

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**



	<b>Page</b>
<b>I. MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>	1
Preparatory Session.....	1
Inaugural Session and First Plenary Session.....	5
Second Plenary Session.....	17
Third Plenary Session.....	25
Closing Session.....	31
<b>II. RESOLUTIONS .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>III. SIGNING OF THE REPORT .....</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>IV. SPEECHES .....</b>	<b>83</b>
Address by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil at the Inaugural Session.....	85
Address by the Director General of IICA at the Inaugural Session ...	89
Address by the Director General of IICA at the Closing Session .....	105
<b>V. APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>109</b>
Agenda.....	111
List of Participants.....	115
Meeting Staff .....	123



## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**



**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE**

The Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) was held in accordance with the provisions contained in the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee and in that Committee's Resolution IICA/CE/Res.425(XXIV-O/04).

The 2005 Executive Committee was made up of the following countries: Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Mexico, Peru, Suriname, United States of America and Uruguay.

**PREPARATORY SESSION**

0.1 *Opening of the Session*

0.1.1 The Preparatory Session of the Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order at 08:35 on May 13, 2005, in the Golden Tulip Room of the Convention Center of the Hotel Araucaria in Ribeirão Preto, State of São Paulo. It was chaired by Mr. Phillippe Matthews, Representative of Haiti, who assumed the chairmanship of the meeting following the order of precedence established in the rules; this was due to the fact that the Representative of Guatemala, the country that chaired the Twenty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee, held in San Jose, Costa Rica, on July 22-23, 2004, was not present.

0.1.2 The Representatives of all the Member States comprising the Executive Committee, except Uruguay, were present.

## 0.2 Agreements

### 0.2.1 Agenda of the Meeting

The agenda presented in document IICA/CE/Doc.455(05) was approved. It was announced that the working and other documents for this meeting had been placed in the Representatives' folders, and had also been posted on IICA's website, in the Executive Committee section, 45 days prior to the meeting, pursuant to Article 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee. The two exceptions were the Eleventh Report of the Audit Review Committee (ARC), and the curricula vitae of the candidates for positions on the ARC.

### 0.2.2 Working Committees

The decision was made to set up a working committee to study the nominations for the Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector, and recommend to the Plenary the candidates on whom the awards should be bestowed. The committee comprised the Representatives of Argentina, Mexico and the Dominican Republic. Martin Ramirez and Guillermo Toro, Directors of Operations for the Andean and Southern Regions, respectively, assumed responsibility for the secretariat of the committee.

### 0.2.3 Election of the Chair and Rapporteur of the meeting

The Committee elected Mr. Victor Villalobos, Coordinator of International Affairs of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) of Mexico. Next, the Representative of the Dominican Republic proposed that Rodolfo Coto Pacheco, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, serve as Rapporteur. The motion was approved.

The officers of the meeting were elected as follows:

Chairman:	Víctor Villalobos
Rapporteur:	Rodolfo Coto Pacheco
<i>Ex officio</i> Secretary:	Chelston W. D. Brathwaite

The Director General welcomed the Representatives of the countries sitting on the Executive Committee and of other IICA Member States participating as observers, as well as all other invited guests. He congratulated the



Representative of Mexico on being elected to chair the meeting, and the Representative of Costa Rica on being designated to serve as Rapporteur.

0.2.4 Duration of the Meeting

The plenary agreed to hold the closing session of the meeting on Saturday, May 14, 2005, at 18:00, as proposed by the Technical Secretariat of the meeting.

0.2.5 Deadline for Submitting Proposals

Friday, May 13 at 16:00, was set as the deadline for submitting new proposals and draft resolutions.

0.2.6 Countries' Right to Vote

The Director General asked the Legal Advisor for an opinion regarding application of Article 24 of the Convention on the Institute, vis-à-vis the right to vote of those Member States that were more than two years behind in the payment of their quotas.

The Legal Advisor explained this Article, noting that the Executive Committee was empowered to allow even those countries that are in arrears to exercise their right to vote, provided the failure to pay was beyond the control of the Member State. Referring to the countries sitting on the Executive Committee, he noted that only Peru was in Special Status, adding that it was complying with the payment agreed upon with the Institute.

The Director General acknowledged the efforts being made by the Member States to bring their quota payments up to date and adhere to the payment plans agreed upon. Also, he expressed appreciation for their pledges to continue supporting the Institute.

The Director General gave the floor to the Representatives so that they might offer their opinions regarding the right to vote of the country in arrears.

The Representative of the United States recommended that Peru participate in the meeting and exercise its right to vote.

It was agreed that all the Member States present could exercise their right to vote.

4 Twenty-Fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

0.3 Order of Precedence of the Member States

Pursuant to Article 41 of the Rules or Procedure of the Executive Committee, the order of precedence was established, beginning with Mexico, the Member State whose Representative would be chairing the meeting. Thereafter, alphabetical order in Spanish would be followed.

0.4 Other Business

0.4.1 Election of a member of the Audit Review Committee (ARC)

The Technical Secretary announced that the proposed agenda called for the election of a member of the Audit Review Committee (ARC), because Mr. Luis Carlos Gutierrez, from Mexico, who took the place of a compatriot of his in August 2001, would be leaving the ARC in December 2005.

The Representative of Mexico asked the Legal Advisor if Mr. Gutierrez could be elected by the Executive Committee for a full term.

The Legal Advisor stated that the rules were not clear on the matter, but that a precedent had been set at the OAS when a member was elected to the Board of External Auditors under similar circumstances.

The Legal Advisor stated that the rules were not clear on the matter, but that a precedent had been set at the OAS when a member was elected to the Board of External Auditors under similar circumstances.

0.5 Close of the Session

The session was adjourned at 10:05.

## INAUGURAL SESSION AND FIRST PLENARY SESSION

### 1.1 *Inaugural Session*

1.1.1 The Inaugural Session of the Twenty-Fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order at 10:25 on Friday May 13, 2005, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Victor Villalobos, the Representative of Mexico.

1.1.2 The Director General expressed satisfaction that this meeting of the Executive Committee was taking place in the city of Ribeirão Preto, a focal point for the development of agribusiness in Brazil's central-southern region. He thanked the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil, Mr. Roberto Rodrigues, for his interest in the meeting and for his support in its organization. He also welcomed the Representatives of the Member States of the Executive Committee, Representatives of other member countries of IICA present, the Representative of Spain (Associate country) and special guests. He recalled that Executive Committee meetings generally take place at the IICA Headquarters, but that on this occasion, in response to the kind invitation extended by the Government of Brazil. He decision had been to hold the meeting in the city of Ribeirão Preto, in the State of São Paulo, with the technical, financial and logistical support of the Government of Brazil. The Director General also explained the decision to transfer as few staff members as possible from IICA Headquarters, relying instead on the effective support of the personnel of the IICA Office in Brazil.

1.1.3 Mr. Roberto Rodrigues stated that he was honored that IICA had accepted the offer to hold this meeting in Brazil. He regretted that he was unable to continue participating in the meeting in view of the crisis facing his country's agricultural sector, which required his immediate attention. He explained that the adverse climatic conditions had caused major losses in agricultural production. He added that the drought affecting the southern part of Brazil had brought negative consequences for the harvests and had led to increased production costs, which meant that farmers faced difficulties in meeting their financial obligations. Other factors affecting the crisis were the rise in oil prices and variations in the exchange rate.

- 1.1.4 Mr. Rodrigues then referred to the main challenges and opportunities afforded by globalization and open trade. He recognized that this situation provides opportunities for growth, but stressed that the necessary measures should be taken to reduce the socioeconomic gap between rich and poor countries, and between the rich and the poor within the same country, a task that poses the greatest challenge of the twenty-first century. He also explained that Ribeirão Preto is a region of great wealth and agricultural and rural development, with an advanced agricultural and agroindustrial structure. The area is a major producer of grains, cattle, sugar cane, citrus and coffee, as well as machinery, equipment and agricultural support services.
- 1.1.5 Finally, Mr. Rodrigues extended a warm welcome to the participants on behalf of the President of the Republic of Brazil, His Excellency Mr. Luiz Ignacio Da Silva, and expressed his good wishes for a successful meeting. He announced that Mr. Antonio Carlos Costa, the Director of Trade Agreements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil, would remain at the meeting as Head of the Delegation of Brazil.
- 1.2 **First Plenary Session**
- 1.2.1 The First Plenary Session was called to order at 14:05 on Friday May 13, 2005, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Victor Villalobos, the Representative of Mexico.
- 1.2.2 **Implementation of the IICA 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan (MTP)**
- 1.2.2.1 The Director General presented a report on the status and results of his administration with regard to the Institute's process of transformation into a modern organization at the service of its Member States, aimed at promoting the sustainable development of agriculture, food security and prosperity in rural communities. He noted that the Institute had assumed a new responsibility as an institution associated with the Summit of the Americas Process, with the task of supporting its Member States in the implementation of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action. He mentioned the importance of IICA's new technical cooperation model, based on national and regional cooperation agendas. These are the result of dialogue and consensus reached with the authorities and private sector of the countries and enable the Institute to provide cooperation services that are consistent with national priorities and demands, and with the Institute's Medium-Term Plan.
- 1.2.2.2 He added that to make its new strategic vision a reality, IICA has placed emphasis on promoting agribusiness, supporting trade policies and

negotiations, promoting technology and innovation, fostering sustainable rural development, encouraging agricultural training and education and supporting agricultural health and food safety programs.

- 1.2.2.3 With respect to developing an appropriate management structure, the Director General emphasized the capacity-building efforts implemented in the Institute's Offices in the Member States, the elimination of the Regional Directorates as intermediate bodies and the simplification of the organizational structure at the IICA Headquarters. He mentioned the new units established, noting the importance of performance monitoring and evaluation to guarantee the implementation of plans and to make better use of resources. Meanwhile, with respect to financial management, priority has been given to the collection of quota arrearages, a task that has yielded positive results, thanks to the efforts of the Institute's Governing Bodies and to the support of the Governments of the Member States.
- 1.2.2.4 The Director General referred to the strengthening of alliances with strategic partners and made special mention of the relations between IICA and the OAS, FAO, PAHO and IDB. He also emphasized the progress achieved in the joint efforts implemented with CATIE.
- 1.2.2.5 With regard to human resources management, he described the progress made in recruiting new staff members and in personnel training. He also referred to the new performance evaluation system based on results, aimed at encouraging improvements in staff performance; to the Director General's Awards for Excellence, which recognize outstanding contributions derived both from individual efforts and from team work; and to the changes made in IICA's staff classification and remuneration system.
- 1.2.2.6 The Director General then alluded to efforts to strengthen internal communication mechanisms and advances in promoting IICA's institutional image, mainly through its accountability to Member States and through the dissemination of information on the Institute's actions and their results within countries and in the context of international events.
- 1.2.2.7 He concluded his remarks by stressing the urgent need to undertake new initiatives to guide the Institute towards a development agenda, so that IICA may assume a strategic leadership role in the modernization of the rural sector and in the promotion of food security and well-being for rural communities. To accomplish this, all citizens of the Americas must work together to the benefit of our community of nations.

1.2.3 *Actions and results of technical cooperation 2002-2005*

- 1.2.3.1 Mr. Mario Seixas, the Associate Deputy Director General and Director of the Technical Cooperation Secretariat of IICA, thanked the Minister of Agriculture of Brazil for having offered Ribeirão Preto, a center of excellence for Brazilian agribusiness, as the site of this meeting of the Executive Committee, and for all the support provided to IICA in the organization of the meeting.
- 1.2.3.2 He went on to describe the progress made in the implementation of the Institute's Medium Term Plan (MTP) for the period 2002-2006, highlighting the main achievements of IICA's technical cooperation. He mentioned that efforts have continued to focus on three aspects: a) promoting an inter-thematic approach that has enabled the technical areas to offer a comprehensive response to the demands of Member States; b) promoting horizontal cooperation between countries and regions, with IICA acting as an efficient intermediary; and c) applying the "working together" strategy in the execution of actions and projects with the institutions of the Inter-American System, international organizations and the cooperation agencies of the developed countries.
- 1.2.3.3 Mr. Seixas also noted that, in response to a request formulated by Member States during the Twelfth Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), considerable progress had been made in the preparation of the report on "The State of and Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas".
- 1.2.3.4 He then described the main results achieved through the implementation of technical cooperation agendas at the national, regional and hemispheric levels. He referred to the most important results obtained in the context of the hemispheric agenda in areas such as the development of agribusiness, trade policies and negotiations, technology and innovation, agricultural health and food safety, rural development, education and training and the preparation of investment projects. Next, he presented the most important achievements in the agendas of the Andean, Southern, Central, Northern and Caribbean regions. He then referred to the actions implemented in the member countries of the Executive Committee and in Brazil. Subsequently he described some of the steps taken to enhance technical cooperation and re-position the Institute as an organization of excellence, including the implementation of information and communication technologies, the launch of new communications media (the electronic magazine ComunIICA, electronic newsletters and others) and the implementation of specialized information systems of the technical areas.

- 1.2.3.5 Finally he thanked the Member States for their support, noting that this had been crucial to generate and provide better technical cooperation services.
- 1.2.3.6 The Representatives of Argentina, Chile and Brazil expressed their appreciation of the presentations on the execution of IICA's 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan, and their satisfaction with the Institute's support to member countries, particularly with its efforts to support the Southern Agricultural Council (CAS).
- 1.2.3.7 The Representative of Argentina mentioned the work of the technical groups that support CAS and emphasized the latter's achievements. She reaffirmed her country's interest in implementing actions in the area of agroenergy, noting that Argentina has been the site of two meetings on biotechnology, for which the Institute had provided important support. Finally she suggested strengthening horizontal cooperation in order to promote this initiative at the regional and hemispheric level.
- 1.2.3.8 The Representatives of the United States of America, Mexico and Barbados expressed their thanks for the two presentations on the implementation of IICA's 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan, which reflect the advances made in institutional reforms and the progress achieved through the technical cooperation services provided. They congratulated the Director General, the Deputy Director General and the Director of the Technical Secretariat for their efforts to fulfill the mandates of the Institute's Governing Bodies, both in relation to transforming and modernizing the Institute and in generating and providing technical cooperation services. The Representative of Barbados welcomed the support offered by IICA to develop the area of agrotourism in the CARICOM region and the incorporation of the issue of biosafety on the Institute's agenda.
- 1.2.3.9 The Representative of Chile proposed that, in future, the following areas be strengthened: a) issues related to the Codex Alimentarius; b) the integration of interagency work, citing as an example joint work with FAO on transboundary controls; and c) technology generation and innovation to benefit small producers, with an emphasis on adding value to agricultural production chains.
- 1.2.3.10 The Representative of Brazil expressed his country's special interest in implementing hemispheric programs and joint actions in the areas of bioenergy and biotechnology. He explained that in the context of the restructuring process in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, efforts have been made to strengthen institutions that provide cooperation to the countries of the

Americas in new areas of interest, in which Brazil has developed an important leadership role.

- 1.2.3.11 The Chairman, in his capacity as Representative of Mexico, indicated that the most important areas of action for his country are: a) agricultural health and food safety, b) trade-related health issues, particularly in border regions, and c) the development and transfer of technologies, especially in the areas of bioenergy and biotechnology. He also emphasized the importance of strengthening alliances that encourage competitiveness and regional efforts towards rural development. Finally, he urged the Institute to continue to satisfy the new demands of its Member States.
- 1.2.3.12 The Director General thanked the Representatives of the participating countries for their thoughts on IICA's work. He underscored the fact that the Institute is an instrument for supporting countries in their agricultural and rural development. He considered that the IICA of the twenty-first century should be characterized by its capacity to respond to the demands of member countries, by its accountability and by the transparency of its operations.
- 1.2.3.13 He expressed satisfaction over the comments concerning the work of CAS as a body of cooperation, integration, dialogue and facilitation of horizontal cooperation. He added that when regional bodies function properly, which is also the case with CORECA and CARICOM, IICA's work is facilitated and enhanced.
- 1.2.3.14 Responding to the remarks of the Representative of Chile, the Director General indicated that the Institute coordinates actions with other international organizations, adopting the "working together" approach. He recognized the necessity and the importance of using modern technologies to resolve the problems of small producers, but mentioned several problems that must be addressed, such as limitations in gaining access to information and to financial resources.
- 1.2.3.15 With regard to a suggestion made by the Observer Representative of Brazil, he reiterated the Institute's commitment to strengthen its capabilities, improve cooperation in the field of biotechnology and bioenergy and endeavor to implement hemispheric programs in those areas. He explained that the technical and financial contributions of the Member States are essential for IICA to carry forward such programs.



- 1.2.3.16 With respect to the participation of the Representative of Barbados, he emphasized the importance of developing effective national and regional mechanisms to guarantee food security, especially in cases of natural disasters, which frequently affect the region.
- 1.2.3.17 Finally, the Director General referred to the comments of the Representative of Mexico and reaffirmed the institution's commitment to strengthen the areas of agricultural health and food safety, biotechnology, bioenergy and trade.
- 1.2.4 *Presentation by the Director of the Office of Summit Follow-up*
- 1.2.4.1 Mr. Lizardo de las Casas, Director of the Office for Follow-up of the Summit of the Americas Process, explained why the issue of agriculture and rural life is being addressed in this process and how it has been repositioned through the participation of the Ministers of Agriculture. He then outlined the main aspects of the ministerial process and explained how it fits into the larger process of the Americas Summit. He concluded his presentation by referring to IICA's role in these two processes.
- 1.2.5 *Presentation on IICA-CATIE relations and the progress achieved in joint actions*
- 1.2.5.1 Mr. Mariano Olazábal, the Director of Operations for the Central Region, presented a report on the activities carried out by IICA and CATIE in the countries during the period 2002-2004. He described the joint efforts implemented in the areas of training, technical assistance, policymaking, information, research and projects. He concluded by stressing that the authorities of both institutions have the will and the commitment to continue strengthening and deepening their relations through joint work. He emphasized the importance that countries establish policy guidelines as a framework in which this strategic alliance may develop and flourish, and thanked the countries for their cooperation, which he considers has been essential to the progress achieved and the results obtained.
- 1.2.5.2 The Representative of Argentina stated that her country is a pioneer in the fields of biotechnology and biosafety. She proposed that a mechanism be found to enable countries and regions to tackle topics of common interest together. The Observer Representative of Ecuador mentioned his country's successful experience in the implementation of the Sanibanano Project, which has helped to significantly reduce the levels of rejection of banana, and also expressed his interest that IICA would strengthen its cooperation towards his country.

- 1.2.5.3 The Chairman stressed the importance of IICA's forums and its role in following up on high-priority issues for Member States. He emphasized the progress achieved in joint efforts by IICA and CATIE. He acknowledged that both institutions face limitations in their human and financial resources, and suggested analyzing the possibility of a merger between CATIE and IICA. He proposed that the Executive Committee instruct the Directors General of both institutions to submit a report on the implications of a possible merger.
- 1.2.5.4 The Representative of Costa Rica said his country felt honored to be the seat of both institutions, and reported that a committee had been established with the participation of the Government, IICA and CATIE to analyze the financial and legal aspects of a possible merger.
- 1.2.5.5 Dr. Jose Emilio Araujo, Director Emeritus of IICA, explained that CATIE was created during his administration as an institution with special autonomy, linked to IICA. He considers that a *de facto* merger already exists and that what is now required is to establish an organization for joint work. He suggested that the proposed analysis take account of the origin of both institutions.
- 1.2.5.6 Mr. Jose Joaquin Campos, Deputy Director General of CATIE, reaffirmed his organization's commitment to strengthen joint actions. He praised the dedication and commitment of the Directors General of IICA and CATIE in this regard. He emphasized that there are tangible advances that reflect this effort, indicating that the capabilities of both institutions complement each other. Finally, he referred to the need to work together in order to more effectively support countries that face major challenges and to take advantage of the opportunities that arise for the agricultural sector.
- 1.2.5.7 The Director General of IICA stressed the importance of joint work and pointed out that both organizations support each other in administrative, technical and legal aspects. He explained that IICA is part of the Inter-American System, whereas CATIE is an organization of a civil nature. He called for joint medium-term plans to be established. He recommended setting a firm deadline for presenting the report on the results of the work of the IICA/CATIE/Government of Costa Rica Commission, for which purpose he suggested that a draft resolution be prepared.
- 1.2.5.8 The Representative of the United States of America proposed that a committee be established with representatives of each of IICA's geographic regions, to participate in the analysis and submit the countries' points of view to the IICA/CATIE/Government of Costa Rica Commission.

- 1.2.5.9 The Director General noted that some Member States of IICA currently do not form part of CATIE but are interested in participating in its activities.
- 1.2.6 Presentation of the 2004 Financial Statements of the Institute and the Report of the External Auditors
- 1.2.6.1 Mrs. Karen Kleinheinz, the Director of Finance, presented the 2004 Financial Statements of the Institute and the Report of the External Auditors. She explained that IICA's financial regulations require that an external audit be carried out once a year and reported that the firm *Deloitte & Touche* had carried out the audit for the year 2004. She added that the audits were carried out in line with international auditing standards, and that the Financial Statements of IICA have been presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- 1.2.7 Eleventh Annual Report of the Audit Review Committee (ARC)
- 1.2.7.1 The Report was presented by Mr. Luis Carlos Gutierrez, of Mexico, a member of the ARC, who referred to the three matters contained in the document: (i) quotas owed, (ii) income and expenditures associated with the institutional net rate (INR), and (iii) internal control mechanisms. He emphasized the importance of reducing quota arrearages to the Institute and thanked the current Administration for its transparency in its financial management, for the exhaustive financial reports submitted to the Executive Committee and for the comprehensive information made available to the ARC and to Member States. He congratulated the Director General and his work team for their effort and dedication to institutional modernization and accountability.
- 1.2.8 Current Status of Quota Payments and Progress in Collecting Quota Arrearages
- 1.2.8.1 Mrs. Karen Kleinheinz, the Director of Finance, outlined the progress made in collecting quotas owed to IICA. She recalled that the IABA, the EC and the SACMI have reviewed the matter of quota arrearages on several occasions. She mentioned that through Resolutions 392 of the IABA and 417 of the EC, measures were adopted for collecting said quotas. She noted that of the ten countries in arrears with quota payments, six had achieved up-to-date or regular status and four had made the required payments or owed less than three quotas. She concluded her remarks by stressing the importance that Member States keep up-to-date with their quota payments, so that the Institute could continue to provide technical cooperation of the quality and timeliness required by Member States.

1.2.8.2 The Director General commended the Member States for their efforts to update their quota payments, thereby enabling the Institute to provide better and more timely technical cooperation.

1.2.9 *Proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget and Proposed Special Budget*

1.2.9.1 Mr. Yanko Goic, Head of the Budget and Control Division, presented the Proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget and the Proposed Special Budget. He explained that the first is based on the following guidelines: (i) no growth is contemplated in the regular funds, and the same sum that has been allocated during the last ten years will be maintained during the 2006-2007 biennium, which implies that the quotas of the Member States remain unchanged; (ii) details of the allocation of resources by chapters, thematic areas and organizational units have been prepared only for the year 2006, given that a new administration commences at the Institute in January of 2006; therefore, he suggested that the Executive Committee call upon the IABA to authorize it to approve a detailed allocation of resources of the Regular Fund for the period 2007, at its Twenty-Sixth Regular Meeting, to be held in 2006; and (iii) the allocation of resources is based on the Institute's national and regional technical cooperation agendas and on the priorities emanating from the mandates of the Summit of the Americas Process, particularly with regard to supporting Member States in the implementation of the Agro 2003-2015 Plan of Action.

1.2.9.2 The Head of the Budget and Control Division stated that the total sum of the resources budgeted for the Regular Fund is US\$30 million per year. Of that amount, US\$27.2 million annually correspond to quota resources and US\$2.8 million to miscellaneous resources. He added that, in accordance with existing regulations, the proposed Program Budget presents the allocation Regular Fund resources, broken down into three chapters: (i) Direct Technical Cooperation Services, (ii) Management Costs, and (iii) General Costs and Provisions. The resources of this last chapter include funds for meetings of the Institute's Governing Bodies, insurance, pensions and other items that because of their special nature cannot be assigned to the organization's operational units.

- 1.2.9.3 He then presented the proposed Special Budget for the sum of US\$2,609,000.00, financed with resources of the General Subfund. He explained that the resources from this budget would be used to finance three types of priority actions of strategic importance: capacity-building for the effective application of the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) of the WTO; investment in technological infrastructure, audiovisual equipment and electricity generators; and the remodeling and maintenance of offices. Finally he pointed out that the execution of the special budget is subject to IICA being able to recover, during the biennium, a sum from quotas that is greater than the sum of quotas budgeted.
- 1.2.9.4 The Director General referred to the problem that had arisen in the management of funds in the IICA Office in Suriname, and thanked the Representative of Suriname for his comments on this matter. He also thanked the country's authorities and government for their support in investigating the case.
- 1.2.9.5 The Representative of the United States of America commended the Director General, the Director of Finance and her work team for their commitment to collect quota arrearages, and Member States for their efforts to fulfill their financial obligations to the Institute.
- 1.2.9.6 The Representative of Argentina expressed interest in obtaining details of the resources allocated to the Southern Agricultural Council (CAS).
- 1.2.9.7 The Head of the Budget and Control Division explained that the resources allocated to CAS are shown in the document, both those assigned to support the operation of the Technical Secretariat of CAS and those allocated for regional actions in the Council's priority thematic areas.
- 1.2.9.8 The Director General called on the Head of the Budget and Control Division and on the Director of Operations of the Southern Region to prepare a detailed report of the sums budgeted for the biennium to finance both the operation of the CAS Secretariat and the cooperation activities associated with the work of that forum.

1.2.10 *Draft Resolutions on Progress in the Implementation of the 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan and IICA's 2004 Annual Report*

1.2.10.1 The Rapporteur read out both draft resolutions, which were approved as read.

1.2.11 *Close*

1.2.11.1 The First Plenary Session was adjourned at 17:30.

## SECOND PLENARY SESSION

- 2.1 *Inauguration*
- 2.1.1 The Second Plenary Session was called to order at 08:23 on May 14, 2005, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Victor Villalobos, the Representative of Mexico.
- 2.2 *Draft Resolutions: 2004 Financial Statements of the Institute and Report of the External Auditors; Eleventh Report of the Audit Review Committee (ARC); Appointment of External Auditors for IICA and CATIE for the 2006-2007 Biennium; and Proposed 2006-2007 Special Budget Financed with Resources from the General Subfund*
- 2.2.1 The Rapporteur read out the four draft resolutions, all of which were approved as read.
- 2.3 *Draft Resolution on the Proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget*
- 2.3.1 The Rapporteur read out the draft resolution on the Proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget.
- 2.3.2 The Observer Representative of Canada requested information concerning the continuity of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Program, financed originally by the United States of America and currently funded by IICA.
- 2.3.3 The Director General expressed IICA's willingness to continue funding the Program with resources from the special budget or, if this were not possible, with regular resources.
- 2.3.4 The Representative of Argentina reiterated her interest in obtaining details of the funds allocated to CAS.
- 2.3.5 The Head of the Budget and Control Division provided a breakdown of the resources budgeted to support the operation of the CAS Secretariat and for regional projects on issues of interest to CAS, for a total sum of US\$781,102.00.

- 2.3.6 The Representatives of Argentina and Chile thanked him for the efficient and clear response to their request for information on the resources budgeted by IICA, both for the CAS Secretariat and for priority actions by this regional ministerial forum.
- 2.3.7 The Representative of Mexico asked for information concerning the financing of activities in the area of biotechnology.
- 2.3.8 The Director General explained that biotechnology activities have been financed with resources allocated to the Area of Technology and Innovation. He added that in the course of the meeting, a proposal would be submitted for the design of a Hemispheric Biotechnology Program, for which Member States would be asked to provide support in securing additional resources.
- 2.3.9 The draft resolution on the Program-Budget 2006-2007 was approved as read.
- 2.4 *Reports on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twenty-Fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee and of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the IABA*
- 2.4.1 Mr. Fernando del Risco, the Technical Secretary of the Meeting, presented both reports describing the progress achieved in implementing the resolutions adopted by the Institute's Governing Bodies, and gave details of the steps taken by the General Directorate to comply with these mandates.
- 2.5 *Presentation on the Development of Bio-fuels and the Market*
- 2.5.1 Mr. Mario Seixas, the Associate Deputy Director General and Director of the Technical Cooperation Secretariat, introduced the speaker Mr. Luiz Carlos Corrêa Carvalho, and gave a brief summary of his professional background. Mr. Seixas emphasized the importance of bio-fuels in the production of energy and referred to their impact on the modernization of Brazil's agriculture, particularly in the region of Ribeirão Preto.



- 2.5.2 The speaker began by describing Brazil's progress in its successful experience to produce biofuels based on sugar cane. He gave a comprehensive account of the development, opportunities and expectations for bioenergy in the market. He added that bioenergy production is gaining ever-increasing numbers of supporters in those countries interested in: reducing emissions of harmful gases, reducing expenditure on oil and supporting the modernization of their agricultural sector. He also pointed out that the use of sugar cane as an alternative energy source not only guarantees the supply of anhydrous alcohol carburant, but also stimulates the development of the agricultural sector. He said that the countries of the Americas currently have a 70% share, approximately, of world production of alcohol. He stressed that a rapid growth in bio-energetic production could occur in countries where sugar and ethanol are produced at low cost. He added that those countries wishing to successfully enter the bioenergy market should consider some key aspects such as technology, synergies, diversification, logistics and access to global markets.
- 2.5.3 The Observer Representative of Brazil, the Representative of Argentina and the Representatives of Mexico, Costa Rica, the United States of America and Chile congratulated the speaker for his excellent presentation.
- 2.5.4 The Observer Representative of Brazil and the Representative of Argentina agreed that bioenergy is a matter of priority for Member States and proposed that it be included in IICA's working agenda.
- 2.5.5 The Representative of Costa Rica reported that his country had established a work team, more than one year ago, to promote the production of biofuels based on sugar cane and oil palm.
- 2.5.6 The Representative of Mexico linked bioenergy with biotechnology. He explained that bioenergy qualifies as white biotechnology, which is a modality of biotechnology associated with industrial use that enjoys greater acceptance in the international sphere.
- 2.5.7 The Director General congratulated the speaker on his presentation, considering that it encourages reflection on the agriculture of the future, in which advances in biotechnology, agroindustry and communications would be essential.

2.6 *Draft Resolutions: Actions in the Area of Bioenergy; Report on the 2005 Meeting of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues and Extension of the Commission's Term; and Status of the Resolutions of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) and the Twenty-Fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee*

2.6.1 The Rapporteur read out the following draft resolutions: Actions in the Area of Bioenergy; Report of the 2005 Meeting of the Special Advisory Committee on Management Issues and Extension of the Commission's Term; and, Status of the Resolutions of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) and the Twenty-Fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee. All were approved as read.

2.7 *Proposal on Integrated Actions in Biotechnology and Biosafety*

2.7.1 Mr. Jorge Ardila, Director of the Area of Technology and Innovation of IICA, presented the proposal "Foundations of the Hemispheric Program on Agrobiotechnology and Biosafety". In his presentation he emphasized the importance of this new and important topic. He added that the proposal responds to a need among Member States to strengthen their legal and institutional frameworks to promote the development of agro-biotechnologies (ABTs) and guarantee their safe use. He noted that Resolution 386 of the IABA grants IICA a mandate to strengthen its work in that field. Finally, Mr. Ardila explained that the main components of the Hemispheric Program on Agro-biotechnology and Biosafety would be: (i) collection and dissemination of relevant information to all the countries of the Americas; (ii) support in the development and updating of technology innovation policies, (iii) the study of the impacts of ABT on trade and on development; (iv) support for the development of regulatory frameworks to promote and regulate ABTs; and (v) the promotion of research and development activities to enable countries to gain comprehensive access to ABTs.

2.7.2 The Representatives of Argentina and Mexico and the Representatives of Chile and the United States of America thanked Mr. Ardila for his excellent presentation.

2.7.3 The Representative of Argentina stressed the importance that countries develop appropriate policies and regulatory frameworks on genetically modified organisms, an area in which IICA can provide support. Similarly, she suggested that the Institute also support countries' participation in international negotiation processes related to ABTs, paying attention to restrictions on market access. She thanked IICA for inviting the countries to participate in the

Meeting of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, in Montreal, and suggested that the Institute ensure that the Ministries of Agriculture are represented at said meeting.

- 2.7.4 The Observer Representatives of Ecuador and El Salvador, the Representative of Argentina and the Representative of Mexico stressed the importance that IICA assist countries in their efforts to improve public perceptions on the production and use of genetically modified organisms.
- 2.7.5 The Representative of Chile mentioned that his country has a State policy on issues of technology and innovation. He considered that productivity and adding value to agrifood chains should be the guiding principles of research work.
- 2.7.6 The Representative of Mexico and the Representative of the United States of America offered to share information and their countries' experiences in the field of agro-biotechnology.
- 2.7.7 Mr. Jaime Campos Quiroga, the Minister of Agriculture of Chile, added his congratulations to Mr. Ardila and stressed that the issue discussed will be crucial to the development of agriculture in the coming years. He underscored the advantages of strengthening private sector participation in this area and explained that consortia involved in that sector of technology have been established in his country. He added that the private sector should play a major role in setting priorities and in funding research on ABT. He also considered that civil society should have a more important role in this area. Finally he emphasized that ABTs are key to ensuring that the forestry/agricultural sectors take a leading role in resolving the energy crisis.
- 2.7.8 The Chairman, in his capacity as Representative of Mexico, referred to the experience of the North American countries. He offered to make available to IICA the model of the NABI (North American Biotech Initiative), which he believes could be replicated in other regions. He emphasized the importance of developing local capacity, which in turn should contribute to IICA's cohesive efforts. Finally he proposed that the Institute redouble its efforts to facilitate the exchange of experiences and information among countries.
- 2.7.9 The Director General reiterated the Institute's commitment to strengthen the area of biotechnology, given its strategic importance for the development of agriculture. He acknowledged that the absence of legal frameworks in two-thirds of the Member States is an obstacle to progress in this area. He then referred to the links between biotechnology and intellectual property and to the

visualization of IICA as an instrument for the transfer and promotion of biotechnology. He pointed out that technological development has a high cost and that countries must be willing to provide additional resources to the Institute to finance those activities. Finally, he responded to the comments of the Representative of Argentina saying that IICA would take the appropriate steps to guarantee the participation of the Ministries of Agriculture at the Meeting of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Montreal.

- 2.7.10 The Chairman urged those Member States that are able to finance their participation at the Meeting of Montreal to decline the assistance offered by the Institute, in order to free substantial resources to implement other actions related to this issue.
- 2.8 *Progress in the preparation of the Report on the State of and Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas*
- 2.8.1 Mr. Rafael Trejos, Coordinator of the Directorate of Strategic Planning and Institutional Modernization, presented a progress report on the preparation of the Report on the State of and Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas. He described the backdrop against which agriculture and rural life are evolving in the Americas. He then continued with an assessment of the performance of agriculture and rural life during the period 1998-2002. Subsequently, he described the outlook and main challenges facing agriculture in the coming years.
- 2.8.2 Mr. Sergio Sepulveda, Director of Sustainable Rural Development of IICA, presented a special report on agriculture as a source of jobs and incomes. First he referred to agriculture's contribution to the generation of jobs and incomes and also to its socioeconomic impacts. He then described the present scenario and specified the elements and guidelines of a new model of agricultural and rural development. Finally, he described the characteristics required in new sectoral policies to promote agricultural development and rural well-being.
- 2.8.3 The Representative of Costa Rica stated that he considered this information very interesting. He mentioned two successful experiences in the non-traditional agricultural export sector of his country. The first is the commercial production of flowers, foliage and fruits; the second involves non-traditional products that are exported directly by small producers.

2.8.4 The Representative of Chile shared some thoughts on family agriculture. He considered that tackling this issue is complex and that it is essential to invest in it. He suggested that agricultural and rural development policies consider a number of important aspects; for example, they should contemplate instruments to strengthen existing markets, promote the associative organization of small farmers and facilitate their access to dynamic markets. Furthermore, it should be borne in mind that rural prosperity does not depend exclusively on agriculture, since non-agricultural jobs are very important to boost the rural economy.

2.9 *Presentation of Candidates to the Post of General Director of IICA*

2.9.1 The Chairman announced that Mr. Billie A. Miller, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Barbados, had submitted, on behalf of his country and with the backing of the CARICOM countries, the candidacy of Dr. Chelston W. D. Brathwaite for re-election as Director General of IICA for the period 2006-2010.

2.9.2 In accordance with the provisions of Article III of the Special Rules for the Election of the Director General of IICA, Dr. Brathwaite presented his candidacy to the post of Director General for the period 2006-2010.

2.9.3 The Chairman thanked Dr. Brathwaite for his remarks and for his commitment. He also noted the acknowledgement of the IICA staff expressed by the Director General in his message.

2.9.4 The Representative of Barbados expressed his satisfaction with the presentation, on behalf of his country and with the backing of CARICOM countries, of the candidacy of Dr. Chelston W. D. Brathwaite for re-election as Director General of IICA. He commended the Director General for his exceptional administration during the present term.

2.9.5 The Representatives of the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica praised Dr. Brathwaite for his extraordinary work as Director General, for his dedication and efforts towards institutional modernization and for the efficient manner in which he has implemented his Medium Term Plan, for which reasons they support his bid for re-election.

2.9.6 The Chairman referred to the regulations for the election of the Director General and noted that, according to the date scheduled for the next Regular Meeting of the IABA, the deadline for nominating candidates expires on July 14, 2005. Nevertheless, he indicated that with the express consent of the IABA, candidates could be nominated in the course of that meeting.

2.10 Close

2.10.1 The Second Plenary Session was adjourned at 13:15.

### THIRD PLENARY SESSION

#### 3.1 Inauguration

- 3.1.1 The Third Plenary Session was called to order at 14:30 on May 14, 2005, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Victor Villalobos, the Representative of Mexico.

#### 3.2 Draft Resolution on Progress in the Preparation of the Report on the State of and Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas

- 3.2.1 The Rapporteur read out the draft resolution on Progress in the Preparation of the Report “State of and Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas”, which was approved as read.

#### 3.3 Draft Resolution on Strengthening IICA-CATIE Relations and Progress in Joint Efforts

- 3.3.1 The Rapporteur read out the draft resolution on the strengthening of IICA-CATIE relations and progress in their joint efforts, which was approved after appointing representatives from Argentina, Barbados, Peru, Mexico and the United States of America to implement point 3 of that resolution, together with IICA, CATIE and the Government of Costa Rica.

#### 3.4 Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector

- 3.4.1 The Representative of the Dominican Republic, on behalf of the Inter-American Awards Committee, explained the procedure followed by the Committee in the selection of nominees for the Inter-American Awards. The individuals and organizations recommended by the Committee are as follows: (i) Mr. Miguel Holle Osterdart, of Peru, for the Inter-American Agricultural Medal 2003-2005; (ii) Mrs. Fresia Enriqueta del Carmen Zuñiga Perez, of Chile, for the Award for the Participation of Women in Rural Development 2003-2005; (iii) Miss Ximena Rocio Cadima Fuentes, of Bolivia, for the Inter-American Agricultural Award for Young Professionals 2003-2005; and (iv) the Artificial Insemination Center of the Universidad Austral in Chile, for the Inter-American Award for Institutional Contribution to Agricultural and Rural Development 2003-2005.

- 3.4.2 The Committee also nominated the following individuals and organizations to receive an honorable mention: (i) Mr. Nelson Estrada Ramos, of Colombia, in the Inter-American Agricultural Medal 2003-2005; (ii) Mrs. Grace Cereceda Sangster de Cabanilla, in the Award for the Participation of Women in Rural Development 2003-2005; and (iii) the firm Sandals Resort International, which operates in Saint Lucia, in the Award for Institutional Contribution to Agricultural and Rural Development 2003-2005.
- 3.5 *Draft Resolution on 2003-2005 Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector*
- 3.5.1 The Rapporteur read out the draft resolution on the 2003-2005 Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector, which was approved.
- 3.6 *Status of the Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life and the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA*
- 3.6.1 The Director General reported that the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, through Resolution 387 approved at its Twelfth Regular Meeting in Panama, had accepted an offer by the Government of Ecuador to host the Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life and the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA in Guayaquil. He explained that at the beginning of the year the General Directorate had signed an agreement with the Government of Ecuador to hold both meetings in that city. He added that Mr. Jorge Herman Chiriboga, the Vice-Minister of Agriculture of Ecuador, would offer a report describing the prevailing situation in his country.
- 3.6.2 The Chairman gave the floor to the Vice-Minister of Agriculture of Ecuador, who gave a detailed report on recent developments in his country's general economy, in the agricultural sector and in the political situation. He reiterated his government's commitment to host the next Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas, which will take place in Guayaquil from August 30 to September 1. During that meeting, the Third Ministerial Meeting will take place in the context of the Summit of the Americas Process together with the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA. He then referred to the actions carried out in Ecuador in fulfillment of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action, emphasizing the organization of information meetings and seminars with the public sector, trade unions, chambers of agriculture, universities, polytechnic schools, professional associations and international organizations. He also reported on the preparation of the national report in compliance with Plan Agro 2015, which was submitted to the Foreign Ministry and to the Technical Secretariat under the responsibility of IICA, and on the proposed 2006-2007 agenda for the implementation of the plan. He then referred to the design of a



project to address future challenges, which mainly focuses on promoting and creating sectoral State policies, developing inclusive economies that are equitable and sustainable, supporting internal agendas for development and creating and maintaining forums for public-private dialogue aimed at reaching agreements on structural and specific problems. He expressed his Government's enthusiasm and satisfaction at the prospect of hosting the two aforementioned meetings in Guayaquil, and reiterated his invitation to all Member States to attend both events.

- 3.6.3 The Chairman thanked the Representative of Ecuador for his presentation and for renewing his Government's commitment to host the two meetings in Guayaquil at the end of August.
- 3.6.4 The Representative of the United States of America thanked the Government of Ecuador for its offer to host these meetings and expressed the hope that these would facilitate a productive dialogue on IICA's role in improving agriculture and rural life in the Americas.
- 3.6.5 The Technical Secretary reported on the administrative and logistical actions that are being carried out for the organization of the meeting. He also read out a letter sent by Mr. Pablo Rizo Pastor, the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Ecuador, in which the Government of this country ratifies its offer to host the Third Ministerial Meeting in the context of the Summit of the Americas Process and the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA.
- 3.6.6 Having concluded the reading of the letter of ratification of the offer, the Chairman asked the audience for a round of applause for Guayaquil, the site of the meetings.
- 3.7 *Draft Resolutions on the Agenda of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) and on Agricultural Biotechnology and Biosafety*
- 3.7.1 The Rapporteur read out the draft resolutions on the agenda of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) and on agricultural biotechnology and biosafety. Both were approved as read.
- 3.8 *Draft Resolution on the Date and Site of the Twenty-Sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee*
- 3.8.1 The Rapporteur read out the draft resolution on the date and site of the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee, which was approved as read.

3.9 *Draft Resolution on Revised Measures for Collecting Quotas Owed to the Institute*

- 3.9.1 The Rapporteur read out the draft resolution on revised measures for collecting quotas owed to the Institute.
- 3.9.2 The Legal Adviser pointed out that in Annex 1 of the draft resolution a document appears that clarifies the operative aspects of resolutions 392 of the IABA and 417 of the Executive Committee.
- 3.9.3 The Representatives of the United States of America and Canada praised the work carried out by the Secretariat and stressed the importance of the measures adopted by the IABA and the Executive Committee to facilitate the collection of quotas owed to the Institute. They also recognized the progress achieved in collecting quotas during 2004 and in the course of 2005, which is reflected in an improvement in the organization's finances.
- 3.9.4 The Representative of the United States of America proposed the following amendment to the draft resolution: in section V-B.1, concerning countries that owe IICA "more than two complete fiscal years but less than three", add in point e. that the amount of regular resources allocated to projects in the country will be reduced by 10%, a proposal that was accepted.
- 3.9.5 The Representative of Argentina pointed out that it would be necessary to analyze the document in detail, which would require considerable time, and therefore she recommended that the proposal be submitted to the consideration of the SACMI.
- 3.9.6 The Representatives of the United States of America and Canada recommended that the resolution be submitted to the consideration of the IABA at its next Regular Meeting, given that the matter has already been comprehensively discussed at meetings of the SACMI and the Executive Committee.
- 3.9.7 The Director General made it clear that this is not a new document, but rather a text that merely offers an improved presentation of the contents of Resolution 392 of the IABA and 417 of the Executive Committee. He added that the text is consistent with the provisions of Article 24 of the Convention of the Institute. Finally, he indicated that the draft resolution only represents a better organization of regulations approved previously, and will therefore facilitate their application.

- 3.9.8 The foregoing clarifications by the Director General were endorsed by the Legal Adviser, who pointed out that the only change included is the one proposed by the Delegation of the United States of America.
- 3.9.9 The Representative of Mexico suggested that the draft resolution be approved with its present contents and that any observations relating to it be sent to the Technical Secretariat before being submitted to the consideration of the IABA.
- 3.9.10 The draft resolution on revised measures for collecting quotas owed to the Institute was approved as read.
- 3.10 *Other business*
- 3.10.1 The Observer Representative of Canada expressed concern that the presentations on various topics distributed in the conference room were available only in one language, which made it difficult to understand them.
- 3.10.2 The Chairman offered his apologies and asked the Technical Secretary to take the necessary steps to resolve the situation.
- 3.10.3 The Technical Secretary thanked the Observer Representative of Canada for his observation and pointed out that a simultaneous translation of the presentations was offered during the different sessions. However, in response to the justified request made in the conference room by Canada, the following measures will be adopted at the next Regular Meeting of the IABA: (i) a deadline will be established for receiving presentations; and (ii) the presentations will be translated into the four languages.
- 3.11 *Close*
- 3.11.1 The Third Plenary Session was adjourned at 16:15.



## CLOSING SESSION

### 4.1 *Inauguration*

- 4.1.1 The Closing Session was called to order at 16.17 on May 14, 2005, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Victor Villalobos, the Representative of Mexico.

### 4.2 *Ceremony to Pay Tribute to Dr. Jose Emilio Araujo*

- 4.2.1 In a special ceremony, the Executive Committee paid tribute to the important contributions made by Dr. Jose Emilio Araujo, who was Director General of IICA during the period 1970-1982, and who, with notable success and diplomatic skill, spearheaded the Institute's transformation from a research and training institution to a technical cooperation center of hemispheric scope, with a Headquarters, Regional Directorates and Offices in the member countries, creating an integrated cooperation system.

- 4.2.2 Some of the main achievements of Dr. Araujo's administration were mentioned, among them the Institute's strategy of hemispheric and humanist projection, the signing of the new Convention on IICA and the General Plan adopted in 1970, documents that define the Institute's mission of supporting countries in order to foster and promote rural development as a means to achieve their overall development. Other important achievements cited were the incorporation of Canada and the English-speaking Caribbean countries into IICA and the creation of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Training Center (CATIE), through an agreement between IICA and the Government of Costa Rica.

- 4.2.3 The Director General of IICA presented Dr. Araujo with a commemorative plaque and, with emotive words, described his personal qualities, praising his valuable contributions to the Institute and to the modernization of agriculture and rural development in the Americas.

- 4.2.4 Dr. Araujo, Director Emeritus of IICA, thanked the Executive Committee for its tribute. He then gave a brief summary of his professional work and, in particular, of his services to the Institute. Finally he expressed his appreciation for the plaque presented to him and for the acknowledgement received.

#### 4.3 *Remarks of the Director General*

4.3.1 Dr. Chelston W. D. Brathwaite recounted the items on the agenda of the Meeting, concluding that it had been very successful, not only because such an extensive work program had been completed, but also because of the important results that had emerged for the countries of the Region.

4.3.2 In his final thoughts, the Director General noted that we live in a global village in which problems are of a multinational nature. He reiterated the importance that Governments recognize agriculture as a sector that is strategic for the development of nations. He stated that it is necessary to find solutions to the common problems of the rural sector. He referred to the importance of the technical cooperation provided by the Institute to its Member States, adding that the Institute is a strategic partner that can assist countries, through joint efforts, to act with greater speed and flexibility to successfully meet new challenges and take advantage of new opportunities. In this sense the Director General affirmed that “if we do not work together we will fail; if we do, success will be ours”.

#### 4.4 *Acknowledgments*

4.4.1 The Director General acknowledged the presence of the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil, thanking him for the invitation and support offered by the Government of Brazil in the organization of this meeting. He added that the proposed objectives had been achieved, thanks to the efforts and talent of the Chairman and the Rapporteur. He also thanked the staff who participated in the preparation and organization of the meeting for their hard work: the Technical Secretary, Mr. Fernando Del Risco; Dr. William Berenson, the Legal Adviser of the OAS and of IICA; Mrs. Leda Avila and the team of the Official Events Unit; Dr. Carlos Basco, the Representative of IICA in Brazil; personnel of the IICA Office in this country; the ladies of the Universidad Estatal Paulista (UNESP), located in Jaboticabal, who acted as conference room attendants; the translators; the transcribers and précis writers; the security staff; the employees of the Hotel Plaza Araucaria; the press and those in charge of the ambulance and health services.

4.4.2 Finally Dr. Brathwaite thanked the Member States for supporting his administration over the last four years and took his leave saying, “We’ll see you in Guayaquil”.

4.5 *Remarks by the Chairman of the Executive Committee*

- 4.5.1 The Chairman of the Executive Committee expressed his appreciation for the efforts of Mr. Rodolfo Coto, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica, who acted as the Rapporteur of this meeting. He also thanked the staff of IICA's Official Events Unit, the translators and interpreters, the transcribers and précis writers, the conference room attendants and the personnel of the IICA Office in Brazil. He made special mention of the support provided for this event by Mr. Roberto Rodrigues, the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of Brazil, and by the Governorship of Ribeirão Preto.

4.6 *Close and signing of the final report of the meeting*

- 4.6.1 Mr. Victor Villalobos, in his capacity as Chairman of the meeting, and the Director General of IICA, signed the report of the meeting.

4.7 *Close*

- 4.7.1 The Twenty-Fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee was adjourned at 17:35 on May 14, 2005.





## RESOLUTIONS

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
<b>A. INSTITUTIONAL POLICY, COOPERATION SERVICES AND INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS</b>		
Res. 426	Progress in the implementation of the 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan .....	37
Res. 427	2004 IICA Annual Report .....	38
Res. 428	Agricultural Biotechnology and Biosafety .....	39
Res. 429	Actions in the area of Bio-energy .....	41
Res. 430	Progress in preparation of the report “State of and outlook for agriculture and rural life in the Americas” .....	43
Res. 431	Strengthening of IICA/CATIE relations and progress in joint efforts .....	45
<b>B. FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS</b>		
Res. 432	2004 financial statements of the Institute and report of the external auditors .....	47
Res. 433	Eleventh report of the Audit Review Committee (ARC).....	49
Res. 434	Appointment of External Auditors for IICA and CATIE for the 2006-2007 biennium .....	50
Res. 435	Revised measures for collecting quotas owed to the Institute .....	51
Res. 436	2006-2007 Program Budget .....	60

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
Res. 437	2006-2007 Special Budget financed with resources from the General Subfund .....	64
 <b>C. INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT</b>		
Res. 438	Report on the 2005 meeting of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues and extension of the commission's term.	67
 <b>D. IICA'S GOVERNING BODIES AND THE MINISTERIAL MEETING IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS PROCESS</b>		
Res. 439	2003-2005 Inter-American awards in the rural sector .....	69
Res. 440	Status of the resolutions of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture and the Twenty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee .....	71
Res. 441	Agenda for the thirteenth regular meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA).....	72
Res. 442	Date and site of the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee .....	77

IICA/CE/Res. 426 (XXV-O/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 426**

**PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
2002-2006 MEDIUM-TERM PLAN**

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

HAVING SEEN:

The presentation by the Director General on progress in transforming IICA from 2002-2006, and the presentation by the Assistant Deputy Director General on the results of the technical cooperation actions carried out from 2002-2005,

CONSIDERING:

That the Executive Committee, in Resolution IICA/CE/Res.364(XXII-O/02), of October 2002, approved the 2002-2006 MTP, by express delegation from the Inter-American Board of Agriculture;

That the Medium-Term Plan has served as the frame of reference for both the cooperation actions of the Institute and its transformation and modernization;

That the Executive Committee has taken note of the progress made to date in the implementation of the 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan,

RESOLVES:

To recognize the progress made by the Director General and staff of the Institute in transforming and modernizing IICA, as well as the results of the cooperation provided to modernize agriculture and promote prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas.

IICA/CE/Res. 427 (XXV-O/05)

13 - 14 May 2005

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 427****2004 IICA ANNUAL REPORT**

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

## HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc. 458 (05) "2004 IICA Annual Report,"

## CONSIDERING:

That Article 4.f of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establishes that the Committee is to receive, analyze and approve the Annual Report on the activities of the General Directorate, and take appropriate action;

That the General Directorate prepared, published and distributed the 2004 IICA Annual Report, pursuant to the recommendations of the Sixth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) and Resolution IICA/CE/Res.307(XVIII-O/98) of the Eighteenth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee, regarding the content and format of the report;

That the report focuses on the cooperation activities carried out by the Institute in 2004 and highlights important programmatic, budgetary and financial aspects of institutional life, while the detailed information on projects and agreements, extra-quota agreements and contracts is provided on the Institute's web site ([www.iica.int](http://www.iica.int)),

## RESOLVES:

To approve the 2004 IICA Annual Report.

IICA/CE/Res. 428 (XXV-O/05)  
13-14 May 2005  
Original: English

**RESOLUTION No. 428**

**AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY**

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting;

CONSIDERING:

That by IICA/JIA/Res.386(XII-O/03), the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (“IABA”) entrusted IICA with convening meetings, in consultation with the Member States, to discuss the importance of agricultural biotechnology and biosafety and their impact on trade and development;

That by that same Resolution, the IABA encouraged horizontal cooperation among the IICA Member States in the area of agricultural biotechnology and biosafety, and urged them to contribute additional resources for furthering IICA’s work in that area;

That the development of biotechnology and biosafety in the Member States requires the establishment of the corresponding legal frameworks;

That the General Directorate has made proposals to the Executive Committee for strengthening IICA’s role in supporting cooperation in biotechnology and biosafety,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the Member States for their offers to share, through horizontal cooperation coordinated by IICA, their experiences and best practices in the area of biotechnology and biosafety.

2. To thank the General Directorate for its proposals for strengthening horizontal cooperation and other activities to advance the development of biotechnology and biosafety in the Americas.
3. To renew the request made by the IABA at its Twelfth Regular Meeting for the Member States to contribute additional resources to support IICA's activities in the biotechnology and biosafety area.
4. To ask the Director General of IICA to allocate the resources needed to implement IABA Resolution 386, from funds collected as the result of the payment of quota arrearages.

IICA/CE/Res. 429 (XXV-O/05)

13 -14 May 2005

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 429**

**ACTIONS IN THE AREA OF BIO-ENERGY**

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

HAVING SEEN:

The presentations on Brazil's experience in the area of bio-fuels, made by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, His Excellency, Dr. Roberto Rodrigues, and an expert in the field, Mr. Luiz Carlos Correa Carvalho,

CONSIDERING:

That the current worldwide energy crisis has led to ever-increasing prices for oil and natural gas and had a negative impact on the finances of nations, which must spend unprecedented sums of money to acquire petroleum and petroleum-based products;

That bio-fuels offer a viable alternative to, and could partially replace, imports of oil and natural gas, making it possible to save more foreign exchange;

That the production of bio-fuels is a technologically proven alternative that would enable many countries in the Americas to promote the modernization of agriculture, offering producers new options with a guaranteed market;

That IICA and the Government of Brazil have taken the initiative to present to the Executive Committee information on Brazil's experience, which has led to savings of foreign exchange and to the modernization of areas which, given their ecology and soils, are highly suitable for shifting their production structure toward the production of bio-fuels derived primarily from the cultivation of sugar cane, grains and other plant species;

That technological innovation, a key factor in modernizing agriculture and making it more competitive in a context of globalization and the creation of free trade

areas in the Americas, can be strengthened through horizontal cooperation, which will enable countries that are more advanced in the field of bio-fuel production to cooperate with those determined to produce them,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the Government of Brazil on the important results generated by its successful bio-fuel program, and the State of São Paulo, especially the region of Riberão Preto, on progress in this field.
2. To thank the Government of Brazil for its offer to promote, in cooperation with IICA, horizontal cooperation actions with the countries committed to developing their agro-energy sector.
3. To entrust the General Directorate of IICA with the presentation of a draft resolution on horizontal cooperation in the area of bio-fuels for the consideration of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), to be held in Guayaquil, Ecuador.



IICA/CE/Res. 430 (XXV-O/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 430**

**PROGRESS IN PREPARATION OF THE REPORT “STATE OF AND OUTLOOK  
FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE IN THE AMERICAS”**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.459(05) “Progress in Preparation of the Report “*State of and Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas,*”

CONSIDERING:

That Article 3.a. of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture states that the Board shall take note of the report of the Director General on the status of the development of agriculture and the rural milieu in the Americas;

That the Director General has reported to the Member States on progress in the preparation of a report on the state of and outlook for agriculture and rural life in the Americas, which will focus on the role of agriculture in contributing to the generation of employment and the alleviation of rural poverty;

That, in the Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro, the countries pledged to attach special importance to and make significant progress in reducing rural poverty;

That the Ministers of Agriculture, in the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan, endorsed by the Heads of State and Government, pledged to modernize agriculture and promote rural prosperity and food security,

**RESOLVES:**

To recognize the progress made by the Director General in preparing the report "State of and Outlook for Agriculture and Rural life in the Americas," which is of great importance to the governments of the region as an instrument for analyzing and formulating policies.

IICA/CE/Res. 431 (XXV-O/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 431**

**STRENGTHENING OF IICA/CATIE RELATIONS  
AND PROGRESS IN JOINT EFFORTS**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.467(05) "IICA-CATIE Relations: Progress in Joint Actions,"

CONSIDERING:

That the Executive Committee, on different occasions, has attached special attention to strengthening IICA's strategic partnerships, especially IICA-CATIE relations, given their common origin and the complementary nature of the mandates of both institutions;

That the Director General of IICA has presented reports on progress by the Institute in consolidating its strategic partnerships as a means of making cooperation more effective and making more efficient use of scarce resources;

That the General Directorate of IICA, the Government of Costa Rica and CATIE have set up a special commission to study and resolve legal, technical and administrative questions relevant to the institutional relationship between IICA and CATIE;

That the Director General of CATIE presented to the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the IABA a thorough report on CATIE's work, which was accepted in Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.396(XII-O/03),

## RESOLVES:

1. To accept the report on progress in strengthening the ties between IICA and CATIE and in executing joint activities and projects.
2. To recognize the progress made by the Directors of IICA and CATIE, and the results obtained to date, and to encourage them to continue to strengthen the ties between their organizations and expand the coverage and subject matter of their joint projects.
3. To urge IICA, CATIE and the Government of Costa Rica, in collaboration with representatives of the other Member States (Argentina for the Southern Region, Barbados for the Caribbean Region, El Salvador for the Central Region, Peru for the Andean Region and Mexico for the Northern Region), to continue their efforts to address all pertinent legal, technical and administrative questions and propose an institutional arrangement supporting joint action between IICA and CATIE, and to ask the Director General of IICA to report on these efforts to the Special Advisory Committee on Management Issues, so that it may make the corresponding recommendations to the next Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee.
4. To recommend to the IABA that it incorporate into the guidelines for the preparation of the IICA and CATIE annual reports a specific section on the ties between IICA and CATIE and on the projects and activities they carry out jointly.

IICA/CE/Res. 432 (XXV-O/05)  
13-14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 432**

**2004 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE INSTITUTE  
AND REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.462(05) "2004 Financial Statements of the Institute and Report of the External Auditors,"

CONSIDERING:

That Article 4(d) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establishes that the Executive Committee is to study the Institute's financial statements and, at the request of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) or when, according to the Convention, a decision by the Board is required, to forward the corresponding report and recommendations to the Board;

That the External Auditors have attested to the sound management of the organization's financial resources during 2004, and that the administration of IICA has acted in conformity with the regulations of the Institute;

That, in its Eleventh Annual Report, the Audit Review Committee (ARC) stated that it has studied the report of the External Auditors and found the work performed to be thorough and in accordance with IICA's rules and with international auditing standards,

**RESOLVES:**

To approve the 2004 Financial Statements of the Institute and the Report of the External Auditors on said Financial Statements.

IICA/CE/Res. 433 (XXV-O/05)  
13-14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 433**

**ELEVENTH REPORT OF THE AUDIT REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC)**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.463(05), "Eleventh Annual Report of the Audit Review Committee (ARC),"

CONSIDERING:

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

That Article 3(k) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establishes that the Committee "shall appoint the members of the ARC and approve the ARC's reports and recommendations,"

RESOLVES:

1. To approve the Eleventh Annual Report of the Audit Review Committee.
2. To instruct the Director General to implement the recommendations set forth in the Eleventh Annual Report of the ARC.
3. To thank the members of the ARC for their valuable efforts.

IICA/CE/Res. 434 (XXV-O/05)

13 – 14 May 2005

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 434****APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR IICA AND CATIE  
FOR THE 2006-2007 BIENNIUM**

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

**CONSIDERING:**

That Article 100 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate states that External Auditors shall be designated by the Executive Committee to perform the tasks described in Chapter VII of said Rules;

That, based on a properly conducted competitive bidding process, the Director General has recommended that the Executive Committee appoint the firm of Deloitte & Touche as the External Auditors of the Institute and CATIE for the 2006-2007 biennium,

**RESOLVES:**

To appoint the firm of Deloitte & Touche as the External Auditors of the Institute and CATIE for the 2006-2007 biennium, a period that may be extended by the Director General for up to two years.



IICA/CE/Res. 435 (XXV-O/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: English

**RESOLUTION No. 435**

**REVISED MEASURES FOR COLLECTING QUOTAS  
OWED TO THE INSTITUTE**

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

The Report of the 2005 Meeting of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues, IICA/CE/Doc.457(05),

CONSIDERING:

That, by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 392 (XII-0/03), the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (“IABA”) adopted “Measures for Collecting Quotas Owed to the Institute;

That, by Resolution IICA /CE/Res. 417 (XXIV-O/04), the Executive Committee recommended that the IABA amend IICA/JIA/Res. 392 retroactive to January 1, 2004, to give the Director General the option of consulting first with the Executive Committee or the IABA for guidance prior to applying those measures in those cases where, in the Director General’s judgment, “implementation of any or all of the measures put in place for collecting quotas owed the Institute would not be in the best interest of the Institute;”

That the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (“SACMI”), meeting in March 2005, recommended that the Director General, together with the Legal Advisor, prepare a proposal in the form of a draft resolution “that would clear up certain ambiguities” in Resolutions IICA/JIA/Res. 392 and IICA/CE/Res. 417 so as to facilitate application of those measures consistent with Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture and IICA’s other rules and regulations,

**RESOLVES:**

To Recommend that the IABA adopt, at its Thirteenth Regular Meeting, a resolution derogating the Appendix to Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 392, entitled "Measures for Collecting Quotas Owed to the Institute," and replacing it with the document entitled "Revised Measures for Collecting Quotas Owed to the Institute," attached to this Resolution as Appendix I.

**APPENDIX I**  
**REVISED MEASURES FOR COLLECTING QUOTAS**  
**OWED THE INSTITUTE**

I. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these measures, the following definitions shall apply:

- A. Up-to-Date status: A Member State is in “Up-to-Date Status” when it has paid all of its assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA..
- B. Regular Status: A Member State is in “Regular Status” when it owes no more than two full years of assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA.
- C. Special Status: A Member State is in “Special Status” when it owes more than two full years of assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA, has agreed with the Director General to a payment plan for all its arrearages, and is in full compliance with that payment plan.
- D. In Arrears Status: A Member State is in “In Arrears Status” when it owes more than two years of assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA and does not satisfy all the above-stated requirements for Special Status
- E. Years in arrears: This is the number of years for which assessed Regular Fund quotas are owed as of July 1 of the current year, regardless of whether the Member State has entered into a payment plan and is in compliance with that schedule.

II. RULES FOR COMPUTING STATUS AND YEARS IN ARREARS FOR APPLICATION OF THESE MEASURES

- A. Article 86 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate and Article 70 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA provide that quotas are “due on the first day of each fiscal year.” Nonetheless, those Articles shall not apply for determining the status of a Member State under these measures.
- B. During the current year, a Member State shall retain the status it had as of December 31 of the prior year, provided it makes a payment equal to the current year’s quota by June 30 of the current year. Failure to make that payment by June 30 will result in an adjustment of status.

- C. By making additional payments during the current year, a Member State that is not already in Up-to-Date Status may improve its status at any time during that year.
- D. As provided under Article 84 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate, quota payments received “shall be credited against the balance receivable pending from the earliest year for which the money is owed.”.

### III. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF IICA MEMBER STATES IN UP-TO-DATE STATUS

- A. The rights and privileges of IICA Membership for Member States in Up-to-Date Status include, among others, the following:
  - 1. The right to vote in the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Inter-American Board of Agriculture;
  - 2. The right to nominate candidates for the position of Director General;
  - 3. The right to have their nationals serve in the position of Director General;
  - 4. The right to nominate candidates to serve on Committees and to serve in leadership positions on those Committees;
  - 5. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;
  - 6. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded by IICA’s Regular Fund;
  - 7. The right to serve on the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI);
  - 8. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects.
  - 9. The privilege of hosting IICA meetings in their territory, funded in whole or in part by IICA’s, Regular Fund Budget.<sup>1</sup>
  - 10. The privilege of receiving extraordinary appropriations from the Working Subfund of the Regular Fund, as approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 90 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate.

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of applying this privilege, funding from the IICA Regular Fund does not include the funds used to pay for the salaries of the staff members who must attend those meetings, regardless of where they are held.

- B. The exclusion of any right or privilege stated in Part A above does not preclude the existence of other rights and privileges IICA Member States may enjoy.

IV. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBER STATES IN REGULAR AND IN SPECIAL STATUS

- A. Member States in Regular Status shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of Up-to-Date status described in Part III(A) above, except for the privilege of receiving extraordinary appropriations from the Working Subfund of the Regular Fund, as approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 90 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate.
- B. Member States in Special Status shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of Up-to-Date status described in Part III(A) above, except for the privilege of receiving extraordinary appropriations from the Working Subfund of the Regular Fund, as approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 90 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate.

V. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBER STATES IN ARREARS

- A. Any Member State in In Arrears Status shall have its right to vote suspended unless it is determined, in accordance with Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, by the IABA or the Executive Committee, as the case may be, "that failure to pay is due to circumstances beyond the control of that State."
- B. Of the other rights and privileges enumerated in Part III(A) above, any Member State in arrears shall enjoy only the rights and privileges listed below, in accordance with the number of years in arrears:
  - 1. More than two full fiscal years in arrears, but less than three:
    - a. The right to nominate candidates for the position of Director General;
    - b. The right to have their nationals serve in the position of Director General;
    - c. The right to nominate candidates to serve on Committees and to serve in leadership positions on those Committees.
    - d. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;

- e. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded by IICA's Regular Fund; however, the amount authorized will be reduced by 10%;
  - f. The right to serve on the SACMI;
  - g. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects.
2. Three full fiscal years in arrears, but less than four:
- a. The right to nominate candidates for the position of Director General;
  - b. The right to have their nationals serve in the position of Director General;
  - c. The right to nominate candidates to serve on Committees and to serve in leadership positions on those Committees.
  - d. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;
  - e. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded by IICA's Regular Fund; however, the amount authorized will be reduced by 20%;
  - f. The right to serve on the SACMI;
  - g. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects.
3. Four full fiscal years in arrears, but less than five:
- a. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;
  - b. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded in part by IICA's Regular Fund; however, the amount authorized will be reduced by 40%;
  - c. The right to serve on the SACMI;
  - d. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects.
4. Five or more full fiscal years in arrears: None of the rights and privileges set out in Part III(A) above.

## VI. THE SUSPENSION OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE

- A. The decision as to whether to suspend the right to vote of a Member State with In Arrears Status lies exclusively with the IABA and the Executive Committee, as the case may be, under Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

- B. Voting rights may be restored automatically when a State in In Arrears Status changes its status to Special Status, Regular Status, or Up-to-date Status. They may also be restored by either the Executive Committee or the IABA, upon the presentation of a petition by the interested State, as set out in Article 6.4 of the Regulations for Application of Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.
- VII. SUSPENDING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF IN ARREARS STATUS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE INSTITUTE<sup>2</sup>
- A. If the Director General determines that it is not in the best interest of the Institute to implement the reduced levels of funding for projects and Office support for any Member State in “In Arrears” status, he/she may first consult with the Executive Committee or the IABA before applying them and propose the suspension or modification of the reduction prescribed. The consultation shall be by correspondence if there is no meeting of the IABA or Executive Committee scheduled within ninety days of the date the State becomes subject to those reductions.
- B. The IABA or the Executive Committee, as the case may be, may consider the Director General’s proposal for not applying the reduced levels and may approve the proposal or any other lesser reduction that it deems appropriate. If the IABA or the Executive Committee rejects the proposal and provides no other relief, or they fail to respond within thirty days to the consultation by correspondence, the Director General shall apply the reductions prescribed in these measures.
- C. In the event the Director General decides to make the consultation and a proposal as provided in this Section, the interested State shall be given due notice with sufficient time to explain its position to the other Member States before the Executive Committee or Board rules on the proposal.
- D. For purposes of this provision, “the best interests of the Institute” include the “purposes” established in Article 3 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture and the programs and policies adopted by the Institute in pursuit of those purposes.

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<sup>2</sup> This Section of the measures is effective as of January 1, 2004. This Section replaces the Executive Committee’s recommendation in Annex B of Resolution IICA/CE/Res. 417.

## VIII. GUIDELINES FOR PAYMENT PLANS

- A. The Payment Plan shall be in writing and signed by the Director General and the duly authorized representative of the participating Member State.
- B. The Plan shall provide for the payment of the entire amount owed over a period of no more than forty-eight months.
- C. The Plan shall obligate the participating Member State to make a payment equal to at least the current year's assessed quota within fifteen days of its signature and a payment for each subsequent year the Plan is in force of an amount at least equal to the quota assessed for each of those years.
- D. The Director General may negotiate and accept payment terms with Member States for the payment of amounts past due in national currency, real estate, or other valuable assets, ad referendum of the Executive Committee, and only upon a determination that:
  - 1. In the case of national currency or other valuable assets, the Institute shall not be financially prejudiced by the acceptance of said currency or assets; and
  - 2. In the case of real estate, the specific conditions under Article 4.20 of the Financial Rules "Accepting Donations of Interests in Real Property" have been satisfied and over a reasonable time, the Institute will earn income or generate savings from the occupancy, use, sale, or rental of the property in an amount equal to or greater than the corresponding arrearages.

## IX. NOTICE OF STATUS PRIOR TO ELECTIONS AND MEETINGS

- A. When circulating to the Member States documents presented by a Member State nominating a candidate, the General Directorate shall indicate in the transmittal notice whether the status of the nominating Member State, and if different, the state of the nationality of the candidate, is Up-to-Date, Regular, Special, or In Arrears. It shall also indicate the number of years in arrears for the relevant States.



- B. The notice of Debtor States sent prior to meetings of the IABA and Executive Committee under Article 3.1 of the Regulations for Application of Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture shall indicate, inter alia, the status of each Member State under these measures and the number of years, if any, that it is in arrears.

IICA/CE/Res. 436 (XXV-O/05)

13 - 14 May 2005

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 436****2006-2007 PROGRAM BUDGET**

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

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/CE/Doc.465(05) "Proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget,"

**CONSIDERING:**

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

- a. 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;"
- b. 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
- c. 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;

That the Director General submitted the proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget to the consideration of the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting, in a format consistent with the structure and content established in the rules currently in effect,

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Inter-American Board of Agriculture:

1. Approve the amount of US\$30,000,000 annually from the Regular Fund as the overall allocation of the 2006-2007 Program Budget of the Institute, 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. Approve the use of the resources of the 2006 Program Budget in accordance with the allocations for each of the Chapters, line items and Strategic Areas detailed in document IICA/CE/Doc.465(05), "Proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget." The summary of allocations by Chapter is attached as "Appendix B."
3. Instruct the Director General to submit to the consideration of the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting, a proposal for the detailed allocation of the funds approved for the 2007 Program Budget, consistent with the priorities set forth in the new Medium-Term Plan of the Institute.
4. Authorize the Director General to make transfers between the Chapters of the Program Budget, provided that the total transfers neither increase nor reduce the affected Chapters by more than 10%, and do not substantially affect the priorities approved.
5. 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 2006-2007 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 Estimated Miscellaneous Income  
2006-2007  
(US\$)***

MEMBER STATES	% OAS		% IICA		AMOUNT IICA	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
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**  
**2006 PROGRAM BUDGET**  
**SUMMARY BY CHAPTER**  
**(US\$x000)**

CHAPTER	QUOTAS	MISCELLANEOUS	TOTAL
<b>I: DIRECT TECHNICAL COOPERATION SERVICES</b>	<b>24.497,7</b>	<b>2.789,7</b>	<b>27.287,4</b>
<b>Strategic Area</b>			
1. Trade and Agribusiness Development	6.292,5	641,8	6.934,3
2. Technology and Innovation	4.956,3	381,7	5.338,0
3. Agricultural Health and Food Safety	4.715,4	565,5	5.280,9
4. Sustainable Rural Development	4.134,0	575,0	4.709,0
5. Information and Communication	2.097,9	213,6	2.311,5
6. Education and Training	2.301,6	412,1	2.713,7
<b>II: MANAGEMENT COSTS</b>	<b>1.574,4</b>	<b>42,7</b>	<b>1.617,1</b>
Office of the Director General	692,7	0,0	692,7
Directorate of Administration and Finance	881,7	42,7	924,4
<b>III: GENERAL COSTS AND PROVISIONS<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1.095,5</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>1.095,5</b>
Governing Bodies	400,0	0,0	400,0
Insurance	325,0	0,0	325,0
Pensions	250,0	0,0	250,0
OAS Administrative Tribunal	25,0	0,0	25,0
External Audit	95,5	0,0	95,5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27.167,6</b>	<b>2.832,4</b>	<b>30.000,0</b>

1/ Does not include the Cuban quota.

IICA/CE/Res. 437 (XXV-O/05)

13 - 14 May 2005

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 437****2006-2007 SPECIAL BUDGET FINANCED WITH RESOURCES  
FROM THE GENERAL SUBFUND**

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

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/CE/Doc.466(05), "Proposed 2006-2007 Special Budget Financed with Resources from the General Subfund,"

**CONSIDERING:**

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

That the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues endorsed the proposal submitted by the General Directorate calling for more resources to be allocated to the development of the capabilities required for full compliance with the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, and to urgently needed investments in equipment for and the remodeling and maintenance of those Offices owned by or given in usufruct to the Institute;

That the Institute expects to receive payment of past-due quotas during the coming biennium. In accordance with Articles 89 and 90 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate, such funds must be transferred, at the end of each fiscal period, from the General Subfund to the Working Subfund, unless the IABA approves the allocation of a portion of the past-due quotas recovered to finance a special budget,

RESOLVES:

To recommend that the Inter-American Board of Agriculture:

- a. Approve the special budget attached hereto for execution during the 2006-07 biennium in the amount of US\$2,609,000, to be funded by any past-due quotas recovered.
- b. 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 2006-2007 Program Budget.

**APPENDIX**

Summary of Resources Allocated in the Special Budget  
2006-2007  
(US\$)

	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Development of Capabilities to Comply fully with the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)</b>	<b>500,000</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Investments</b>	<b>1,185,000</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Remodeling and Maintenance Work in IICA-owned Offices and others held in usufruct</b>	<b>924,000</b>
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL BUDGET</b>		<b>2,609,000</b>



IICA/CE/Res. 438 (XXV-O/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 438**

**REPORT ON THE 2005 MEETING OF THE SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMISSION  
ON MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND EXTENSION OF THE COMMISSION'S TERM**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.457(05), "Report on the 2005 Meeting of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues,"

CONSIDERING:

That, by Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.341(99), the Inter-American Board of Agriculture ("IABA") created the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues ("SACMI") 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 Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues held its 2005 meeting at IICA Headquarters on March 17-18, 2005, and presented its report and recommendations to the Director General;

That the SACMI's term, if not extended, will expire upon the date of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA pursuant to Article 9.1 of its Statute and Resolution IICA/IABA Res. 394 (XII-O/03);

That in view of the SACMI's significant contributions to the work of the Institute, its term should be extended until the IABA's Fourteenth Regular Meeting,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To accept the Report on the 2005 Meeting of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues. ("SACMI").
2. To recommend that the IABA, at its Thirteenth Regular Meeting, extend the SACMI's term until the date of its Fourteenth Regular Meeting.

IICA/CE/Res. 439 (XXV-0/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 439**

**2003-2005 INTER-AMERICAN AWARDS IN THE RURAL SECTOR**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.469(05) "2003-2005 Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector" and the report presented by the Selection Committee for the Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector, and its recommendations concerning the conferral of the Awards for 2003-2005,

CONSIDERING:

That, as shown in the aforementioned document, the Selection Committee conducted a thorough study of the nominations received, taking into consideration the Regulations of the Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector currently in force, and has recommended that awards be granted in the different categories;

That Miguel Holle Osterdart was nominated by the International Potato Center (CIP) as a candidate for the 2003-2005 Inter-American Agricultural Medal;

That Fresia Enriqueta del Carmen Zuñiga Perez was nominated by the National Jury for the Inter-American Awards of Chile as a candidate for the 2003-2005 Inter-American Award for the Contribution of Women to Rural Development;

That Ximena Rocio Cadima Fuentes was nominated by the National Jury for the Inter-American Awards of Bolivia as a candidate for the 2003-2005 Inter-American Award for Young Professionals; and,

That the Artificial Insemination Center of the Universidad Austral was nominated by the National Jury for the Inter-American Awards of Chile as a candidate for the 2003-

2005 Inter-American Award for Institutional Contributions to Agricultural and Rural Development;

That all the persons and institutions mentioned above are fully qualified to receive the Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector, in public international recognition of their outstanding contributions to agricultural development and the betterment of rural life in the Americas,

RESOLVES:

1. To bestow:
  - a) The 2003-2005 Inter-American Agricultural Medal on Miguel Holle Osterdart, from Peru;
  - b) The 2003-2005 Inter-American Award for the Contribution of Women to Rural Development on Fresia Enriqueta del Carmen Zuniga Perez, from Chile;
  - c) The 2003-2005 Inter-American Agricultural Award for Young Professionals on Ximena Rocio Cadima Fuentes, from Bolivia;
  - d) The 2003-2005 Inter-American Award for Institutional Contributions to Agricultural and Rural Development on the Artificial Insemination Center of the Universidad Austral of Chile;
2. To award the following honorable mentions;
  - a) For the 2003-2005 Inter-American Agricultural Medal: Mr. Nelson Estrada Ramos, from Colombia;
  - b) For the 2003-2005 Inter-American Award for the Contribution of Women to Rural Development: Mrs. Grace Cereceda Sangster de Cabanilla, from Ecuador;
  - c) For the 2003-2005 Inter-American Award for Institutional Contributions to Agricultural and Rural Development: Sandals Resort International of St. Lucia;
3. To thank the Member States for their active and meaningful participation in identifying and nominating a group of outstanding candidates for these awards.

IICA/CE/Res. 440 (XXV-O/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 440**

**STATUS OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE TWELFTH REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND THE TWENTY-  
FOURTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.471(05) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture" and Document IICA/CE/Doc.472(05) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twenty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee,

CONSIDERING:

That the reports demonstrate that the General Directorate has satisfactorily complied with the resolutions adopted by the IABA at its Twelfth Regular Meeting, and satisfactorily carried out the tasks required to comply with the resolutions adopted at the Twenty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee,

RESOLVES:

1. To approve: (i) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture," and (ii) "Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twenty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee."
2. To express satisfaction with the progress reported in complying with the resolutions issued by IICA's Governing Bodies.

IICA/CE/Res. 441 (XXV-O/05)

13 - 14 May 2005

Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 441****AGENDA FOR THE THIRTEENTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

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

**HAVING SEEN:**

Document IICA/CE/Doc.474(05), "Proposed Agenda for the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA),"

**CONSIDERING:**

That Article 14 (d) of the Convention on the Inter American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture provides that the Executive Committee shall act as the preparatory Committee of the IABA and Article 4.p of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establishes that the Committee shall "analyze the provisional agenda for the meetings of the Board...;"

That the Executive Committee, at its Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting, analyzed the provisional agenda proposed by the Director General for the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA, which will be held within the framework of the Third Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, from August 30 to September 1, 2005,

**RESOLVES:**

1. To approve the provisional agenda for the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA, presented in Document IICA/CE/Doc.474 (05).

2. To thank to the Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Ecuador, Mr. Hernán Chiriboga Pareja, for his report on preparations for the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA and the Third Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life in the context of the Summit of the Americas process.

**TEMARIO PROVISIONAL DE LA JIA**  
***PROPOSED AGENDA OF THE IABA***

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1. Programa de la reunión</b></p> <p>1.1 Programa provisional</p> <p><b>2. Política institucional</b></p> <p>2.1 Informe sobre la implementación del Plan Mediano Plazo del IICA 2002-2006</p> <p>2.2 Plan de acción integrado en biotecnología y bioseguridad</p> <p>2.3 Otros asuntos</p> <p><b>3. Aspectos presupuestarios y financieros</b></p> <p>Informes de los auditores externos sobre los estados financieros del IICA 2003 y 2004</p> <p>3.2 Décimo y Undécimo Informes del Comité de Revisión de Auditoría (CRA)</p> <p>3.3 Presupuesto del IICA y su financiamiento:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informe sobre la recaudación de cuotas adeudadas</li> <li>• Programa Presupuesto 2006-2007</li> </ul> | <p><b>1. Schedule of the Meeting</b></p> <p>1.1 Provisional Schedule</p> <p><b>2. Institutional Policy</b></p> <p>2.1 Report on the Implementation of IICA's 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan</p> <p>2.2 Plan for Integrated Action in biotechnology and Biosafety</p> <p>2.3 Other Business</p> <p><b>3. Budgetary and Financial Matters</b></p> <p>3.1 Reports of the External Auditors on IICA's Financial Statements for 2003 and 2004</p> <p>3.2 Tenth and Eleventh Reports of the Audit Review Committee (ARC)</p> <p>3.3 Budgetary and Financial Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on the Collection of Quota Arrearages</li> <li>• 2006-2007 Program Budget</li> </ul> |
|--|---|



- Presupuesto extraordinario financiado con recursos del Subfondo General

- Special Expenditures Financed by the General Subfund

#### 4. Relaciones interinstitucionales

- 4.1 Informe sobre el fortalecimiento de las relaciones IICA-CATIE y la ejecución de acciones conjuntas
- 4.2 Informe del Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE) 2003-2004
- 4.3 Informe del Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Agrícola del Caribe (CARDI) 2003-2004

#### 5. Asuntos de los Órganos de Gobierno del IICA

- 5.1 Elección del Director General del IICA para el período 2006-2010
- 5.2 Avance en el cumplimiento de las resoluciones de la Décima Segunda Reunión Ordinaria de la JIA
- 5.3 Avance en el cumplimiento de las resoluciones de la Vigésima Cuarta y la Vigésima Quinta Reuniones Ordinarias del Comité Ejecutivo
- 5.4 Fecha y sede de la Décima Cuarta Reunión Ordinaria de la JIA

#### 4. Inter-institutional Relations

- 4.1 Report on efforts to strengthen relations between IICA and CATIE, and on joint actions
- 4.2 Report of the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) 2003-2004
- 4.3 Report of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) 2003-2004

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

- 5.1 Election of the Director General of IICA for the 2006-2010 term
- 5.2 Status of the Resolutions of the XII Regular Meeting of the IABA
- 5.3 Report on the Status of the Resolutions of the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee
- 5.4 Date and Site of the Fourteenth Regular Meeting of the IABA

**6. Otros temas institucionales**

- 6.1 Galardones interamericanos en el sector rural
- 6.2 Otros asuntos

**6. Other Institutional Business**

- 6.1 Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector
- 6.2 Other Business

IICA/CE/Res. 442 (XXV-O/05)  
13 - 14 May 2005  
Original: Spanish

**RESOLUTION No. 442**

**DATE AND SITE OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/Doc.473(05), "Date and Site of the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee,"

CONSIDERING:

That it is necessary to set the date and site of the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee;

That, pursuant to Article 22 of its Rules of Procedure, the Executive Committee must hold one regular meeting annually;

That, in accordance with Article 25 of these Rules, if no site is offered by one of the Member States to hold the meeting in another country, the meeting will be held at IICA Headquarters,

RESOLVES:

1. To hold the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee at IICA Headquarters, in San Jose, Costa Rica.
2. To instruct the Director General to issue the convocation to the Member States to participate in the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee, in accordance with the rules currently in effect.



Twenty-Fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

**SIGNING OF THE REPORT**



**SIGNING OF THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Article 97 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, the Report of the Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee is hereby signed at 17:35 hours of the fourteenth day of May of the year two thousand five, in the city of Ribeirão Preto, Sao Paolo, Brazil.

The report will be edited by the Secretariat and the changes approved during the Closing Session will be included before it is published in the four official languages of the Institute, in the Official Documents Series, all versions being equally authentic and valid.

The Secretariat shall file the original texts in the archives of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, will post electronic files of same on the Institute's Web page and send copies of the final version of this report to the governments of the Member States, the Associate States, the Permanent Observers of the Institute and other participants in the meeting.

Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, Brazil

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Chelston W. D. Brathwaite  
Director General of IICA and  
Ex officio Secretary of the  
Executive Committee

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V́ctor Manuel Villalobos  
Coordinator of  
International Affairs of the  
Secretariat of Agriculture,  
Livestock, Rural Development,  
Fisheries and Food of Mexico  
and Chairman of the 2005  
Executive Committee





Twenty-Fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

Twenty-Fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

**SPEECHES**





**WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE,  
LIVESTOCK AND SUPPLY OF BRAZIL, ROBERTO RODRIGUES,  
DURING THE OPENING SESSION**

On behalf of the Government of Brazil, and President Lula, in particular, I wish to welcome you to our country, which, today, is proud and honored to have you here. My friend Mario Seixas told me that this may be the first time the Executive Committee of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) has met outside San Jose, Costa Rica. This makes us even prouder, for it shows the importance IICA attaches to this agricultural country, which, though far from the large markets, is competing actively to gain a foothold in them. Therefore, Mr. Director General, my friend Chelston Brathwaite, thank you very much. On behalf of the Brazilian government, we thank you for accepting our invitation to hold the meeting here in Ribeirão Preto.

Agriculture in Brazil has faced a number of problems this year. In the first place, production costs have skyrocketed, as they have in all the countries of the hemisphere. However, in Brazil the increase was much greater due to the sharp rise in oil prices and the heavy devaluation of our currency. Secondly, the weather has hurt us. Unfortunately, some regions of the country, especially the southern States of Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina and Parana saw the worst drought in 40 years. In some areas of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, for example, production of grains fell by more than 70%, with devastating consequences for growers. Thirdly, the prices of our agricultural crops have fallen and farmers now find themselves deeper in debt. Because agricultural prices were high in recent years, many farmers took out loans to make capital improvements on their farms, which they are now finding hard to pay back.

All the problems I have cited have led to a serious crisis in agriculture, perhaps the worst in 20 years. To give you some idea of the magnitude of the crisis, I can tell you that grain production was expected to total 131 million tons. However, we now know that the harvest will more likely be 113 million tons, which translates into 10 billion reals in lost income for farmers.

Obviously, the government cannot solve all these problems. However, we are working very hard to find solutions for the problems besetting agriculture in Brazil. As a matter of fact, I must return to Brasilia today to attend a meeting convened by President Lula to find solutions to the financial problems of some 10,000 small-scale farmers and landless peasants who will converge upon the capital next week.

That is why I will not be able to accompany you during the meeting, as I would have wished. I was planning to talk on a topic I think is of great importance to agriculture worldwide in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: agro-energy. Unfortunately, as I said, I will not be able to. However, the Head of the Agro-energy Department of the Ministry of Agriculture will be here tomorrow to make the presentation. I hope we have time at some point, perhaps tomorrow morning or day after tomorrow, to talk a little more about this topic.

I am truly delighted to have all of you here in Ribeirão Preto. The Secretary of Agriculture, a good friend of mine, lives in this city, and I live nearby, as you will see on Sunday when I hope to welcome you to my home.

Ribeirão Preto is the agro-energy capital of Brazil and has the most modern agricultural and agroindustrial structures in the country. In this region, we have the best sugar cane plantations, which produce large volumes of sugar and alcohol. We produce top-quality grains, especially soybeans and corn, as well as the best beef and dairy cattle, the best citrus and the best coffee in the country. The region is also home to numerous processing plants, and companies that produce agricultural inputs of all types, sizes and brands, such as machinery, tractors and equipment. The best agricultural services and universities focusing on the agricultural sciences are found here. For example, the Universidad Estatal de São Paulo, located in nearby Jaboticabal, where I was a professor, offers one of the best graduate programs in veterinary medicine in all of Brazil. We also have public and private agricultural research institutions of the highest caliber.

Consequently, I thought it would be interesting to hold the meeting here in Ribeirão Preto and to give you the opportunity to learn more about the region and the great potential of agribusiness in Brazil. Also, next Monday is the first day of AGRISHOW, the most important agricultural fair in Brazil. I also wanted you to have the opportunity to visit the fair.

In 1994, when I was Secretary of Agriculture of São Paulo, working together with the private agribusiness sector and the Brazilian Association of the Machinery and Equipment Industry (ABIMAQ), I created the AGRISHOW, which is similar to the Farm Progress Show held in the United States. AGRISHOW is a very dynamic fair in which visitors not only can visit exhibits of agricultural machinery and equipment, but also observe machinery at work: harvesting, planting and irrigating. Also, they can see the latest technologies for the production of agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pest control products, etc. Today, this truly phenomenal event is in the capable hands of my friend, the Secretary of Agriculture of São Paulo. I would like to suggest that he develop a museum dedicated to the AGRISHOW, which would show the evolution of

agricultural technologies, machinery and equipment. I really hope all of you will be able to join us on Monday at the most important agricultural fair held in Brazil.

I would also like to take this opportunity to mention how important the opening of markets around the world is for the developing countries, a topic I already addressed at IICA, particularly with my friend Jim Butler. Globalization offers many benefits, especially the growth of trade worldwide, leading to higher levels of production and greater wealth. However, there is also a downside: increased social exclusion. The greatest challenge facing humanity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is to reach the goal of narrowing the socioeconomic gap and the distance between rich countries and poor countries and between the rich and the poor within countries. One way to accomplish this is for the developed countries to open their agricultural markets to products from the developing countries.

Therefore, I would like to ask you, who are responsible for the agricultural sector in the countries of the hemisphere, to encourage a further opening of markets in the developed countries. This topic must be considered at the WTO, within the FTAA process and in the relations between the countries of the Americas and Europe (I see we are accompanied today by a representative of Spain). Trade opening narrows the socioeconomic gap, creating the conditions required for democracy and peace to flourish and, as a result, greater levels of well-being among our peoples.

I repeat that I am very happy to have you here and I am truly sorry I will not be able to accompany you during the meeting. I want to share with you the great respect the Brazilian government has for IICA and its extraordinary Director General, my friend, Chelston Brathwaite, who has done much for the Institute and enjoys our full support. I would also like to say that we are very interested in continuing to work, together with IICA, on behalf of agriculture in the Americas.

I am certain that this meeting will be as much a success as the other IICA meetings I have the pleasure of attending. I also hope you will enjoy the climate and the warmth of the Brazilian people, who welcome you with open arms and a smile. Forgive me for my short stay here this morning, but I hope to be back tomorrow afternoon and all day Sunday.

Good luck. Thank you very much.





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

Welcome to Ribeirão Preto and to the Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting of the IICA Executive Committee.

This Executive Committee meeting is important to the Institute and its Member States as it sets the stage for the next meeting of the Inter-American Board, which is scheduled to be held at the end of August 2005.

These meetings usually take place at our Headquarters in Costa Rica. However, this year, the Minister of Agriculture of Brazil, the Honorable Roberto Rodrigues, extended to us a very gracious invitation to hold the meeting in his beautiful country, and for this we wish to express our sincere gratitude. We consulted with every member of the Executive Committee and those who replied were all in favor of the proposal.

This administration is firmly committed to safeguarding the financial prudence of the Institute; however, it must be recognized that, since IICA is the Secretariat for the Executive Committee meeting, re-locating to a venue away from Headquarters has a cost implication. The Government of Brazil has made a very generous contribution towards the arrangements and we have engaged the personnel based at the IICA Office in Brazil in the meeting so that we can keep costs to a minimum. Nevertheless, we have had to bring with us certain key personnel from Headquarters, each of whom has a clearly defined role. All the Directors present are here because of the presentations they will make to address various items on the agenda, and the technical and administrative staff that have accompanied us to Brazil are essential for providing logistical support for the meeting.

I hope that all of you will take advantage of this opportunity to see some aspects of agriculture in Brazil, and I thank you for your presence.

This is the last meeting of the Executive Committee in this administration.

I wish to thank you for accompanying me during the last four years in the arduous task of institutional modernization which we began together in 2002.

The Executive Committee has been an important instrument of this administration and has assisted us in resolving many difficult issues which were subsequently ratified or approved by the Board.

Today I wish to share with you the achievements of the administration to date and some thoughts for the future.

### ***INTRODUCTION***

At the Thirtieth General Assembly of the OAS, held in June 2000 in Canada, the General Assembly recognized the Inter-American Board as the primary Ministerial Forum for analyzing and building consensus on policies and strategic priorities for the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the Hemisphere.

At the Third Summit of the Americas (Quebec, April 2001), the Heads of State and Government of the Americas recognized that agriculture and rural life have a key role to play in reducing poverty and fostering integral development in the countries. IICA's role was expanded beyond the provision of technical cooperation services to include fostering dialogue and consensus building on critical aspects of agricultural development, the environment and the rural milieu, within the framework of integration and the search for hemispheric prosperity. The Institute also became one of six institutions given the responsibility to follow up on the mandates of the Summit process.

Against this backdrop, it was, therefore, agreed in the 2002-2006 Medium-Term Plan that we should transform IICA into an institution that promotes the sustainable development of agriculture, food security and the promotion of prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas.

When I assumed responsibility for the Institute in 2002, my major goal, therefore, was to contribute to a process of institutional reform so that we could convert IICA into a modern organization at the service of the Member States.

The reform process was led by a deep conviction that:

- the challenges we face in the Twenty-first Century demand that either we reform existing institutions or create new ones;
- our job in this administration is not only to manage the Institute, but also to look into the future and see IICA not only for what it is today, but also for what it can become tomorrow;
- the Institute needs to maintain its place of technical excellence and technical leadership in the agricultural and rural community of the Americas;

- technical cooperation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century must be based on partnership and responsibility shared between the international organization and the recipient country;
- the application of local knowledge is a critical requirement for success in development projects; and,
- organizations of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century must move beyond the task of self-preservation, must be accountable and transparent, and must assume a higher responsibility of service to stakeholders and social responsibility to society.

### *A modern institution*

The administration also concluded that there are 10 characteristics that a modern institution must have for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:

- a. A strategic vision and an appropriate implementation strategy.
- b. An appropriate management structure.
- c. Appropriate mechanisms for performance management and evaluation.
- d. A definition of its clientele, its strategic partners and its competitors.
- e. Appropriate human resources management policies.
- f. Appropriate financial management policies, processes and controls.
- g. Strategies for the promotion of corporate communication and promotion of the corporate image.
- h. Ethical principles and values.
- i. Social responsibility.
- j. The capacity to think and to anticipate the future.

I would like to define how these ten characteristics were addressed in the IICA reform process during the past three years.

## ***1. STRATEGIC VISION AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY***

### **1.1 Strategic vision**

The specific thematic initiatives to implement the plan were classified in the following strategic areas:

- Promotion of Agribusiness Development
- Support to Trade Policies and Trade Negotiations
- Promotion of Technology and Innovation in Agriculture
- Support to Agricultural Health and Food Safety Programs
- Promotion of Sustainable Rural Development

### **1.2 Implementation strategy**

In response to new mandates received by the Institute, and considering the challenges that lie ahead for agriculture and rural life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, this administration adopted a new model for the provision of technical cooperation services.

Through its Offices in the Member States, IICA developed national technical cooperation agendas based on an ongoing dialogue with national authorities and other key stakeholders in the agricultural sector (public organizations, the private sector, civil society, NGOs, academia, etc.) in order to bring IICA's actions in the countries into line with national priorities and development plans, taking into account the Institute's strategic areas of action and strengths.

Preparation of these agendas represents a new approach to technical cooperation, one that emphasizes participation, partnership, cooperation and demand-driven efforts.

The National Agendas recognize the unique nature of each of the Institute's Member States, and the approach used is participatory, holistic and inter-thematic. In other words, it is an opportunity for the principal actors in agriculture and rural life to contribute significantly to shaping IICA's technical cooperation programme at the national level, and to take ownership of the program, based on mutually agreed human and financial resources.

### **1.3 Regional Agenda**

The second major component of the model is the development of Regional Agendas for Technical Cooperation, which also involves a broad-based process of consultation and consensus building. Every effort is made to encourage the active

participation of the key stakeholders involved in IICA's technical cooperation actions at the regional level. Existing institutional regional mechanisms, such as CORECA in Central America, the CAS in South America, CARICOM in the Caribbean Region and the Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Development of Agriculture and the Rural Milieu in the Caribbean, are key players in this process.

Preparation of the Regional Agendas includes two important components:

- Analysis of the National Agendas of the countries in each given region, in order to develop and promote actions of regional scope to solve problems shared by a group of countries, and
- The Institute's commitment to continue supporting integration processes through existing mechanisms operating at the regional and sub-regional levels.

Taking into consideration the specific characteristics and needs of each region, the first step in preparing the Regional Agendas is to coordinate the Institute's efforts and to align IICA's actions with regional priorities in order to achieve significant impact.

IICA's Directors of Regional Operations report to the respective regional Council of Ministers, or their equivalent, and organize an annual seminar to present them with the Regional Annual Report on the actions taken by IICA during the year at the regional level. This opportunity is also used to review and adjust the Agendas.

#### **1.4 As a result of this new strategy, we have:**

- ***Improved relationship with our Member States***

The development of the National Agendas, the preparation of national annual reports, the presentation of these national reports in an annual seminar and the incorporation of ideas and suggestions from the seminar into our work plans for the next year have greatly improved our relationship with the Member States. This approach generates partnership, accountability and transparency, and builds confidence and trust.

- ***Increased technical cooperation actions***

We successfully changed the actions in several of our Offices, from being primarily offices for the administration of financial resources, to providers of technical cooperation services. Almost all new agreements we have signed incorporate technical cooperation elements.

- ***Increased technical cooperation in Canada and the United States***

More technical cooperation activities in biotechnology, information and agricultural health were carried out in Canada and the United States, countries that were once only providers of financial resources to the Institute, and we have promoted greater integration among the NAFTA countries by strengthening regional mechanisms such as PROCINORTE and the Tri-national Council.

- ***Increased private-sector participation***

Improved relationships with the private sector at the national and regional levels, and the establishment of the 36<sup>th</sup> Office of the Institute, in Miami, which is focused on agribusiness development in the hemisphere, will enhance this relationship in the future.

- ***Increased horizontal technical cooperation***

There is increased horizontal technical cooperation between and among countries, and between and among regions. as a result of the elimination of the regional centres and the building of the hemispheric team of national specialists, regional specialists, country Representatives and Directors of Thematic Areas.

- ***Increased inter-sectoral linkages:***

The vision of expanded agriculture makes it possible to strengthen linkages between agriculture and other activities in the economy, rural society, natural resources and the environment.

There is great potential for developing the links among agriculture, rural communities and the environment, which can serve as the basis for rural prosperity and job creation in rural areas. Examples are agrotourism, ecotourism, environmental services, forest products and food processing.

In this regard, IICA promoted a regional agrotourism linkages centre based in Barbados to explore opportunities for effectively linking the tourism market with locally produced food. and promoting the concepts of quality and reliability in food production in the Caribbean. This organized relationship has been financially beneficial for both the farmers and hotels. This result has far-reaching implications as, with the necessary governmental and political will

and resolve, this model can be replicated in the rest of the hospitality industry and the supermarket chains.

It is important to think of the expanded agricultural sector as a source not only of employment, water, food and energy, but also of landscapes and opportunities for recreation and adventure.

Another example relates to agriculture as a source of energy. Faced with a new oil crisis, the countries are again beginning to look at alternative energy sources. Brazil already produces alcohol-based fuel from sugarcane, other countries are starting to use grains, especially sorghum, and bio-diesel fuel is beginning to be marketed. Agriculture holds great promise for providing sustainable energy for the future.

## **2. *AN APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE***

- 2.1 We implemented a new institutional structure based on an integrated management framework which was simpler and more horizontal.
- 2.2 We eliminated the regional centers and allocated US\$1.2 million of savings from this exercise to technical cooperation activities in the national Offices in 2003 and 2004; these allocations have been institutionalized in the 2004-2005 budget.
- 2.3 We consolidated units at Headquarters, creating a flatter, more efficient institutional structure, and reduced D-level management positions from 36 to 20.
- 2.4 We created a new unit for budget preparation and control.
- 2.5 We strengthened the Institute's internal audit function with the appointment of a new internal auditor and a deputy auditor.
- 2.6 We distributed new guidelines for budget preparation and financial accountability to all managers.
- 2.7 We established a Directorate for Performance Management and Evaluation to ensure that proposed actions are implemented in a cost-effective manner.
- 2.8 We created a Directorate for Follow-Up of the Summit of the Americas process to provide appropriate follow-up to the mandates issued at the Quebec Summit and the OAS General Assembly.

- 2.9 We established a new program on trade, agribusiness and food safety and established an office in Miami to coordinate the program.
- 2.10 We created the Agrotourism Linkages Centre for the Caribbean, based in Barbados.
- 2.11 We appointed Regional Directors at Headquarters for the management and coordination of our regional agendas and regional actions.
- 2.12 We created an annual hemispheric forum called “Representatives’ Week” to facilitate strategic planning, promote dialogue and facilitate hemispheric horizontal cooperation between and among countries.
- 2.13 We prepared national reports in each Member State based on the advances in the implementation of the national agendas.

### **3. *APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS FOR PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND EVALUATION***

One of the most important internal factors that support this new model for technical cooperation is the Institute’s monitoring, supervision, evaluation and follow-up system, which links planning, programming, budgeting, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and follow-up activities within the Institute. This is managed by our newly established Directorate for Performance Management and Evaluation. In addition, it ensures that the IICA Offices in the countries and relevant Directorates and Units at Headquarters work in an integrated and holistic fashion.

The system is designed to be supportive, and embodies an essential part of the Institute’s responsibility to provide leadership, management, coordination, control and accountability in the use of its resources. It is also designed to foster relationships that contribute to improving individual skills and performance, and to bringing people and resources together, based on clear objectives and priorities defined in IICA’s work plans, and in the National, Regional and Hemispheric Agendas.

The system has the following main responsibilities:

- a. To provide management at the IICA Offices in the countries with relevant orientation and inputs for achieving results and improving performance.
- b. To provide inputs in a timely manner for the General Directorate’s decision-making process, so as to improve the Institute’s performance and accountability.



- c. To conduct regular reviews, analyses and evaluations of the actions executed by the Offices in the countries and by the Units at Headquarters.
- d. To support the improvement of the administrative system in the Offices in the countries and Units at Headquarters, so as to facilitate achievement of the Institute's goals and objectives.
- e. To support efforts to promote an institutional culture based on performance and the achievement of results.

These functions provide essential support for IICA's new technical cooperation model and promote a results-based organization.

#### **4. A DEFINITION OF CLIENTELE, STRATEGIC PARTNERS AND COMPETITORS**

In this area, we focused our efforts on strengthening strategic partnerships.

The problems that hinder agricultural and rural development in the Americas are so vast and complex that they exceed the efforts and capabilities not only of national governments, but also of any single development agency or international organization. This is why international organizations and agencies must combine their capabilities and experience with those of their allies and partners in order to optimise contributions and bring solutions that have real impact on the Community of Agriculture and Rural Life of the Americas.

IICA's considers the "working-together" approach as indispensable to achieving its objectives. To this end, it established the Directorate of Strategic Partnerships in Washington, D.C. to strengthen its work with international strategic partners, as part of the fundamental strategy for promoting sustainable agricultural development, food security and prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas.

##### **4.1 Strategic alliances**

We have strengthened our strategic partnerships with the World Bank through the Global Development Learning Network, with the Inter-American Development Bank through FONTAGRO, with the Pan-American Health Organization through joint actions on BSE (mad cow disease) and FMD (foot and mouth disease), and with FAO through joint actions at the national and regional levels in information and agricultural health and food safety.

#### **4.2 *Relations with the Organization of American States***

We returned the Institute office in Washington D. C. to the OAS building as part of a strategy to build a new relationship with the OAS, and we are developing specific initiatives at the operational level.

#### **4.3 *IICA-CATIE relations***

We have improved our relationship with CATIE as we seek to ensure greater complementarities in our actions in the areas of education, technology and innovation and rural development. We continue to pursue the ultimate goal of CATIE and IICA working together as a single institution.

#### **4.4 *Trade and AHFS***

We have facilitated increased participation of the Member States in the meetings of the World Trade Organization in Geneva to promote greater awareness of the global trading system, and we have launched a new instrument for modernizing agricultural health and food safety systems in the Hemisphere.

### **5. *APPROPRIATE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT POLICIES***

As an institution promoting the development, transformation and transmission of knowledge, the Institute developed a three-year plan for the improvement of our human resources, including:

- a. Reviewing the Institute's classification and compensation system and its recruitment practices.
- b. Developing a language training program to strengthen staff's language capabilities, and an orientation program for new employees.
- c. We have reduced international management positions at Headquarters from 36 to 20 and reduced Headquarters costs by 10%.
- d. There has been an increase in the number of national professional personnel who have been promoted to international professional positions and several national professional staff now lead key support units of the Institute.
- e. We have reduced the average age of the professional staff of the institution by retiring all staff above sixty-five years of age. This has allowed us to recruit

younger professionals who are more flexible, dynamic and well prepared professionally. The average age of those who left the Institute in this period was 61. The average age of those we recruited to replace them is 51.

- f. There is a new sense of purpose, commitment and dedication among our staff, and those who are not aligned with the mission, vision and objectives of the Institute are encouraged to take early retirement.
- g. We have linked the new individual performance appraisal system to the work plans of the units of the Institute, to ensure coordination of individual performance with institutional goals.
- h. We have appointed new professionals in Agribusiness Development, Biotechnology, Agrotourism, Trade Policy and Trade Negotiations and Food Safety to support programs in the countries in these technical areas.
- i. We redefined the role of our Representatives at country level, emphasizing leadership and management capacity, and, based on this new profile, appointed new Representatives in Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, Jamaica, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico, USA and Canada.
- j. In spite of the changes in human resources management policies, our Institute continues to face difficulty in promoting excellence and recruiting and retaining outstanding professional staff based on a compensation package and salary scale approved in 1993. The frozen quota budget since 1995 makes growth of the Institute difficult, as it represents a substantial decline in financial resources in real terms.

### **5.1 Promotion of a culture of excellence**

One of the cornerstones of the new IICA model is the pursuit of excellence at all levels. To this end, the Director General's Awards for Excellence program was created to contribute to shaping an institutional culture of recognition for creativity, outstanding performance, leadership and teamwork.

For many years the Institute has awarded its staff for years of service. It is the view of this administration that, in addition to awarding years of service, we need to award superior performance of our staff. Therefore, in 2002, we launched the Director General's Awards for Excellence.

## **6. *APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES, PROCESSES AND CONTROLS***

### **6.1 External Audit**

For the first time since 1995, in 2004, the External Auditors approved the financial statements of the Institute without qualification. This reflects, in our view, the fact that the measures which have been taken to promote financial prudence, including the establishment of the Budget and Control Unit and the strengthening of the Internal Audit, have produced positive results. It is also a reflection of the responsible attitude of our Representatives and Unit Managers, and I thank them for their cooperation and support.

### **6.2 Payment of outstanding quotas**

The administration obtained the approval of the Inter-American Board, in Resolution No. 392, to implement a number of actions to collect outstanding quota payments. The application of these measures has resulted in several countries paying their outstanding quotas, including Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Suriname and Argentina. In spite of these payments, the financial situation of the Institute is still critical and I have asked for a continued commitment to financial prudence in the use of our financial resources.

## **7. *STRATEGIES FOR THE PROMOTION OF CORPORATE COMMUNICATION AND CORPORATE IMAGE***

Under the new model, IICA attaches special importance to information, communication and the projection of its institutional image. The promotion of the Institute's new global dimension and image is of fundamental importance in efforts to position the Institute as an international development organization that is recognized and respected as a reliable strategic partner that can make a major contribution to the development of agriculture and rural life in the Americas.

IICA's new information and communications policy facilitates dialogue with the Community of Agriculture and the Member States and keeps them informed of the activities and results of the Institute's work.

Publications of the National and Regional Technical Cooperation Agendas, IICA's Annual Reports, IICA Connection (an electronic bulletin), Comuniica on-line and the Director General's Infoletter, together with the improvement of the Institute's new website ([www.iica.int](http://www.iica.int)), are examples of this policy.

## **8. ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND VALUES**

We also developed a new code of ethics, which takes into account the standards of the Institute, as set out in the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate, the Staff Rules and the Financial Rules.

The purpose of this code is to build an ethical system that recognizes the value of the individual and of diversity, and to foster an environment characterized by high moral integrity, so that staff members can realize their full potential.

It also highlights those IICA values which govern staff members' work at the Institute, so that all members observe the highest values of ethical conduct, namely: impartiality, integrity, professionalism, flexibility, discretion, loyalty, financial prudence and responsibility to the Institute.

It sets standards for staff members' conduct within and outside the Institute, relations at work, personal business and moral issues, as well as the use and disclosure of information, conflicts of interest, and political activity.

The code must be interpreted as a clear signal that this administration will not tolerate corruption, improper conduct or political activity within the Institute.

## **9. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The Institute cannot dissociate itself from the social problems of unemployment, lack of shelter, education and health care, poverty and social injustice that afflict the majority of our peoples. Those social problems are reflected in urban and rural crime, trafficking in illicit drugs, personal insecurity and lawlessness, all of which represent a threat to peace and prosperity and the process of democratic governance.

Consequently, in the future, the Institute should embrace greater social responsibility and a development agenda that allows it to play a more dynamic and strategic role in the promotion of prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas.

Such a role takes us beyond the traditional support to agricultural production, and makes us partners in the development process of increasing the competitiveness of the entire agrifood chain, and fostering linkages between the chain and other sectors of the economy, such as tourism, health, nutrition, infrastructure, education and the environment.

IICA's National Agendas must reflect a holistic, integrated approach to agricultural and rural development that is based on the reality of the national

agricultural community and national circumstances, and must link macro-policy with territorial realities.

### ***10. THE CAPACITY TO THINK AND TO ANTICIPATE THE FUTURE***

The new unit for Strategic Planning and Institutional Modernization has made great advances in themes related to the future of agriculture in the Americas.

#### **10.1 New Vision for Agriculture**

We have promoted the concept that agriculture is more than primary production, and we have shown in our studies that, when all the backward and forward linkages are taken into consideration, agriculture's contribution to national development is greater than reported in national statistics. According to this analytical model, agriculture's contribution to national development is 3 or 7 times greater than the percentages reported in national statistics, when all the backward and forward linkages in the commodity chain are considered.

In Argentina, official statistics indicate that agriculture's contribution to GDP is 4.6%, but when we consider all the backward and forward linkages, this figure increases to 32.2%. In Brazil the figure grows from 4.3% to 26.2%; in Chile from 5% to 32.1%; in Mexico from 4.6% to 24.5%; and in Costa Rica from 11.3% to 32.5%. We are currently extending this study to all countries of the Hemisphere.

In addition, these analyses demonstrate that approximately 74% of the primary products of agricultural production are inputs for other sectors of the economy such as agro-industry and manufacturing.

These results are documented in our report "More Than Food on the Table: Agriculture's True Contribution to the Economy."

#### **10.2 A common hemispheric agenda for agriculture and rural life in the Americas**

We have assisted the Ministries of Agriculture in the development of a strategic futuristic vision for agriculture and rural life in this hemisphere through the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action, which, when implemented, can assist the Americas in achieving the Millennium Development Goals of reducing poverty, promoting environmental sustainability and fostering of a global partnership for development.

## Conclusions

1. Our goal is to make IICA the premier institution in agricultural technical cooperation in the Americas and the partner of choice for the Member States.
2. We will succeed in these efforts only if the countries and the General Directorate work as part of a team dedicated and committed to the goals of the Institute.
3. The reform process at IICA has been recognized not only in the Institute but throughout the Hemisphere and in the Inter-American System. For example, the former Secretary General of the Organization of American States, in his report to the Presidents and Heads of States at the Extraordinary Summit of the Americas in Monterrey, Mexico in January last year, noted that:

“The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is another example of the impact of the Summits on the work of the Inter-American institutions. The IICA restructured its operation to focus on the Summits process; it called on Ministers of Agriculture to develop a coherent overview of needs, to design plans, and to mobilize resources for implementing these plans. The result was a clear consensus on the actions necessary to create opportunities for agricultural producers, to improve food security and compete in international markets.”

4. In addition, in Resolution CP/RES.826 (1338/02) of the Permanent Council of the OAS, which was approved on September 25, 2002, the Council endorsed the reform process at IICA, and several delegations congratulated the leadership of the Institute on its new path.
5. In conclusion, IICA today is better prepared to:
  - Support the countries in the implementation of the 2003-2015 Plan of Action.
  - Promote hemispheric integration and horizontal cooperation.
  - Monitor the state of and outlook for agriculture and rural life in the hemisphere.
  - Promote an inter-agency agenda in support of sustainable rural development.
6. We see the monitoring of agriculture and rural life in the hemisphere and the identification of trends, threats, critical emerging issues and opportunities as an important future role of this Institute, as we seek to create societies of knowledge. Fulfillment of this responsibility will allow the Institute to accompany the Member States in the implementation of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan. Consequently, in

2004, the Offices in the Member States began a process to define the state of agriculture and rural life in each country in order to identify the critical emerging issues, threats, tendencies and opportunities in the sector.

7. These results have been consolidated into regional, thematic and hemispheric dimensions in order to define the state of agriculture and rural life in the hemisphere. This, we hope, will result in “Outlook” conferences in the entire hemisphere in the future.
8. We believe that, with the implementation of these initiatives, the Institute is well repositioned to play a strategic role in the modernization of the rural sector, the promotion of food security and the promotion of prosperity in the rural communities of the Americas.



**CLOSING REMARKS BY DR. CHELSTON W. D. BRATHWAITE  
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IICA**

We have now come to the end of the Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee, and I wish to take this opportunity to thank all participants, Ministers, delegates, observers, IICA staff, support personnel of the Ministry of Agriculture of Brazil, for your support and your contributions to the success of this meeting

But above all, I wish to thank the Government of Brazil, through its dynamic and respected Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Roberto Rodrigues, for the gracious hospitality, the information and the knowledge that we received here in Ribeirao Preto. We leave enriched, motivated and energized to continue the noble endeavour of seeking to make the agricultural and rural sectors of our countries instruments of prosperity, economic growth, equity and social stability. This noble endeavour can be achieved in our time.

And so, as we pave the way toward the third Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas, and the IABA, in August, and as we contribute to implementing this vision for agriculture in 2015, it is important that we continue to work in four dimensions.

1. Support the countries in the implementation of the mandates related to agriculture and rural life in the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan, through the implementation of national and regional agendas, and a hemispheric agenda that is a product of true dialogue and consultation with the community of agriculture in each of the 34 Member States.
2. Continue the process of strategic institutional alignment to ensure that IICA's institutional structure and processes are adequate and consistent with the new demands for a modern, proactive institution.
3. Continue to coordinate our actions with other international organizations involved in agriculture and rural life in the Americas, to ensure a holistic approach to problem solving and promote coordination and complementarity of our efforts in the initiatives for "working together."
4. Participate actively as a partner institution of the Summit process in building the new architecture for agriculture and rural life in the Americas. We must continue, therefore, as part of the SIRG (Summit Implementation and Review Group), and must prepare the agricultural sector to participate in the Presidential Summit in Argentina, in November.

I said last year that the decisions of the Presidents and Heads of State, which are amply presented in the Summit Declaration and its Plan of Action, have changed the role of our Institute forever.

The Institute must not only provide technical cooperation for agriculture in the hemisphere, but also assume a broader mandate related to the leadership of agriculture and rural life. That mandate, in my view, means that our Institute must continue to undergo a process of strategic global repositioning and adopt a development agenda.

The actions we have taken during the past four years of internal reorganization and projection of a new external dimension are the initial steps in this process. This process was characterized by a response to fifteen mandates I accepted when I became Director General, which were presented in my report yesterday.

“The demands of our societies today and the changing global scenario demand a new level of maturity from our Institute. Two years ago, we celebrated 60 years of institutional life. However, anniversaries are not just for celebration, they also mark defining moments in looking towards the future.

The new global scenario of a world of international trade negotiations, communication and information technologies, biotechnology and inter-connected economies suggests that countries must be more committed than ever to strengthening and deepening the integration process in the Americas.

The emerging scenario suggests that the years 2005-2010 will be critical to the future of the countries of our region. Countries are beginning to adjust to the certainty of change in the rules regulating international trade and the inevitable exposure to greater global competition.”

#### **The trade agenda and the global trading regimes**

The current discussions at the regional and hemispheric level with respect to global trade and the recent agricultural policies of the European Union, in which some “decoupling” of farm subsidies and production took place, suggest that there may be some progress towards the creation of a more human-oriented trade regime that takes the reality of the poor developing countries into consideration. In addition, the recent report by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on “making global trade work for people,” where it is suggested that special and differential treatment for developing countries goes beyond traditional trade issues and includes education, health, gender equality, environmental protection and respect for cultural diversity, suggests that WTO rules should be more flexible and development oriented.

Whatever scenarios arise in the future, it is our responsibility to continue to assist the Member States of our Institute in the negotiations and subsequent management of these trade agendas. It is in this context that our Hemispheric Program on Trade, Agribusiness and Food Safety, which seeks to support the hemispheric trade agenda and promote food security in our hemisphere, is of critical and strategic importance.

We must refocus our initiatives and redouble our efforts to embrace a development agenda, while respecting our core business of promoting an agricultural sector that is competitive, technologically prepared, environmentally managed and socially equitable for the peoples of the Americas. This will ensure that we provide the new level of maturity of our Institute which our Member States demand and deserve.

I ask you to continue to build the IICA of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century into an institution of excellence that can help us educate our farmers so that they may break the cycle of poverty and dependence, learn to protect the environment and participate effectively in the global economy.

We do not need to build a bridge to the past, but rather a superhighway to the future. A future that promises to be the most exciting of all time. A future characterized by: (1) a life expectancy of 100 years, (2) access to health facilities and clean water for all, and (3) a modern agricultural sector characterized by the shared vision for 2015, as expressed by the Ministers of Agriculture in the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan.

Let us ensure that all God's children will be part of this future. A future where farmers can take responsibility for themselves and contribute to food security for the world..

Let us continue to build the IICA of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century into a force for good which helps to guarantee education, opportunity and a sustainable livelihood for the less fortunate of our rural communities.

I wish to thank you once again for your cooperation and support and I look forward to meeting you in the Ministerial Meeting in August.

Thank you.



**APPENDICES**



## AGENDA

*IICA/CE/Doc.455(05)*

### 1. Presentación

El Artículo 22 del Reglamento del Comité Ejecutivo establece que ese Órgano de Gobierno del Instituto celebrará una reunión ordinaria anual.

El presente Temario Provisional de la Vigésima Quinta Reunión Ordinaria del Comité Ejecutivo ha sido elaborado por el Director General con base en lo dispuesto en el Artículo 30 del Reglamento del Comité Ejecutivo.

### 2. Programa provisional de trabajo de la reunión

*IICA/CE/Doc.456(05)*

### 3. Informes del Director General al Comité Ejecutivo

3.1 Informe del Director General sobre la implementación del Plan de Mediano Plazo 2002-2006.

*(sin número)*

- Resultados del proceso de modernización Institucional del IICA
  - Acciones y Resultados de la Cooperación Técnica 2002-2005
- (sin número)*

3.2 Informe de la Reunión 2005 de la Comisión Consultiva Especial para Asuntos Gerenciales.

*IICA/CE/Doc.457(05)*

### 1. Introduction

Article 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee establishes that this governing body shall hold one regular annual meeting.

The Provisional Agenda of the Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee has been prepared by the Director General pursuant to Article 30 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee.

### 2. Provisional Schedule of the Meeting

*IICA/CE/Doc.456(05)*

### 3. Reports of the Director General to the Executive Committee

3.1 Report from the Director General in the Implementation of the 2002-2006 of the Medium-Term Plan.

*(unnumbered)*

- Results of the Institutional Modernization Process of IICA
  - Results of Technical Cooperation Actives (2002-2005)
- (unnumbered)*

3.2 Report of the 2005 Meeting of the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues

*IICA/CE/Doc.457(05)*

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| <p><b>4. Política Institucional y Servicios de Cooperación</b></p> <p>4.1 Informe Anual 2004.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.458(05)</i></p> <p>4.2 Avances en la elaboración del Informe sobre el Estado de la Agricultura y Vida Rural en las Américas.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.459(05)</i></p> <p>4.3 Experiencia de Brasil en el Área de Agroenergía.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.460(05)</i></p> <p>4.4. Propuesta de Acción Hemisférica Integrada en el Área de Biotecnología<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.461 (05)</i></p> <p><b>5. Asuntos Financieros y Presupuestales</b></p> <p>5.1 Estados Financieros del Instituto 2004 e Informe de los Auditores Externos.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.462(05)</i></p> <p>5.2 Undécimo Informe Anual del Comité de Revisión de Auditoría (CRA).<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.463(05)</i></p> <p>5.3 Estado actualizado del Pago de Cuotas y Avances en la Recaudación de Cuotas Adeudadas al Instituto.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.464(05)</i></p> <p>5.5 Proyecto de Programa Presupuesto 2006-2007.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.465(05)</i></p> | <p><b>4. Institutional Policy and Cooperation Services</b></p> <p>4.1 2004 Annual Report<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.458(05)</i></p> <p>4.2 Progress in the elaboration of the Report on the State of Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.459(05)</i></p> <p>4.3 Brazil's Experience in the Area of Agro Energy<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.460(05)</i></p> <p>4.4 Proposed Hemispheric Action in the Area of Bio-technology<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.461 (05)</i></p> <p><b>5. Financial and Budgetary Matters</b></p> <p>5.1 Financial Statements of the Institute for 2004 and Report of the Independent Auditors.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.462(05)</i></p> <p>5.2 Eleventh Annual Report of the Audit Review Committee (ARC)<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.463(05)</i></p> <p>5.4 Current Status of Quota Payments and Progress in the Collection of Quotas Owed to the Institute<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.464(05)</i></p> <p>5.6 Proposed 2006-2007 Program Budget<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.465(05)</i></p> |
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| <p>5.5 Propuesta de Presupuesto Extraordinario financiado con recursos del Subfondo General.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.466(05)</i></p>      | <p>5.7 Special Expenditures Financed by the General Subfund<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.466(05)</i></p>                 |
| <p><b>6. Relaciones Inter institucionales</b></p>  | <p><b>6. Inter-institutional Relations</b></p>   |
| <p>6.1 Relaciones IICA/CATIE: Avances en las acciones conjuntas.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.467(05)</i></p>                                  | <p>6.1 Progress in the strengthening of joint work between IICA and CATIE<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.467(05)</i></p>   |
| <p><b>7. Otros temas institucionales</b></p>   | <p><b>7. Other Institutional Business</b></p>  |
| <p>7.1 Elección de un miembro para el Comité de Revisión de Auditoría.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.468(05)</i></p>                            | <p>7.1 Election of a member of the Audit Review Committee (ARC).<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.468(05)</i></p>            |
| <p>7.2. Galardones Interamericanos en el Sector Rural 2003-2005<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.469(05)</i></p>                                   | <p>7.2 Inter-American Awards in the Rural Sector 2003-2005<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.469(05)</i></p>                  |
| <p><b>8. De los Órganos de Gobierno del IICA y la Reunión Ministerial</b></p>  | <p><b>8. The Governing Bodies of IICA and the Ministerial Meeting</b></p>                                      |
| <p>8.1 Presentaciones de los Candidatos a la Dirección General del Instituto.<br/><i>(Sin documento)</i></p>                         | <p>8.1 Presentations of the Candidates to the Post of Director General of IICA<br/><i>(unnumbered)</i></p>     |
| <p>8.2 Avances en el Proceso de Implementación del Plan AGRO 2003-2015.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.470(05)</i></p>                           | <p>8.2 Progress In the Process to Implement the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.470(05)</i></p>         |
| <p>8.3 Avance en el Cumplimiento de las Resoluciones de la Duodécima Reunión Ordinaria de la JIA.<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.471(05)</i></p> | <p>8.3 Status of the Resolutions of the Twelfth Regular Meeting of the IABA<br/><i>IICA/CE/Doc.471(05)</i></p> |

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|-----|---|-----|---|
| 8.4 | Avance en el Cumplimiento de las Resoluciones de la Vigésima Cuarta Reunión Ordinaria del Comité Ejecutivo.<br><i>IICA/CE/Doc.472(05)</i> | 8.4 | Status of the Resolutions of the Twenty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee<br><i>IICA/CE/Doc.472(05)</i>       |
| 8.5 | Fecha y Sede de la Vigésima Sexta Reunión Ordinaria del Comité Ejecutivo.<br><i>IICA/CE/Doc.473(05)</i>                                   | 8.5 | Date and Site of the Twenty-sixth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee<br><i>IICA/CE/Doc.473(05)</i>                    |
| 8.6 | Temario Provisional de la Décima Tercera Reunión Ordinaria de la Junta Interamericana de Agricultura<br><i>IICA/CE/Doc.474(05)</i>        | 8.6 | Provisional Agenda of the Thirteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture<br><i>IICA/CE/Doc.474(05)</i> |

**9. Otros Asuntos****9. Other Business**





Twenty-Fifth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee



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