas	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	19,256	19,256
Barbados	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	22,007	22,007
Belize	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	8,253	8,253
Bolivia	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	19,256	19,256
Brazil	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.55	2,351,992	2,351,992
Canada	12.36	12.36	12.36	12.36	3,400,073	3,400,073
Chile	0.54	0.54	0.54	0.54	148,547	148,547
Colombia	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	258,582	258,582
Costa Rica	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	35,761	35,761
Dominica	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	5,502	5,502
Dominican Republic	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	49,516	49,516
Ecuador	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	49,516	49,516
El Salvador	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	19,256	19,256
Grenada	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	8,253	8,253
Guatemala	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	35,761	35,761
Guyana	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	5,502	5,502
Haiti	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	19,256	19,256
Honduras	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	19,256	19,256
Jamaica	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	49,516	49,516
Mexico	6.08	6.08	6.08	6.08	1,672,528	1,672,528
Nicaragua	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	19,256	19,256
Panama	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	35,761	35,761
Paraguay	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	49,516	49,516
Peru	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	112,786	112,786
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	5,502	5,502
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	5,502	5,502
St. Lucia	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	8,253	8,253
Suriname	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	19,256	19,256
Trinidad and Tobago	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	49,516	49,516
United States of America	59.47	59.47	59.47	59.47	16,359,412	16,359,412
Uruguay	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	71,523	71,523
Venezuela	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20	880,278	880,278
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>98.76</b>	<b>98.76</b>	<b>98.76</b>	<b>98.76</b>	<b>27,167,572</b>	<b>27,167,572</b>
Cuba	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24		
<b>TOTAL QUOTAS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>27,167,572</b>	<b>27,167,572</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS INCOME</b>					<b>2,832,428</b>	<b>2,832,428</b>
<b>TOTAL REGULAR FUND</b>					<b>30,000,000</b>	<b>30,000,000</b>

**APPENDIX B**  
**2004-2005 PROGRAM BUDGET**  
**SUMMARY BY CHAPTER**

(US\$ x 000)

CHAPTER	2004			2005		
	QUOTAS	MISCELLANEOUS	TOTAL	QUOTAS	MISCELLANEOUS	TOTAL
<b>I: DIRECT TECHNICAL COOPERATION SERVICES</b>	<b>24,454.2</b>	<b>2,763.5</b>	<b>27,217.7</b>	<b>24,454.2</b>	<b>2,763.5</b>	<b>27,217.7</b>
<i>Strategic Area</i>						
Trade and Agribusiness Development	5,992.1	456.8	6,448.9	5,992.1	452.1	6,444.3
Technology and Innovation	4,418.3	161.9	4,580.2	4,418.3	165.6	4,583.8
Agricultural Health and Food Safety	4,429.4	822.8	5,252.2	4,429.4	828.8	5,252.2
Sustainable Rural Development	4,415.7	787.8	5,203.5	4,415.7	775.4	5,191.1
Information and Communication	2,384.9	170.3	2,555.2	2,384.9	173.7	2,558.6
Education and Training	2,813.8	363.9	3,177.7	2,813.8	368.0	3,181.7
<b>II: MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>1,712.9</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>1,781.8</b>	<b>1,712.9</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>1,781.8</b>
Office of the Director General	798.9	0.0	798.9	798.9	0.0	798.9
Directorate Admin & Finance	914.0	68.9	982.9	914.0	68.9	982.9
<b>III: GENERAL COSTS AND PROVISIONS<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,000.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,000.5</b>	<b>1,000.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,000.5</b>
Governing Bodies	400.0	0.0	400.0	400.0	0.0	400.0
Insurance	250.0	0.0	250.0	250.0	0.0	250.0
Pensions	230.0	0.0	230.0	230.0	0.0	230.0
OAS Administrative Tribunal	25.0	0.0	25.0	25.0	0.0	25.0
External Audit	95.5	0.0	95.5	95.5	0.0	95.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,167.6</b>	<b>2,832.4</b>	<b>30,000.0</b>	<b>27,167.6</b>	<b>2,832.4</b>	<b>30,000.0</b>

1/ Does not include the Cuban quota.

IICA/JIA/Res.391(XII-O/03)  
13 November 2003  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 391**

**SPECIAL EXPENDITURES FINANCED BY THE GENERAL SUBFUND**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.277(03) "Proposed Special Expenditures Financed by the General Subfund,"

**CONSIDERING:**

That the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-third Regular Meeting, in Resolution IICA/CE/Res.390(XXIII-O/03), recommended that the Inter-American Board of Agriculture approve proposed special expenditures presented by the Director General to be financed by the General Subfund, in the amount of US\$3,000,000.00;

That the Institute needs resources to: (i) meet the growing demand from its Member States for cooperation services, (ii) comply with new mandates from the governments, and (iii) continue the modernization and transformation process currently under way for improving the Institute's responsiveness and the quality of its services;

That both the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues and the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-third Regular Meeting, endorsed the proposal submitted by the General Directorate calling for more resources to be allocated for the promotion of agricultural trade, agricultural health and food safety, and for the modernization of the Institute's management system, so as to enable it to execute strategic actions in these fields that complement those programmed in the 2004-2005 Program Budget;

That, given the significant amount of quota resources owed to the Institute by the Member States, and the expected effectiveness of the measures to be implemented to collect quota arrearages, it is likely that the resources collected will surpass the amount required in

the General Subfund of the Regular Fund for executing the approved 2004-2005 Program Budget,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the proposed special expenditures to be financed by the General Subfund, in the amount of US\$3,000,000.00 for the 2004-2005 biennium, earmarking them for the programs detailed in document IICA/JIA/Doc.277(03) "Special Expenditures Financed by the General Subfund," namely:

• Promotion of Agricultural Trade in the Member States	US\$1,000,000.00
• Agricultural Health and Food Safety: Priority limited-timeframe activities to be executed in all the countries	US\$1,000,000.00
• Institutional Modernization of IICA: Management Information System (ERP)	US\$1,000,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>US\$3,000,000.00</b>

2. To provide that the funds earmarked according to the aforementioned distribution are not to be restored to the Working Subfund.
3. To instruct the Director General to adopt such measures as may be required to ensure that the execution of the special budget does not affect the normal execution of the Institute's 2004-2005 Program Budget.

IICA/JIA/Res.392(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 392**

**PROPOSAL FOR THE COLLECTION OF QUOTA  
CONTRIBUTIONS OWED TO THE INSTITUTE**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Chapter III of Document IICA/JIA/Doc.275(a) "The Financing of IICA: Recommendations from the Executive Committee on the Collection of Quota Arrearages,"

CONSIDERING:

That the Institute continues to face serious financial difficulties as a result of the failure of some Member States to pay their quota contributions for the maintenance of the Institute through the timely payment of their quotas, thereby seriously affecting IICA's financial viability and the cooperation it provides in the Americas;

That this deficit limits the Institute's ability to fulfill its mandate and launch new programs consistent with the implementation of the Declaration of Bavaro, the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action, the Institute's 2002-2006 Medium Term Plan and other priority actions requested by the Member States;

That, during its meeting held May 29-30, 2003, the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (Advisory Commission) recommended a set of measures to facilitate the collection of quota arrearages;

That, by Resolution IICA/CE/Res.392(XXIII-O/03), the Executive Committee adopted the measures recommended by the Advisory Commission attached to said resolution and instructed the Director General to implement them;

That the IABA has reviewed and adjusted these measures in order to reflect the observations made by the Member States and the General Directorate, as set out in the Appendix to this resolution,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member States that owe quotas to IICA to pay their pending quotas as soon as possible, to enable the Institute to fully comply with its mandates.
2. To adopt the measures contained in the Appendix to this resolution.



**APPENDIX****MEASURES FOR COLLECTING QUOTAS  
OWED TO THE INSTITUTE****I. DEFINITION OF THE STATUS OF MEMBER STATES WITH REGARD TO  
QUOTA PAYMENTS****A. Up-to-date status:**

A Member State's status is considered "up to date" when it has paid the entirety of the payments in accordance with its assigned quota. Pursuant to Article 70 of the IABA, quotas are considered to fall due on the first day of each fiscal year. As an exception to this rule, and for purposes of this definition, Member States that have paid the totality of their quotas by 30 June of the current year, shall be considered "up to date".

**B. Regular status:**

A Member State's status is considered "regular" when it owes quotas for no more than two fiscal years. For purposes of this provision, Member States that owe no more than two full quotas as of June 30, shall be considered "regular."

**C. Special situation:**

A Member State's status is considered "special" when it has agreed to a payment schedule with the Director General, and that schedule is being met. For purposes of this provision, Member States that by June 30 owe the quota for the current year plus more than the amount of one full quota from previous fiscal years, and that have agreed to a payment schedule with the Director General, which is being met and for which at least one payment has been made in the current year, shall be considered to have "special status." Once a Member State in "special" status has reduced its arrearages to two or less than two full quotas it will be considered "regular."

**D. In arrears:**

A Member State's status is "in arrears" when it owes the quota for the current year plus more than the amount of one full quota from previous

fiscal years. For purposes of this provision, Member States that by June 30 owe the quota for the current year plus more than the amount of one full quota from previous fiscal years, have not agreed to a payment schedule and are not meeting one, shall be considered to be “in arrears.”

## II. GENERAL PROVISIONS TO ENCOURAGE THE TIMELY PAYMENT OF QUOTAS

### A. Applicable to Member States that have up-to-date or regular status:

1. They will have the right to vote in the Executive Committee and the IABA.
2. They can host IICA meetings.
3. They can nominate candidates for the position of Director General.
4. They can nominate candidates to positions on Committees.
5. Nationals of these Member States will be given preference in IICA hiring.
6. The IICA Office in the country may be allocated additional quota resources, as a result of the application of budgetary reductions to IICA Offices in Member States that have in-arrears status, quota collection permitting.
7. They are eligible to serve as members of the SACMI.

### B. Applicable to Member States that have special status:

1. They will have the right to vote in the Executive Committee and the IABA.

### C. Applicable to Member States that have in-arrears status, in accordance with the degree of delay:

1. Member States that owe quotas for more than two complete fiscal years.
  - i. Suspension of the right to vote, in accordance with Article 24 of the Convention on IICA.<sup>1</sup>
2. Member States that owe the quotas of three complete fiscal years:

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<sup>1</sup> Article 24 of the Convention on the Institute, Article 69 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA, and Article 77 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establish the rules regarding the suspension of the right to vote. For details on the enforcement of these rules, see the aide-mémoire included in the document: *Convention and Basic Rules of Procedure of IICA*, Official Documents Series N° 22, pp. 23-31.

- i. Suspension of the right to vote, in accordance with Article 24 of the Convention on IICA.<sup>1</sup>
  - ii. 20% reduction in the annual quota budget allocated to the Office in the country.
- 3. Member States that owe the quotas of four complete fiscal years:
  - i. Suspension of the right to vote, in accordance with Article 24 of the Convention on IICA.<sup>1</sup>
  - ii. 40% reduction in the annual quota budget allocated to the Office in the country.
  - iii. Additional charge for managing projects financed with government resources, in partial payment of quotas owed.
- 4. Member States that owe quotas for five or more complete fiscal years:
  - i. Suspension of the right to vote, in accordance with Article 24 of the Convention on IICA.<sup>1</sup>
  - ii. Reduction of IICA actions in the country
  - iii. Closing of the IICA Office in the country (as a last and extreme measure, not to be taken without considering the costs involved in re-opening the Office, and that the country must cover such costs should it pay its arrearages or arrange a payment schedule with the Institute).
- 5. The SACMI recommends that the General Directorate consider other alternatives for encouraging payment of quotas.

### III. CONDITIONS FOR THE PAYMENT SCHEDULE OF A MEMBER STATE

- A. A minimum initial payment of one annual quota, and a maximum term of 24 months for paying the accumulated debt.
- B. The plan should take into account the payment of quotas for following fiscal years, so as not to generate new debts.
- C. Submit a payment plan to IICA, signed and formalized by the government and the Institute.

- D. Not to accept special contributions in the form of personnel, office space, communications facilities, etc., as payment for overdue quotas, but rather as an alternative form of support for IICA's finances.
- E. Other proposals submitted by the member countries, subject to evaluation by the Institute.

IV. SPECIAL AND TRANSITORY PROVISIONS FOR THE YEAR 2003 FOR MEMBER STATES THAT HAVE "IN ARREARS" STATUS

- A. Notwithstanding the requirements for a Payment Plan established in Part III, any Member State that owes more than two years of assessed quotas and that concludes a Payment Plan with the Director General before December 31, 2003, that satisfies the conditions indicated below, shall be exempt from these measures with respect to the debt for the period up to December 31, 2003, provided it complies with that Plan. The conditions are:
  - 1. For 2004 and every year thereafter, the debtor Member State shall pay to IICA an amount equal to or greater than 150% of the annual quota approved by the IABA until the debt is paid in full;
  - 2. For 2004, the Member State shall pay before June 30 at least 50% of the 2004 quota in accordance with the above point;
  - 3. The Payment Plan shall be signed by the appropriate authorities of the debtor Member State;
  - 4. Failure to comply with the Payment Plan will result in the immediate imposition of the measures established in this Document.
- B. For those Member States that are not able or otherwise willing to take advantage of the transitory provisions set out in Part IV(A) above, the following incentives shall apply:
  - 1. As an exception and a special incentive for establishing payment schedules, and for the purposes of Article 24, payment of one complete quota may be applied to the current year, provided that the Member State has agreed to a payment schedule and is meeting it.
  - 2. Before proceeding to close an IICA Office in a Member State that owes quotas for five or more complete fiscal years, an additional extension to December 31, 2003 will be granted for beginning to

execute the payment schedule, so that it may apply for special status.

3. With payment of one annual quota and the establishment of a schedule for paying at least 50% of the debt within a period of 24 months, as an exception, other proposals by the Member States may be considered, such as payments in national currency, in kind or in marketable securities, in payment of the other 50% of the debt.

V. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY MEMBER STATES THAT HOST MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR THE IABA

- A. Even though many Member States are interested in hosting meetings of the Executive Committee and the IABA, they cannot do so due to the additional costs often incurred in connection with holding same. The Executive Committee and the IABA could consider the possibility of covering a portion of said costs for those countries that are up to date in the payment of their quotas, or are complying with a payment plan.

IICA/JIA/Res.393(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 393****MEASURES APPROVED BY THE IABA FOR RESTRUCTURING  
THE FINANCES OF THE INSTITUTE**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

The Report of the 2003 Meeting of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI-IICA/CE/Doc.424(03)rev.) and Resolution IICA/CE/Res.391(XXIII-O/03) of the Twenty-third Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee,

**CONSIDERING:**

That, in accordance with Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.341(99), the purpose of the SACMI is “to facilitate more regular discussion between the Director General and the Member States on administrative and financial initiatives and issues in order to facilitate the process of reaching consensus on those issues and initiatives in the Executive Committee and the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA)”;

That the SACMI held its 2003 meeting at IICA Headquarters on May 29-30, 2003, and, among other things, proposed a set of measures for restructuring the Institute’s finances;

That the Executive Committee instructed the Director General to adopt and implement the measures set out in the Appendix attached to this resolution that fall within its sphere of competence;

That the Executive Committee adopted the measures set out in the Appendix attached to this resolution that fall within its sphere of competence, and instructed the Director General to conduct the additional studies needed for implementing them;

That the Executive Committee, by Resolution IICA/CE/Res.391(XXIII-O/03), recommended that the IABA, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting, adopt the measures set out in the Appendix attached to this resolution that fall within its sphere of competence,

RESOLVES:

1. To accept the measures contained in the appendix to this resolution and instruct the Director General to take the steps necessary to fulfill same.
2. To urge the Member States to: a) make extra-quota financial contributions to fund high-priority programs and projects; b) provide the Institute, free of charge, office space suitable for its operations; and, c) make contributions in cash, assets and of other kinds to strengthen the Institute's Patrimonial Fund.

MEASURE		DECISION LEVEL	NEEDS STUDY
<b>For immediate application</b>			
A	Any topic other than those included in the priorities set out in the current MTP must be financed with special funds.	Res. 365 XXII EC	No
B	Request special contributions from the countries for specific projects and to finance the actions of their respective Offices.	Res. 365 XXII EC	No
C	Promote the inclusion of new Associate Members.	Res. 312 IX IABA	No
D	Gradually abandon the practice of administering external resources without technical responsibility.	DG	No
E	Share the cost of offices and basic services with other international organizations.	DG	No
F	Mobilize external resources: a) the direct costs of externally-funded projects are financed by the external fund; b) externally-funded projects pay IICA for indirect costs (INR).	DG	No
G	CATIs/INR resources are assigned institutionally, in accordance with defined priorities.	DG	No
H	Take steps to secure resources for establishing the Endowment Fund.	Res. 299, IX IABA	No
I	Request countries that have not done so to provide physical installations for IICA Offices.	Res. 255, VIII IABA	No
J	Centralize the procurement of fixed assets and international services.	DG	No
K	Establish alliances with academic and research institutions that have volunteer programs.	DG	No
L	Review and adjust the per diem policy.	DG	No
M	Move in the direction of becoming a paperless organization, optimizing to this end the use of electronic communications.	DG	No
N	Keep the duration of meetings to a minimum, eliminating field trips and programs for accompanying spouses.	DG	No



MEASURE		DECISION LEVEL	NEEDS STUDY
O	Consider the possibility of holding IABA meetings at Headquarters, or that the host country covers the extra costs generated by holding them away from Headquarters.	DG	No
<b>For presentation to IICA's governing bodies without additional study</b>			
P	Support from the governments to make IICA the principal technical executing arm of multilateral financing organizations.	EC	No
Q	Redirect financial contributions to other institutions and cooperative programs toward the design and implementation of joint programs and projects, and strengthen the Institute's participation in managing said funds, without prejudice to the obligations already established in agreements in force.	EC	No
<b>For presentation to IICA's governing bodies with additional study</b>			
R	Review and adjustment of the current organizational structure with Offices and Representatives in the Member States.	EC, IABA	Yes
S	Invest in information and communications systems.	EC	No

IICA/JIA/Res.394(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 394****EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF THE SPECIAL ADVISORY  
COMMISSION ON MANAGEMENT ISSUES (SACMI)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**CONSIDERING:**

That, in Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.341(X-O/99), the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) created the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (the “Advisory Commission”) to facilitate more regular discussion between the Director General and the Member States on administrative and financial issues, in order to achieve consensus on such issues and initiatives in the Executive Committee and the IABA;

That, pursuant to Article 9.1 of its Statute, the SACMI’s mandate was for two years; and, at its Eleventh Regular Meeting, in Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.366(XI-O/01), the IABA extended the mandate until the Twelfth Regular Meeting of this governing body of the Institute;

That, after studying the work of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues and the recommendation of the Director General, the Executive Committee proposed, by Resolution IICA/CE/Res.391(XXIII-O/03) “Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (2003) and Measures for Restructuring the Finances of the Institute,” that the Advisory Commission’s mandate be renewed for a further two years,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To extend the term of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI) for a further two years, from the date of this resolution and until the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), pursuant to Article 9.1 of the Advisory Commission’s Statute.

2. To thank the Advisory Commission for its work and, in particular, for its attention in studying and improving the measures for restructuring the finances of Institute.

IICA/JIA/Res.395(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 395****REPORTS ON THE STATUS OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE ELEVENTH  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF  
AGRICULTURE AND OF THE TWENTY-SECOND AND TWENTY-THIRD REGULAR  
MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.280(03) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Eleventh Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA)" and document IICA/JIA/Doc.281(03) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee,"

**CONSIDERING:**

That the reports in question demonstrate that the General Directorate has satisfactorily complied with the resolutions adopted by the IABA at its Eleventh Regular Meeting and satisfactorily carried out the tasks required to comply with the resolutions adopted at the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee of the Institute,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To accept the reports: (i) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Eleventh Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA)," and (ii) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee."
2. To express its satisfaction with the implementation of the resolutions.

IICA/JIA/Res.396(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 396**

**MEMBERSHIP TABLE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**CONSIDERING:**

That, by means of Resolution IICA/CE/Res.405(XXIII-O/03), the Executive Committee recommended that the IABA approve the attached new Membership Table of the Executive Committee for the 2004-2018 period;

That Articles 8.e and 13 of the Convention on the Institute; Articles 2.e and 4. d of the Rules of Procedures of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA); Article 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establish that the Executive Committee shall be composed of twelve Member States, elected by the IABA, for two-year periods, according to the criteria of partial rotation and equitable geographic distribution, and that the IABA shall regulate the manner in which the Member States are appointed to sit on the Committee;

That Article 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establishes the procedure governing membership on the Committee;

That the table setting out membership on the Executive Committee adopted by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.2(I-E/81) was amended in 1983 by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.25(II-E/83); in 1987 by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.126(IV-O/87); in 1991 by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.205(VI-O/91); in 1993 by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.238(VII-O/93); and in 1997 by Resolution IICA/CE/Res.278(XVII-O/97);

That the table establishing membership on the Executive Committee covers only the 1990-2004 period and, therefore, a new table must be approved,

**RESOLVES:**

To approve the attached new Membership Table of the Executive Committee for the 2004-2018 period.

### Membership Table of the Executive Committee 2004 – 2018

COUNTRY	TERM ON COMMITTEE																
GROUP	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
GROUP I																	
United States of America	X	X			X	X			X	X			X	X			
Argentina		X				X			X	X			X	X			
Mexico			X				X				X			X	X		
Canada				X				X				X			X		
Brazil				X							X						
Venezuela	X				X				X			X					
GROUP II																	
Colombia	X				X	X			X	X				X	X		
Chile		X			X					X	X				X		
Peru			X			X					X		X		X		
Uruguay		X					X					X	X				
Bolivia				X				X						X			
Paraguay				X				X		X				X	X		
Ecuador				X	X				X	X				X	X		
GROUP III																	
Costa Rica			X					X	X					X	X		
Panama			X	X				X	X					X	X		
Nicaragua				X	X					X					X		
Honduras					X					X	X						
Guatemala	X				X	X				X							
El Salvador	X					X	X				X	X					
Dominican Republic	X	X				X						X					
Belize		X	X	X				X				X	X				
GROUP IV																	
Haiti								X	X								
Guyana									X	X							
Suriname	X	X	X						X	X							
Barbados	X									X							
Grenada		X									X		X				
Trinidad and Tobago			X	X							X						
Jamaica			X		X							X	X				
Dominica				X	X								X	X			
Saint Lucia					X	X							X	X			
Antigua and Barbuda				X	X									X	X		
St. Vincent and the Grenadines					X	X									X		
St. Kitts and Nevis								X							X		
Bahamas	X						X	X									

IICA/JIA/Res.397(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 397**

**ROTATION MECHANISM FOR APPOINTING THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (IABA) TO THE GOVERNING  
COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TROPICAL AGRICULTURE  
RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER (CATIE)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.282(03), "Rotation mechanism for appointing the Representatives of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) to the Governing Council and the Board of Directors of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE),"

**CONSIDERING:**

That the procedure currently in effect for appointing the IABA's Representatives to both the Governing Council and the Board of Directors of CATIE has not produced the expected results and entails a lengthy and costly process;

That, in Resolution IICA/CE/Res.380(XXII-O/02), the Executive Committee recommended that the IABA adopt a simple and equitable rotation mechanism for appointing its Representatives, similar to the one used to select the members of the Executive Committee;

**RESOLVES:**

1. To adopt the following table that identifies the IICA Members States that are not members of CATIE that should appoint the person who will represent the IABA on the Governing Council and the Board of Directors of CATIE, for the term specified therein.

<b>IABA Representative to the Board of Directors of CATIE</b>		
<b>Region</b>	<b>Member State of IICA that is not a Member State of CATIE</b>	<b>Years</b>
Northern	United States of America	2003-2005
Caribbean	Bahamas	2006-2008
Andean	Ecuador	2009-2011
Southern	Argentina	2012-2014

<b>IABA Representative to the Governing Council of the CATIE</b>		
<b>Region</b>	<b>Member State of IICA that is not a Member State of CATIE</b>	<b>Years</b>
Caribbean	Barbados*	2003-2004
Northern	Canada	2005-2006
Southern	Brazil	2007-2008
Andean	Peru	2009-2010

2. To entrust the Director General of IICA with: (i) informing the Institute's Member States of the table approved in the foregoing operative paragraph for appointing the IABA's representatives to the Governing Council and Board of Directors of CATIE; and (ii) henceforth with requesting candidates to perform these duties on CATIE's governing bodies according to the above rotation table.

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\* As of 1 November 2003.



IICA/JIA/Res.398(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 398**

**2002-2003 INTER-AMERICAN AWARDS IN THE RURAL SECTOR**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution IICA/CE/Res.376(XXII-O/02), “Amendments to the Regulations Governing the Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector” and the report by the Director General on the implementation of the new procedure for selecting candidates for the Inter-American Awards,

CONSIDERING:

That, at its Twenty-second Regular Meeting, the Executive Committee adopted Resolution IICA/CE/Res.376(XXII-O/02), in which it decided to:

“Approve the amendments to the Regulations Governing the Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector proposed by the Director General, which, among other things, establish a new award recognizing the outstanding contributions of enterprises and institutions to agricultural and rural development in the Americas,” and

“Entrust the Director General with applying, effective immediately, the new procedures set out in Document IICA/CE/Doc.414(02) ‘Proposed Amendments to the Regulations Governing the Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector’”;

That, due to difficulties encountered in implementing the new procedure for nominating candidates, only a small number of nominations have been received for the Inter-American Awards, making it impossible to conduct a proper selection process to confer the awards,

## RESOLVES:

1. To declare the 2002-2003 Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector void.
2. To entrust the Director General with the task of actively promoting the presentation of candidates for the awards for the 2004-2005 period.
3. To urge the Member States to undertake effective processes in each country with a view to selecting suitably qualified candidates for the Inter-American Awards.

IICA/JIA/Res.399(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 399**

**DATE AND SITE OF THE THIRTEENTH REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (IABA)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**CONSIDERING:**

That, in accordance with Article 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), regular meetings of the IABA shall be held every two years, preferably during the second half of the second year of the Institute's biennium, and that at each meeting, the Board shall decide on the provisional date and site of the subsequent regular meeting, in accordance with written offers submitted by the governments of the Member States to the Director General;

That, in accordance with Article 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA, the Board shall select a site for its regular meetings from among the offers received, and in accordance with the principle of rotation and geographic distribution;

That at the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the IABA, the Government of Ecuador offered that country as the site of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA),

**RESOLVES:**

1. To accept and thank the Government of Ecuador for its generous offer to host the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA).
2. To hold the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA in Ecuador during the second semester of 2005.

IICA/JIA/Res.400(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: English

**RESOLUTION No. 400****MODIFICATIONS OF THE FINANCIAL RULES AND THE  
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE  
ON MISCELLANEOUS INCOME**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

IICA/JIA/Informational Doc. "Report of the Special Advisory Committee on Management Issues-2003" and Resolution IICA/CE/Res.400(XXIII-O/03), of the Twenty-Third Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee,

**CONSIDERING,**

That Article 88 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate ("RPGD") states that the Regular Fund includes "quotas of the Member States and miscellaneous income, including funds received for unspecified purposes";

That Article 89 of the RPGD divides the Regular Fund into two subfunds: the General Subfund and the Working Subfund;

That Articles 89 and 90 of the RPGD provide that quota and miscellaneous income received during the course of the fiscal year is deposited in the General Subfund to finance the Program Budget, and that the Working Subfund, which cannot exceed 15% of the total approved quotas for that year, is funded by the balance of unobligated appropriations at the end of the fiscal year and such other resources as may be approved by the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA);

That in its 2003 Report, the Special Advisory Committee on Management Issues (SACMI) recommended that unobligated miscellaneous income in the General Subfund of the Regular Fund at year end should be separated from the Regular Fund so as to avoid the

automatic year-end transfer to the Working Subfund, thereby making that income immediately available to finance pressing institutional needs and priorities;

That the Financial Rules and RPGD must be modified to implement that recommendation;

That, pursuant to Article 3(h) of its Rules of Procedure, the Executive Committee is authorized to modify the Financial Amendments to the extent such Rules are consistent with the RPGD and that, pursuant to Article 3(o) of those Rules, it is authorized to modify the RPGD provisionally and place those modifications into force *ad referendum* the IABA;

That, at its last Regular Meeting, the Executive Committee approved, by Resolution IICA/CE/Res.400(XXIII-O/03), the modifications to the RPGD set out in Annex A, *ad referendum* the IABA, for the purpose of complying with the aforementioned recommendations of the SACMI on miscellaneous income,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the modifications to the Financial Rules and to the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate set out in Annex A.

## ANNEX A

**MODIFICATION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL  
DIRECTORATE AND THE FINANCIAL RULES WITH  
REGARD TO MISCELLANEOUS INCOME**

**I RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE**

Article 88. The following funds are administered by the Institute and classified according to their source and purpose:

- h. THE MISCELLANEOUS INCOME FUND – Consisting of miscellaneous income, as defined in the Financial Rules, derived from the outstanding balance of miscellaneous income deposited in the General Subfund of the Regular Fund each fiscal year and which is not obligated under the Program Budget by the end of the fiscal year in which it was received. The Director General is authorized to program and use this fund to address the immediate financial needs of the Institute, and the Director General shall report to the Executive Committee on its use at its annual regular meeting.*

**SECTION ANALYSIS**

Section h establishes a new fund within the Institute's funds for accounting for miscellaneous income received in excess of the amount obligated each year to fund the Program Budget. In accordance with the recommendation of the SACMI on page 10 of its report, the establishment of this fund will provide needed flexibility in the programming and use of miscellaneous income received in excess of the amount of that income obligated under the Program Budget.

Article 89. The Regular Fund includes the following subfunds:

- a. GENERAL SUBFUND - The following shall be credited to this subfund: quotas paid by the Member States; miscellaneous income, unless the Board *or the Executive Committee* has approved it for specific purposes; and funds advanced by the Working Subfund.
- b. WORKING SUBFUND - The purpose of this fund is to ensure normal financial operation of the Institute. Its amount shall not exceed 15 percent of the total amount of quotas approved for the corresponding fiscal year, unless the

Board or *Executive Committee* specifically provides otherwise. Its income shall derive from the balance of uncommitted appropriations *financed by quotas* outstanding at the end of each fiscal year and with additional funds specifically allotted to it by the Board or the *Executive Committee*.

#### **SECTION ANALYSIS**

This modification to Article 89(a) extends to the Executive Committee the authority to direct the use of miscellaneous income held in the General Subfund of the Regular Fund. It is consistent with the changes in the RPGD and Financial Rules, which delegated more authority to the Executive Committee from the IABA for the purpose of allowing the IABA to devote its limited time to broader policy issues consistent with its ministerial functions assigned under the new institutional dimension in 1999.

The elimination of the text referring to “reimbursement costs for administrative services” in Article 89(a) applies only to the English version. Its purpose is to correct a typographical error in that version. Neither the Spanish version of Article 89(a) nor the reprinting of this provision in Financial Rule 3.6.1 includes “reimbursement costs for administrative services” because in 1997, the IABA voted to create the Institutional Net Rate Fund defined in Article 88(f), which now consists of those reimbursements.

Article 89(b) establishes the maximum amount of the Working Subfund at 15% of quotas; however, it goes on to allow the IABA to adjust the 15% cap. It also allows the IABA to direct the transfer of additional resources to that fund. The modification of this rule proposed in italics would extend the authority granted to the IABA under this article also to the Executive Committee. It is consistent with the changes made to the RPGD in 1997 described above and should facilitate and simplify the taking of financial management decisions of this nature.

More important is the change in the text that limits resources moving to the Working Subfund from the General Subfund to those “financed by quotas.” The addition of those three words assures that excess miscellaneous income will not end up in the Working Subfund but rather will be transferred to the new Miscellaneous Income Fund.

Article 94. The Director General may make short-term investments of funds not essential to meet immediate needs, and also short or long-term investments of resources from other funds or subfunds. The interest received on these deposits shall be regarded as miscellaneous income of the General Subfund, unless:

1 See Article 94 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate.

- a. *In the case of the Regular Fund, the Executive Committee stipulates otherwise;*
- b. *In the case of special and trust funds received from donors, the donor agreement or fund statute provides otherwise; and*
- c. *In the case of a Patrimonial Fund or other fund created by the IABA or Executive Committee, the applicable fund statute otherwise provides.*

**SECTION ANALYSIS**

This modification to Article 94 conforms the text to Financial Rule 3.16, which allows for the crediting of interest income, which is miscellaneous income, to trust funds and special funds when required under donor agreements or fund statutes.

**I. THE FINANCIAL RULES**

**Rule 3.1** Classification of Funds

- h. *Miscellaneous Income Fund. Consisting of miscellaneous income, as defined in the Financial Rules, derived from the outstanding balance of miscellaneous income deposited in the General Subfund of the Regular Fund each fiscal year and which is not obligated under the Program Budget by the end of the fiscal year in which it was received. The Director General is authorized to program and use this Fund to address the immediate financial needs of the Institute, and the Director General shall report to the Executive Committee on its use at its annual regular meeting.*

**SECTION ANALYSIS**

The purpose of these changes is to conform Rule 3.1 to the modifications recommended for Article 88 of the RPGD, consistent with the recommendation of the SACMI to remove excess miscellaneous income from the Regular Fund.

**Rule 3.6** Miscellaneous Income

- 3.6.1 Article 89.a of the RPGD states:



- a. GENERAL SUBFUND - The following shall be credited to this Subfund: quotas paid by the Member States; miscellaneous income, unless the Board *or the Executive Committee* has approved it for specific purposes; and funds advanced by the Working Subfund; and

3.6.2 In this regard, all other income incident to the Institute's financial transactions, except that income which is otherwise specifically identified by the IABA *or the Executive Committee* shall be considered as miscellaneous income. This includes, among other resources, short and long-term interest received from bank accounts and investments <sup>1</sup>, earnings/losses from the conversion of currencies, the rental or sale of the Institute's fixed assets, *and funds received for unspecified purposes*. All miscellaneous income *deposited in the General Subfund of the Regular Fund* will be aggregated to be used as a source of additional income for *financing the Regular Fund Program Budget in the year it is received*, except as stipulated in Rule 3.16 on the distribution of income. *The amount of miscellaneous income in the General Subfund not so used or otherwise obligated at the end of each fiscal year shall be transferred to the Miscellaneous Income Fund under Rule 3.1(h).*

#### **SECTION ANALYSIS**

This modification of Rule 3.6 was necessary to conform this Rule to the modifications proposed for RPGD Articles 88, 89 and 94 above. It further clarifies that the balance of unused miscellaneous income in the General Subfund of the Regular Fund at the end of each fiscal year will be transferred to the Miscellaneous Income Fund.

#### **Rule 3.16** Distribution of Revenue from Investments

- 3.16.1 Interest received and accrued *is miscellaneous income and* shall be distributed to the General Subfund of the Regular Fund as miscellaneous income; however, every three months, *to the extent required under the applicable fund statutes or donor agreements and permitted under Article 94 of the RPGD*, interest shall be distributed to trust or special funds which have had monthly balances in excess of one hundred thousand dollars in United States currency, on the basis of the average percentage earned on investments.

- 3.16.2 *Unless otherwise required under the applicable fund statutes or donor agreements, interest shall not be credited to special and trust funds with monthly balances of less than one hundred thousand dollars in United States currency. Interest earned by these funds shall be credited to the General Subfund of the Regular fund as miscellaneous income*

***SECTION ANALYSIS***

These modifications were necessary to conform this Rule to the proposed modifications for RPGD Article 94 above.

IICA/JIA/Res.401(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 401**

**ASSOCIATE PERSONNEL**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**CONSIDERING:**

That the capacity of the Institute to deliver services to its member countries may be further strengthened by expanding the Associate Personnel category to include volunteers and personnel of all levels and skills provided to IICA by partner institutions and entities to work on Institute projects and activities;

That by Resolution IICA/CE/Res.398(XXIII-O/03), the Executive Committee modified the Institute's Staff Rules in order to expand the Associate Personnel category, as recommended by the Director General, and recommended that the IABA approve the amendments to sections (a) and (d) of Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate, regarding the categories of Institute personnel,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To amend Article 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate, on the Institute's personnel, as follows:
  - a. To eliminate Article 14 (a)(iv).
  - b. To add the following section (d) to Article 14:
  - d. ASSOCIATE PERSONNEL - volunteers, including former IICA staff members who wish to donate their services to IICA, and employees and contractors of partner institutions or entities, provided by same to IICA in compliance with the provisions of the Staff Rules.

2. To urge the General Directorate to create a roster of experts available in the agricultural sector to provide their services, while on sabbatical, to the member countries.

IICA/JIA/Res.402(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 402**

**2001-2002 BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE TROPICAL AGRICULTURE  
RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER (CATIE)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.278(03), "2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE),"

CONSIDERING:

That, in accordance with Clause Nine of the CATIE Contract, the Center is to submit a biennial report to the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) covering technical, financial, and administrative matters,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank CATIE for the document "2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE)."
2. To congratulate the Director General of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) on the contents and presentation of the Biennial Report.

IICA/JIA/Res.403(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 403****2001-2002 BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (CARDI)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.279(03) "2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI),"

**CONSIDERING:**

That, under the terms of the current agreement between IICA and CARDI, the latter organization is to submit a biennial report to the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) covering technical, financial and administrative matters,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To thank CARDI for the "2001-2002 Biennial Report of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)."
2. To congratulate the Executive Director of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) on the contents and presentation of the Biennial Report.

IICA/JIA/Res. 404(XII-O/03)  
13 November 2003  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 404**

**PARTICIPATION IN THE FORUM OF THE AMERICAS ON AGRICULTURAL  
RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT (FORAGRO)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**HAVING SEEN:**

The report containing the conclusions of the Third International Meeting of the Forum of the Americas on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO), held April 23-26, 2002, in the city of Brasilia, Brazil, whose theme was "Agriculture and Technological Development: Towards the Integration of the Americas,"

**CONSIDERING:**

That FORAGRO is a hemispheric mechanism that facilitates dialogue, coordination and alliances among the public and private sectors, universities and NGOs, producers and international agricultural research agencies, whose aim is to promote technological innovation in agriculture, foster and develop a regional research agenda, and that supports efforts to implement the mandates of the Summits of the Americas and the recommendations of the ministerial meetings on agriculture and rural life as concerns technology;

That, at the FORAGRO meeting in Brasilia in 2002, the technology institutions of the countries underscored the importance of consolidating FORAGRO as the appropriate hemispheric mechanism for facilitating dialogue among the different actors committed to technological change and as a relevant factor for promoting technological integration in the Americas;

That FORAGRO has been performing the important task of promoting the development of a common vision of agriculture and the rural milieu, and a regional research and technological development agenda built around common priority issues, for joint action among national technology innovation systems. This is essential for modernizing agriculture

and for improving its competitiveness in the present scenario of globalization and the creation of free trade areas in the Americas;

That it is essential to strengthen these national systems and FORAGRO's regional system, to ensure the success of the efforts that the countries and IICA have been channeling for increasing competitiveness, diversifying agriculture, promoting food security and the use of environmentally friendly technological systems, and conserving natural resources,

**RESOLVES:**

To take note of the report containing the conclusions of the Third International Meeting of FORAGRO and urge the Member States and IICA to increase their participation in this Forum.



IICA/JIA/Res.405(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 405**

**TRIBUTE TO MRS. JOCELYN THOMPSON**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That the Audit Review Committee is an important mechanism of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) for directly advising the Director General on the administrative and financial conduct of the Institute, as well as for assisting the IABA in the administrative and financial supervision of IICA;

That the members of the Committee, appointed by the Member States, fulfill a vital function,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for the support provided by Mrs. Jocelyn Thompson, Auditor General, General Secretariat of CAROSAI, who sat on the Audit Review Committee from January 1, 1998 to December 31, 2003.
2. To acknowledge the excellent and dedicated efforts of Mrs. Thompson, and offer sincere thanks for her contributions to the consolidation of the Audit Review Committee, and to the administrative and financial management of the Institute.

IICA/JIA/Res.406(XII-O/03)

13 November 2003

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 406****VOTE OF THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND  
PEOPLE OF PANAMA**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Twelfth Regular Meeting,

**CONSIDERING:**

That the delegates and other participants have expressed their appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality received from the Government and people of Panama,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To respectfully thank the Government and people of the Republic of Panama for their extraordinary hospitality and, in particular, the President of Panama, Mrs. Mireya Moscoso, for her distinguished and enlightened participation in this event of critical importance for agriculture and rural life in the Americas.
2. To express its appreciation to the Minister of Agricultural Development, Mrs. Lynette Maria Stanziola Apolayo, for her readiness to engage in constructive dialogue with her colleagues, and for her fair and efficient exercise of the chairmanship of the meeting; to the diligent staff of the Ministries of Agricultural Development and Foreign Relations and the Panamanian Tourism Institute; and to other public and private institutions of the Republic of Panama, for their warm welcome and generous support, which were a key factor in the success of the Second Ministerial Meeting held within the context of the Summit of the Americas process and the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.

## **SIGNING OF THE REPORT**



**SIGNING OF THE REPORT OF THE  
TWELFTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (IABA)**

Pursuant to Article 88 of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), the Report of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture is hereby signed in Spanish, French, English and Portuguese, the official languages of the meeting, at 20:00 on the thirteenth day of November of the year two thousand three.

This report and the resolutions approved will be edited by the Secretariat. This report will be published in the four official languages of the Institute, as part of the Official Documents Series.

The Technical Secretary shall file the original texts of the resolutions and the report in the archives of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, and the General Directorate shall send copies of the official version of this report to the governments of the Member States, Associate Countries, the Permanent Observers of the Institute and other participants in the meeting.

Panama City, Panama.

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Chelston W.D. Brathwaite  
Director General of IICA

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Lynette Stanziola  
Minister of Agricultural  
Development of Panama



## **SPEECHES**





**ADDRESS BY CHELSTON W.D. BRATHWAITE, DIRECTOR GENERAL  
OF IICA, AT THE INAUGURAL SESSION**

**Introduction**

In my address to the Inter-American Board on November 26, 2001, I indicated that given today's reality, the IICA of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century "must embrace a new chapter in technical cooperation which emphasizes operational efficiency, accountability, prudent financial management, better use of our human resources and a new international dimension of strategic partnerships." On Tuesday, at the beginning of the Ministerial Meeting, I indicated that we have indeed progressed toward these goals. Today, I wish to emphasize why such changes were needed and reiterate some of the actions that we have taken to modernize the Institute.

The Secretary General of the United Nations, the Honorable Kofi Annan, has said "When the challenges which we face change, our responses to the challenges must also change." So it is with the agricultural sector.

The agricultural sector of the Americas in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is challenged to be competitive, and to produce value-added products that conform to food safety and agricultural health standards demanded by the market and consumers. The agricultural sector must also provide the base for rural prosperity in order to stem the migration of the rural poor to our cities. The key factors driving the new agriculture will be globalization and market liberalization, new technologies and consumer preferences.

Given these new realities it was concluded that an inter-American agency for agriculture must aim to support its Member States in achieving three objectives: sustainable agricultural development; food security; and prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas. Our Medium Term Plan addresses these objectives and seeks to ensure that the Institute adds value to the work of the agricultural sector of our Member States.

Dr. Mario Seixas, our Associate Deputy Director General, will be presenting a summary of our technical actions to achieve these objectives. I would like to focus my presentation on the administrative actions taken to modernize the Institute.

**1. A reduction in bureaucracy**

We have eliminated the Regional Centers, reduced management positions at Headquarters from 36 to 24, reduced Headquarters costs by 10%, consolidated units into a flatter, more efficient management framework, and allocated US\$1.2 million in savings from these actions to support technical cooperation activities in the Member States in 2002 and 2003.

**2. A new relationship with the Member States based on participation, accountability and transparency**

IICA's work program in each Member State was redefined in a participatory process with the ministries of agriculture and rural development, the private sector, academia and civil society, resulting in the development of National Technical Cooperation Agendas.

National reports were prepared on the implementation of the agendas and presented to national authorities in a national seminar. Suggestions and inputs were received for refining and adjusting the national agendas. This approach of participation, transparency and accountability is the hallmark of this administration.

**3. A new information and communication policy**

A new information and communication policy was developed to facilitate dialogue with the community of agriculture and the Member States to keep them informed of the activities and results of the Institute's work.

The repositioning documents, the 100 Days Report, the Director General's Report for 2002, IICA News and IICA Connection, an electronic bulletin, are results of this new policy.

**4. A new human resources policy**

The role and responsibilities of IICA management positions were redefined, especially that of IICA Representative in the Member States. The policy regarding the employees over 65 years of age was enforced and a new personnel evaluation policy that aligns individual performance with institutional goals has been implemented.

Awards for excellence have been established and a policy for enhanced language training is being implemented. An outstanding human resources management professional has been recruited as Director of Human Resources Management, and she is working with her team to review and modernize the Institute's human resources policies.

**5. Promotion of prudent financial management and a results-based institution**

A policy has been implemented to ensure that the Institute's financial resources are properly managed. Measures taken in this regard include the following:

- establishment of a new unit for budget-preparation and control,
- strengthening of the Institute's internal audit function with the appointment of a new internal auditor and a deputy auditor,

- assignment of responsibility for finance and administration to the Deputy Director General of the Institute,
- distribution of new guidelines for budget preparation and financial accountability to all managers, and
- establishment of the Directorate for Performance Management and Evaluation to ensure that proposed actions are implemented in a cost-effective manner, with the aim of converting the Institute into a results-based institution.

#### **6. Follow-up to the mandates received at the Summit of the Americas**

A Directorate for Follow-Up of the Summit of the Americas Process was established to provide appropriate follow-up to the mandates issued at the Quebec Summit, the OAS General Assembly and in the Bavaro Declaration. This unit provides for the exchange of information and facilitates joint efforts with development banks, agencies of the OAS system and other international organizations that are institutional partners of the Summits process, within the framework of the Joint Summit Working Group. It also effectively monitors the mandates of the Third Summit as they pertain to agriculture and rural life and contributed greatly to organizing this Second Ministerial Meeting.

#### **7. Promotion of greater cooperation with the governing bodies**

The administration reactivated the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI) and developed an online information system to enable ongoing consultation with its members. The work of the Advisory Commission in 2002 included: i) facilitating the adoption of six resolutions pending approval from the Eleventh Regular Meeting of the IABA; ii) fostering dialogue on IICA's financial situation and approval of the 2003 Program Budget; and iii) validating and contributing to improving the quality and political viability of innovative projects presented by the Director General on agricultural trade, agribusiness and food safety and on agricultural education. These were subsequently approved by the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-second Regular Meeting.

#### **8. Promotion of a new program on trade, agribusiness and food safety in the hemisphere**

The administration promoted and obtained Executive Committee approval for a new hemispheric program on trade, agribusiness and food safety. This program aims to strengthen trade capacities, develop negotiating skills, provide information and support for compliance with the World Trade Organization mandates, and provide technical and related support for the creation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Regional trade and agribusiness specialists were appointed to support national programs in these thematic areas, and an office to support this new program is being established in Miami to provide linkage between developed and developing economies in trade-related matters.

**9. Continued support to agricultural health, sustainable rural development, technology and innovation, information and communication, education and training**

Within the context of the 2002-2006 Medium Term Plan, the administration continued its support for these traditional areas of IICA's work. New emphasis was given to each of those areas with the appointment of regional specialists to support national actions. The new information and communication technologies are emphasized and addressed in the new programs.

In the area of education and training, new emphasis is being placed on distance learning and new communication tools are being developed. In the area of agricultural health, an assessment was conducted with a view to strengthening this important area of work.

**10. Strengthening strategic partnerships**

The administration considers the strengthening of strategic partnerships a fundamental objective in its efforts to promote sustainable agricultural development, food security and prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas. A new agreement was signed with the Pan American Health Organization and with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. In addition, the Institute renewed its commitment to working with the Inter-Agency Group for Rural Development and has established working ties with other international, regional and national agencies throughout the hemisphere.

The results of these relationships are presented in our report "Working Together," which has been distributed. The re-establishment of our United States Office in the OAS building in Washington, D.C., is part of a strategic initiative to work more closely with the OAS in implementing actions where joint efforts can contribute significantly to the promotion of sustainable agricultural development.

The following summarizes the progress we have made in repositioning the Institute to address the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: i) implementation of a new structure based on an integrated management framework; ii) development of a performance management results-based system; iii) strengthening of the mechanisms for corporate governance and management; iv) reduction of bureaucracy; v) promotion of financial prudence and accountability; vi) promotion of basic principles and values, including flexibility, accountability, commitment, efficiency, tolerance, and spirit of service; vii) a commitment to hemispheric solidarity and social equity; viii) development of a new relationship with our Member States based on participation, accountability and transparency; ix) establishment of new human resources policies including a code of ethical conduct; and x) strengthened strategic partnerships.

IICA renews its commitment to supporting its Member States in their efforts to bring about the sustainable development of agriculture, food security and prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas.

I thank you.



**ADDRESS BY CHELSTON W. D. BRATHWAITE, DIRECTOR GENERAL  
OF IICA, AT THE CLOSING SESSION**

We have come to the end of three days of intense discussions focused on finding mechanisms that will enable the countries of the Americas to formulate the strategies and develop the instruments needed, under the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action, to promote the modernization of agriculture and prosperity in rural communities, pooling the efforts of governments, civil society and international organizations.

I am certain that, within the framework of the Plan, countries struggling with high levels of poverty in the countryside, small economies trying to find ways to become more competitive and participate more effectively in integration processes, nations with major urban-rural imbalances, and even the economies of developed countries will find ways to address their priorities and solve fundamental problems affecting their societies.

The Plan must become a powerful instrument for transformation and a manifesto of inter-American solidarity.

This Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture has afforded an opportunity to adopt important decisions on matters related to the finances, budget and management of the Institute. These decisions are fundamental for further modernizing IICA and developing mechanisms for joint action with other institutions to will enable us to respond more effectively to the needs of our 34 Member States.

The IABA used to spend three full days discussing internal matters, mostly of an administrative nature. This year, the meeting was preceded by the Second Ministerial Meeting. The importance of the topics addressed and the significant progress achieved during those two days are cause for satisfaction, and point to a new *modus operandi* for future meetings of the ministers of agriculture of the Americas and the IABA, as the governing body of IICA.

With an institution such as IICA, which is inter-governmental in nature and a member of the OAS System, with Offices in each and every Member State, and more capable than ever to address matters related to the modernization of agriculture and the improvement of living standards in the countryside, I am convinced that the countries of our hemisphere are in a better position than other regions of the world to tackle the complex challenges and tap the opportunities that have been the subject of much discussion during these meetings.

As Director General of the Institute, I have had the privilege of participating in the deliberations of the Member States, which, after all, are the “owners” of this great institution. Given the importance of the commitments reached by the governments represented here, I

want to take this opportunity to state that I, and all those who make up the General Directorate, will support the Member States in their efforts to comply with the mandates of the Second Ministerial Meeting and to implement the resolutions approved during this IABA meeting.

Ministers and Secretaries, IICA is ready and willing to support, within its areas of competence and in strict adherence to the mandates of the governments, the ambitious agenda for promoting agriculture and rural well-being set forth in the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action .

We hope that the decisions each government and institution adopts to implement this new vision of agriculture and the rural world, both of which are essential for the transformation and advancement of our societies, will contribute to achieving the results that the rural communities of the Americas and rural producers rightfully expect.

As part of this effort, we must strengthen inter-institutional efforts. To this end, we pledge to continue supporting innovative mechanisms that facilitate joint efforts, such as the Inter-Agency Group of Rural Development and FORAGRO, which have proven effective in pooling the capacities of national and international agencies working together in pursuit of common agendas.

I am especially grateful for the participation in this event of representatives of the IDB, the World Bank, IFAD, FAO, ECLAC, GTZ, USAID, the Inter-Agency Group on Rural Development, and institutions that are at the forefront of technological innovation in the Americas, including FORAGRO, CATIE and CARDI.

Now more than ever, the governments and the General Directorate must work closely together to make IICA stronger in terms of technical excellence, financial solvency and management capabilities, to ensure that our support for the Member States enables them to comply with their inter-American commitments.

IICA's actions will be carried out within the framework of the national and regional agendas agreed upon with the governments of and the public and private institutions in the Member States.

Madam Minister of Agricultural Development, I would like to thank you for your outstanding leadership, and your staff for all the cooperation they have provided, both of which have been essential to the success of this event.

I wish to thank the Ministers and Secretaries for their active participation and their insightful observations, which added much to the content of our discussions.



Also, I congratulate all the speakers on their thought-provoking presentations.

And last but not least, I would like to thank the members of IICA's secretariats, our staff from Headquarters, the Panama Office and other IICA Offices in the hemisphere, who, out of a sense of dedication to the Institute and in a spirit of camaraderie, have prepared and coordinated this meeting.

We have seen some of them here in the meeting room and in the hallways, but many more have been at work behind the scenes. They have all come together and worked as a family, the IICA family.

Thanks to all of them, and thank you very much.



## **APPENDICES**



## **APPENDIX 1**

### **SECOND MINISTERIAL MEETING ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS PANAMA, 11-12 NOVEMBER 2003**

#### **1. THE 2001-2003 MINISTERIAL PROCESS**

In 2001, the Ministers and Delegates of Agriculture embarked on a process of national dialogue and hemispheric consensus building, in compliance with the mandates on agriculture and rural life issued by the leaders at the Third Summit of the Americas. In doing so, the Heads of State and Government recognized the importance of improving agriculture and rural life if the countries are to achieve comprehensive development.

The ministerial process culminated in the adoption of important hemispheric agreements, signed at the First and Second Ministerial Meetings on Agriculture and Rural Life, held in the Dominican Republic (2001) and Panama (2003), respectively. These meetings form part of the new institutional architecture generated by the Summit of the Americas process. They contribute to the implementation of, and follow-up to, its Action Plans, and help the leaders of agriculture to reach consensus on strategic actions for agriculture and rural life, and to formulate further proposals for improving them.

The Group for the Implementation and Coordination of the Agreements on Agriculture and Rural Life (GRICA) -the hemispheric forum of Ministerial Delegates of Agriculture- has played an active role in the dialogue and in the efforts to build consensus among the countries of the hemisphere on the strategic actions set out in the hemispheric ministerial agreements. It has worked systematically and continuously since 2001, using an electronic forum and meeting in Costa Rica (2001 and 2003) and Panama (2003).

At their First Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life, the Ministers adopted the first hemispheric agreement, the "*Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro for the Improvement of Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas.*" In the Declaration, the Ministers identified the critical issues that require urgent attention as far as the improvement of agriculture and rural life are concerned. They also stated their readiness to promote a shared agenda and joint efforts with the institutional partners in the Summits process, international development agencies and cooperating governments.

The process initiated in 2001 continued with a hemispheric dialogue during 2003 led by the Ministerial Delegates of Agriculture. Based on its results, at their Second Ministerial Meeting the Ministers adopted the *AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action for the Agriculture and*

*Rural Life of the Americas.* This plan is the shared agenda that the countries are to use in developing national and regional action plans.

## **2. THE SECOND MINISTERIAL MEETING**

### **2.1 THE HEMISPHERIC CONTEXT<sup>2</sup>**

- Remarks by Eligio Jaquez, Minister of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic, and Chair of the First Ministerial Meeting
- Remarks by Lynette Stanziola, Minister of Agricultural Development of Panama, and Chair of the Second Ministerial Meeting
- Speech by Chelston W. D. Brathwaite, Director General of IICA
- Speech by Mireya Moscoso, President of Panama
- Message from Cesar Gaviria, Secretary General of the OAS
- “From Bavaro to Panama,” Report, Chelston W. D. Brathwaite, Director General of IICA

### **2.2 THE MINISTERIAL DIALOGUES**

- **THE SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE OF THE FUTURE COMPARED WITH THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

#### ***For an enabling socioeconomic environment for agriculture***

Presentation: Jose Maria Figueres, Co-Chief Executive Officer of the World Economic Forum and former President of Costa Rica

Comments: El Salvador, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Uruguay

- **THE STRATEGIC ISSUES ON THE HEMISPHERIC AGENDA FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE**

#### ***Agriculture and trade in the Americas***

Presentations: United States of America, Argentina, Brazil

Comments: Costa Rica, Saint Lucia, Barbados, and Ecuador

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<sup>2</sup> Transcripts available at <http://www.iica.int/cumbres/ReunionMinisterial-2003.asp>

***Biotechnology: its importance for the future of agriculture***

Presentation: Mexico

Comments: Grenada, Nicaragua, Saint Kitts and Nevis

***Food security and efforts to alleviate poverty and hunger***

Presentation: Guatemala

Comments: Dominica, Venezuela, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Jamaica, Panama, Costa Rica, Peru, El Salvador, Ecuador, and Nicaragua

***Promotion of rural prosperity in the Americas***

Presentations: Bolivia, Honduras

Comments: Bahamas, Guyana, Haiti

• **THE EXPERIENCES IN REGIONS AND COUNTRIES**

***The experience of the Central American Agricultural Council (CAC): building regional consensus on policies for agriculture and rural life***

Presentation: Belize, President of the CAC

***The experience of the Caribbean Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Environment: dialogue and consensus building among the chief actors in agriculture at the national and regional levels***

Presentation: Jamaica, President of the Alliance

**Implementation Strategy in Countries**

***Chile's experience: a long-term strategy based on a State policy for agriculture***

Presentation: Chile

***Peru's experience: the comprehensive approach to territorial development. The experience in the Huaura Valley***

Presentation: Peru

### 3. THE ADOPTION AND SIGNING OF THE AGRO 2003-2015 PLAN OF ACTION

The Chair of the Ministerial Meeting, Lynette Stanziola, submitted the “*AGRO 2003-2015*” *Plan of Action for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas* to the Ministers for approval. The plan had been agreed on by the Group for the Implementation and Coordination of Agreements on Agriculture and Rural Life (GRICA), a forum composed of the Ministerial Delegates of Agriculture.

At the request of Mexico, the Plan was approved by acclamation, given the wide-ranging, participatory, and extensive dialogue in which the Ministerial Delegates had been involved, in Costa Rica (September 2003), and in Panama (10-12 November), where sessions were held parallel to the Ministerial Meeting.

At the invitation of the President of Panama, Mireya Moscoso, the Ministers signed the Plan during a ceremony held at the Presidential Palace. The witnesses of honor were Mireya Moscoso, Harmodio Arias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama, and Chelston W. D. Brathwaite, Director General of IICA.

### 4. THE RESULTS ACHIEVED

#### 4.1 The overarching hemispheric points of consensus for the improvement of the agricultural sector

The Ministers and Secretaries of Agriculture of the Americas, assembled in Panama City, Panama (11-12 November), at the Second Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life within the framework of the Summit of the Americas process

adopted the  
**“AGRO 2003-2015” Plan of Action for the Agriculture and Rural Life of  
 the Americas**, including the 2003-2005 Hemispheric Agenda

In this connection, they

- ✓ observed, situated in the year 2015, the agriculture and rural life characterized in the ***Shared Vision 2015***;
- ✓ reiterated the commitments assumed in the Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro, with the ***Strategic Objectives*** of Rural Prosperity, Food Security, the Positioning of Agriculture in the International Scenario and Regional Integration of Agriculture, Agricultural Health and Food Safety, and the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu;



- ✓ pledged to promote, together with the stakeholders of the agricultural sector and others associated with the development of agriculture and rural life, the strategic actions described in the *Hemispheric Agenda 2003-2005*, to advance toward Rural Prosperity, Food Security and the Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu, as called for by the Heads of State and Government during the Third Summit of the Americas;
- ✓ said that the “AGRO 2003-2015” Plan of Action reflects the intention of the member countries to work towards the shared vision, with the understanding that national governments have the primary responsibility for implementing the Plan of Action consistent with international commitments and agreements, and adopted *Implementation and Follow-up* measures, such as: (i) the preparation of six biennial Hemispheric Agendas for the period 2003-2015; (ii) the definition of indicators for follow-up; (iii) the preparation of national progress reports; and, (iv) a call to international institutions and cooperating governments to coordinate their strategies in relation to the implementation of the Plan; and,
- ✓ defined agriculture and rural life, for the purposes of the AGRO Plan and the regional and national action plans used to implement it, in terms of the spaces that create two main focal points for the improvement of agriculture and rural life: the systemic concept and the sustainable development approach. The *systemic concept* of agriculture and rural life encompasses rural territories, agricultural production-trade chains and the national and international context. The *sustainable development approach* takes into account the differences amongst countries and regions in the hemisphere in the production-trade, ecological-environmental, socio-cultural and human development, and political-institutional dimensions.

#### 4.2 The contribution of the Second Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life to the Special Summit of the Americas

With a view to consolidating the political positioning of agriculture and rural life at the Special Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, IICA’s General Directorate, as the Secretariat of the Ministerial Meeting, presented the results of the Second Ministerial Meeting to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), the forum of National Summit Coordinators, during its meeting held 8-10 December 2003.

As well as giving details of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan for the Agriculture and Rural Life of the Americas, the Institute explained its importance as an instrument for helping to attain the International Millennium Development Goals for 2015 and the objectives of the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas. As a contribution for the work of the SIRG, it was argued that:

- ✓ Millions of Latin Americans live in rural areas and, as we know, a large percentage of them live in poverty. Others fight to maintain their livelihoods, mainly linked to agriculture, and new waves of young people and the unemployed clamor for new rural job opportunities. As has been noted at length in the Declaration and Action Plan of the Third Summit of the Americas, the adverse development conditions, particularly in rural areas, force people to migrate, or to engage in illegal productive, business, and political activities.
- ✓ If rural areas do not become more attractive for the average person, if a “new urban-rural balance” is not achieved, migration from the countryside to the cities will make the latter time bombs that could be the last nail in the coffin of the strained governability already to be seen in many cities and already affecting entire countries. Without social peace, it will be very difficult to put an end to the violence that besets a large number of countries in the Americas.
- ✓ The only way of reducing, and then reversing, the migratory flow, and moving toward levels of democratic governance that people already regard as a thing of the past, is by making a major change in the development model, in the strategies and policies adopted to implement it, and, especially, in the institutional framework, to transform growing rural isolation into comprehensive development in our countries.
- ✓ A sustained effort must be made to improve the living conditions of rural dwellers. There are two main ways of achieving this: (i) by promoting investments in rural areas; and, (ii) by creating an enabling environment for the sustainable improvement of agriculture.

## APPENDIX 2

### AGENDA OF THE IABA

**IICA/JIA/Doc.270(03) rev.**

**1. Provisional Schedule of the Meeting**

*IICA/JIA/Doc.271(03)*

**2. Institutional Policy**

Message from the Director General

Progress Report on the Implementation  
of IICA's 2002-2006 Medium Term  
Plan

*IICA/JIA/Doc.272(03)*

**3. Budgetary and Financial Matters**

- 3.1 Report of the External Auditors on  
IICA's Financial Statements for 2001  
and 2002

*IICA/JIA/Doc.273(03)*

- 3.2 Eighth and Ninth Reports of the Audit  
Review Committee (ARC)

*IICA/JIA/Doc.274(03)*

- 3.3 The Financing of IICA:

- Recommendations from the  
Executive Committee on the  
Collection of Quota Arrearages

*IICA/JIA/Doc.275a(03)*

- Recommendations from the  
Executive Committee on  
Measures for Restructuring the  
Institute's Finances

*IICA/JIA/Doc.275b(03)*

- 3.4 2004-2006 Program Budget

*IICA/JIA/Doc.276(03)*

- 3.5 Special Expenditures Financed by  
the General Subfund *IICA/JIA/Doc.277(03)*

**4. Contributions of International  
Organizations to the Implementation of the  
Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro  
(paragraph 20)**

- 4.1 The Inter-agency Group on Rural  
Development *(Unnumbered)*
- 4.1 The Forum for the Americas on  
Agricultural Research and Technology  
Development (FORAGRO) *(No document)*
- 4.2 The Tropical Agriculture Research and  
Higher Education Center (CATIE)  
2001-2002 *IICA/JIA/Doc.278(03)*
- 4.4 The Caribbean Agricultural Research  
and Development Institute (CARDI)  
2001-2002 *IICA/JIA/Doc.279(03)*

**5. Matters pertaining to the Governing Bodies  
of IICA**

- 5.1 Status of the Resolutions of the  
Eleventh Regular Meeting of the IABA  
(IICA/JIA/Doc.280(03)) and of the  
Twenty-second and Twenty-third  
Regular Meetings of the Executive  
Committee *IICA/JIA/Doc.280(03)*  
*IICA/JIA/Doc.281(03)*
- 5.2 Automatic Rotation Mechanism for  
Electing a Representative of the IABA  
to the Board of Directors and the  
Governing Council of CATIE *IICA/JIA/Doc.282(03)*
- 5.3 Date and Site of the Thirteenth Regular  
Meeting of the IABA *IICA/JIA/Doc.283(03)*

**6. Other Institutional Businesses**

- |     |                                                                                                                                                                                 |                            |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 6.1 | Proposed Amendments to Articles 22, 65, 87 and 88 of the Rules of Procedures of the IABA                                                                                        | <i>IICA/CE/Doc.284(03)</i> |
| 6.2 | Proposal to Extend the Mandate of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI)                                                                                  | <i>IICA/CE/Doc.285(03)</i> |
|     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress Report on Compliance with the Recommendations of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI) 2003</li> </ul> | Reference document         |

**7. Other Business**

Signing of the “Technical Cooperation Agreement between IICA and the Ministries of Agriculture of Central America, Mexico and the Dominican Republic to Strengthen the Operation of CORECA”



## APPENDIX 3

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture*

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