

RESOLUTION No. 615

**PROGRESS MADE IN DRAFTING PROPOSALS FOR THE FINANCIAL
STRENGTHENING AND STRATEGIC RESTRUCTURING OF THE INSTITUTE**

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Thirty-sixth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/CE/DI-05 “Report on the Status of Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 501 (XVIII-O/15),”

CONSIDERING:

That Resolutions IICA/JIA/Res. 447 (XV-O/09), IICA/CE/Res. 531 (XXX-O/10), IICA/JIA/Res. 477 (XVI-O/11) instructed the Director General to develop options for closer IICA-FAO integration and to strengthen the joint efforts between IICA and the FAO; and encouraged Member States to promote in the FAO’s governance process similar instructions to the Director General of the FAO;

That the Director General in 2009 commissioned a study by Carlos Perez del Castillo to provide context and detailed options for strengthening partnership and coordination between IICA and FAO to the benefit of agriculture in the Americas;

That, in order to enhance the efficiency of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and its capacity to respond to present and future challenges, the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), by means of Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 501 (XVIII-O/15), requested that the Director General of the Institute lend technical and administrative support to the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI) and the Executive Committee, with a view to their submitting recommendations for the strategic restructuring and financial strengthening of IICA, together with any draft amendments to the rules required, to the next regular meeting of the Board;

That, in accordance with that resolution, the Director General has submitted a report for consideration by the Executive Committee and other member states;

That said report presents a summary of the current and future challenges faced by IICA; the structural, administrative, financial, and strategic actions taken by the Institute since 2010 to respond to those challenges; and preliminary ideas for structural and strategic reforms that warrant further examination, analysis, consultation and follow-up;

That those ideas include, among other things: (i) a study on the strengthening of a strategic and structural partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), based on the model used by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), in order to eliminate overlapping areas of work, promote savings in the implementation of activities, and make better use of the resources allocated by the Member States to these two international organizations, which have the same objectives and clients in the region; (ii) the creation of a mechanism to channel the involvement of the private sector into the Institute's technical activities; (iii) the generation of mechanisms to promote the mobilization and securing of resources from foundations, other international organizations, and donors; (iv) greater efforts to ensure that the Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR) under externally funded projects prevents further depletion of IICA's Regular Fund; and, (v) arrangements with other international organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS), aimed at sharing the costs of the administrative operations of the Institute's offices in the Member States;

That the collaboration model adopted for the partnership between the WHO, of the United Nations System, and the PAHO, of the Inter-American System, should be analyzed in detail;

That if the findings of the study are positive, a model similar to that used by the WHO and the PAHO could be established with a view to IICA achieving an agreement for a strategic partnership with an international organization such as the FAO, under which IICA could manage an integrated work program in Latin America and the Caribbean; and,

That Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 501 (XVIII-O/15) extended an invitation to all Member States that do not form part of the SACMI to participate in the Commission's meetings on the subject of the strategic, structural, and financial strengthening of the Institute,

RESOLVES:

1. To thank the Director General for his report and note the strategic, administrative, structural, and financial reforms implemented during his administration.
2. To request that the Director General continue the process of internal restructuring aimed at institutional modernization and strengthening, giving due consideration to the corresponding priorities, and suggest new actions aimed at strengthening the Institute's technical cooperation model and boosting its financial capacity.
3. To request that the Director General undertake a study, which may include the necessary consultations, to analyze: the legal framework of the WHO-PAHO model that could serve as the basis for a strengthened alliance between IICA and FAO in order to eliminate duplication, promote savings in the implementation of activities, and make better use of the resources allocated by the Member States to both organizations; how the model benefits member countries; advantages and areas of opportunities; potential disadvantages to IICA's current effectiveness in technical cooperation; and to submit a report to the next regular meeting of the SACMI which should include recommendations that the Office of the Director General supports for implementation.

4. To invite all Member States to send to the Director General, by December 31, 2016, their proposals and recommendations for the financial strengthening and strategic restructuring of the Institute, and to participate in the work of the SACMI on these matters, in accordance with the invitation extended to them by the IABA through Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 501, and ask the Director General to give due follow-up to this invitation.

5. To request that, at its next meeting, the SACMI consider and comment on the recommendations made by the Director General and Member States for the financial strengthening and strategic restructuring of the Institute; and that the Director General, in his capacity as Chair of the SACMI, submit the corresponding recommendations to the following regular meetings of the Executive Committee and the IABA.