

RESOLUTION No. 482

**ACTION TAKEN IN THE FACE OF THE
FOOD SECURITY SITUATION IN THE AMERICAS**

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Twenty-eighth Regular Meeting,

HAVING HEARD:

The presentations by Messrs. Julio Paz, Rafael Trejos and James French on the food security situation in the Member States of IICA in the current international context, the presentation by the Director General and the discussion in the meeting room;

HAVING SEEN:

That a series of factors has combined to generate a rapid increase in food prices that has resulted in serious challenges for global food security;

The vigorous and concerted effort on the part of the countries of the region to face the crisis and jointly make use of the opportunity to work together to strengthen agricultural productivity, efficiency and competitiveness in order to increase food production;

CONSIDERING:

That many of the Member States are affected differently by the various factors that have brought about rising food prices. These include restrictions in supply and increased demand, adverse weather, increasing energy and fertilizer costs, alternative uses of food crops and other factors directly or indirectly related to food production;

That while the current situation poses a challenge for the countries of the region, it also offers an opportunity to strengthen agriculture and the capacity of member states, including the research, development and transfer of appropriate technologies to increase productivity, employment and income of small and medium sized producers;

That IICA has the capacity to support and collaborate with governments, civil society and agricultural producers to develop and implement effective and coherent short, medium and long-term policies that are tailored to the specific realities of each region, nation and territory and that result in a substantial increase in sustainable food production

and access to safe and nutritious food, essential inputs, and financing and risk management tools;

That it is essential to strengthen the mechanisms of cooperation between the public and private sectors to confront the present challenges and take advantage of the opportunities in the area of food security for the Americas;

RESOLVES:

1. To instruct IICA to:
 - a. Monitor and expeditiously inform Member countries about the food security situation as it evolves, including the determining factors and impacts;
 - b. Provide, upon request, support and advice to Member States related to food security;
 - c. Revise and adjust accordingly the Institute's hemispheric, regional and national technical cooperation agendas through the appropriate IICA governing bodies to provide cooperation to all Member States in their efforts to confront the crisis;
 - d. Provide technical cooperation and collaborate with the OAS and other strategic institutions on food security issues in the region to support the governments, the civil society and the private services sector to increase access to financial resources;
 - e. Promote and collaborate with strategic institutions to support training and technology transfer as one of the key mechanisms to increase food production particularly to the small and medium sized farmers.
2. That IICA will take into account the programs of other international, regional, government development organizations in order to promote cooperation and avoid duplication of efforts.