

**RESOLUTION No. 412**

**FINANCING OF CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE PARTICIPATION  
OF THE MEMBER STATES IN THE WTO'S SPS COMMITTEE**

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

CONSIDERING:

That all countries in the Americas have had the opportunity to develop capabilities by participating in the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Committee of the World Trade Organization (WTO);

That food safety, animal health and plant protection in the hemisphere have benefited from this capacity building, and that this has had important, positive impacts on agricultural trade;

That technical experts from many IICA members states, including Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Chile and the United States met in June 2004 and agreed that the WTO SPS capacity building program is beneficial and should be considered a priority;

That funds have not yet been secured for the October, 2004 SPS capacity building session,

RESOLVES:

1. To request that the Director General assign funds, subject to financial availability, to facilitate the participation of IICA Member States in the October 2004 Session of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Committee of the World Trade Organization (WTO).
2. To instruct the Director General to prepare, in consultation with the Member States, a proposal to obtain the support of regional and international financial institutions for the purpose of strengthening the participation of IICA Member States in the WTO's SPS Committee.

3. To support IICA fully in its efforts to obtain external resources to finance the participation of IICA Member States in the WTO's SPS Committee.