

IICA/JIA/Res.442(XIV-O/07)

27 July 2007

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION N.º 442**

**PROPOSED ADDITION TO LAW 8028 OF COSTA RICA**  
**EMPOWERING CATIE TO GRANT PROFESSIONAL**  
**CREDENTIALS AND ACADEMIC DEGREES**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (IABA), at its Fourteenth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolution CS-Extraordinaria No.1-2007 of the Governing Council of Ministers of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) and Resolution IICA/CE/Res.479(XXVII-O/07), adopted by the Executive Committee of IICA at its Twenty-seventh Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That CATIE, created in 1973 by means of a contract between IICA and the Government of Costa Rica, is an entity dedicated to research in the agricultural sciences and on natural resources and related subjects and also to post-graduate training and other courses of study in the agricultural sciences and on renewable natural resources and related subjects, for the benefit of the Member States of IICA;

That Law No. 8028, of the Republic of Costa Rica, of September 12, 2000, establishes that CATIE's participation in post-graduate programs must be based on "such agreements and programs as may be agreed upon for this purpose;"

That under such law, CATIE does not have the legal authority to grant on its own academic degrees or professional credentials, a situation that is not consistent with its caliber as the oldest post-graduate school that is one of the most prestigious in Latin America;

That clause 34 of the aforementioned Law No. 8028 stipulates that amendments to that law require the approval of the Governing Council of CATIE and the IABA prior to being submitted to the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica for consideration;

That, by virtue of the above, the Board of Directors of CATIE, through ratification of resolution 14-07/XXVIII ROCEF, requested the Director General of CATIE to negotiate with CATIE's Governing Council authorization to propose an addition to Law No. 8028 of the Republic of Costa Rica in order to give the Center authority to grant academic degrees and professional credentials;

That the Governing Council of Ministers of CATIE approved said modification in Resolution CS/Extraordinaria No. 1-2007 of May 2007, and requested that same be submitted for approval to the IABA;

That the IICA Executive Committee, by Resolution No. 479 of May 17, 2007, recommended that the IABA view said modification favorably; and

That, as a precedent, by means of an amendment to Law No. 7044 creating EARTH University (*Escuela de Agricultura de la Región del Trópico Húmedo-EARTH*), Law No. 7357 of the Republic of Costa Rica, that institution was granted the right to offer academic degrees and professional credentials, which give authority to exercise the respective professions,

#### RESOLVES:

To unanimously approve the proposal to request the amendment to Law No. 8028 of the Republic of Costa Rica, as approved by the Governing Council of Ministers of CATIE and contained in Annex 1 of this resolution, so as to give CATIE the power to grant professional credentials and academic degrees.

7/26/2007 18h 48 PM

ANNEX 1

Current Text	Proposed amendment of text (The text underlined in bold is the proposed amendment)
<p><b>FIRST CLAUSE.-</b> The objective of the present Contract is to establish a scientific and educational civil association, with full legal standing, whose purposes shall be research in the agricultural sciences and on natural resources and related subjects, for the tropical regions of the Americas, especially in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean, and post-graduate training and other courses of study in the agricultural sciences and on renewable natural resources and related subjects, offered for the benefit of the Member States of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), under the agreements and programs established for those purposes.</p>	<p><b>FIRST CLAUSE.-</b> The objective of the present Contract is to establish a scientific and educational civil association, with full legal standing, whose purposes shall be research in the agricultural sciences and on natural resources and related subjects, for the tropical regions of the Americas, especially in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean, and post-graduate training and other courses of study in the agricultural sciences and on renewable natural resources and related subjects, offered for the benefit of the Member States of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). <u><b>As such, CATIE is empowered to grant academia degrees and professional credentials in its areas of competence, which will enable its graduates to exercise their respective professions.</b></u></p>