



# Forty-fourth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee

of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)



23-24 July 2024

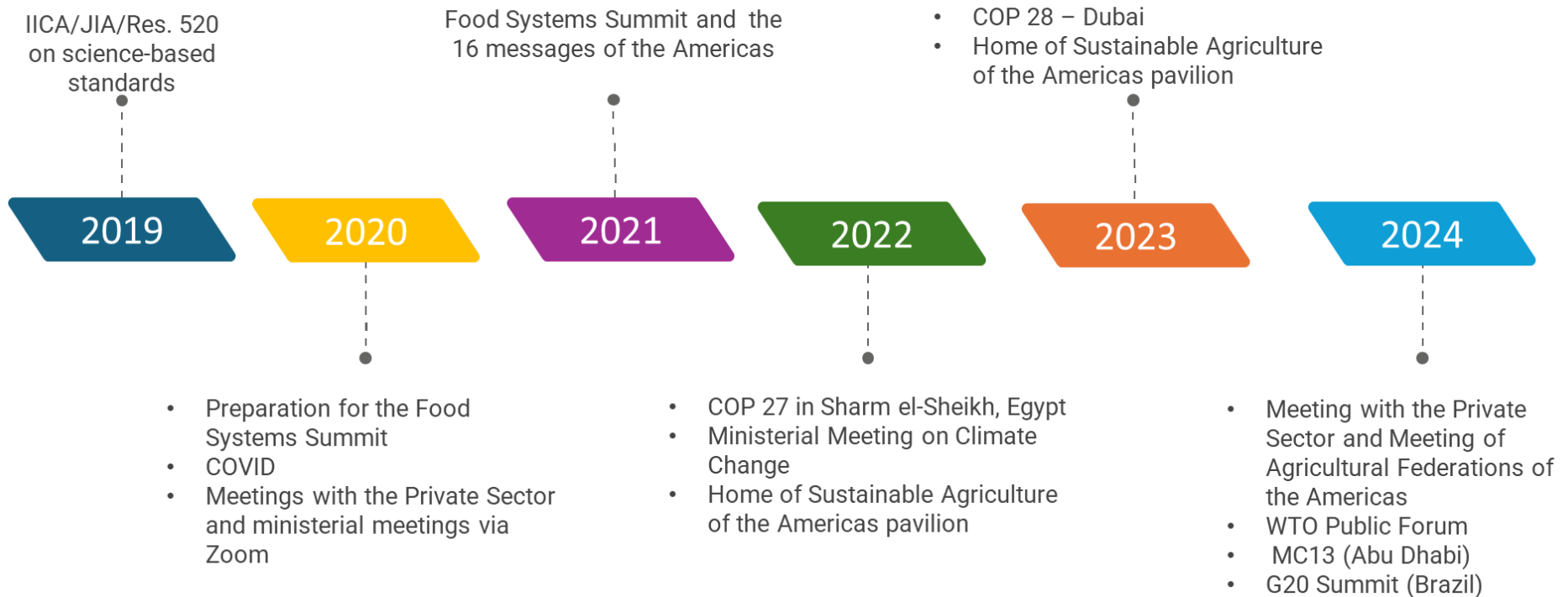
**IICA**



# IICA and the Private Sector

Lloyd C. Day  
Deputy Director General

## Interaction with the Private Sector: Otero Administration



# Private Sector



# Comments

Bayer gave the assurance that the company remains firm in its commitment to empower 100 million small farmers by 2030.

- Ronald Guendel -

Croplife focused on the need to intensify efforts to train farmers to use new technologies and to work on building a new narrative that highlights the central role of agriculture in food security.

- José Perdomo -

Biogénesis Bagó, a leading company in the animal health sector, referred to the need to work towards improving the productivity of the livestock industry.

- Esteban Turic -

Syngenta has decided to promote regenerative agricultural practices, such as soil sequestration of carbon and the preservation of biodiversity, innovation, and the training and empowerment of rural women.

- Patricia Toledo -

# Comments

Elanco highlighted IICA's presence in the Climate Change Conferences and appealed for a clear message to be sent at COP29 in Azerbaijan and COP20 in Brazil, demonstrating the region's approach to agriculture and how it protects its biodiversity.

- Jesse Sevcik -

Walmart commended IICA for its efforts to create a bridge between the private sector and governments of the region and gave details on projects that the company is carrying out in Latin American countries, aiming to increase purchases from small farmers, facilitate the transition of small farmers from the informal to the formal sector and to empower women.

- Christian Gomez -

Cargill stressed the importance of IICA's dual role: first, ensuring that the region is given a voice in global forums discussing agricultural and environmental issues, and on the other hand, facilitating the access of small farmers to tools that will make them more competitive.

- María Nelly Rivas -

# Meeting of Agricultural Federations of the Americas

## July 2024



The University of  
Nottingham



# Six Key Messages

1. The Institute is advocating for the adoption of an **integrated, simultaneous and multipronged approach** on various **economic, social and environmental issues**, embodied in four main concepts: a) **national production**, b) **international trade**, c) the development of **science, technology and innovation** and d) **climate change** adaptation, which are essential for the formulation of new public policies to benefit agriculture, food security and sustainable development of the Americas.
2. Water scarcity and soil degradation are posing major challenges for national production. In order to obtain **agricultural sustainability**, we must examine the dimensions of the sector and develop region-specific productive models, in keeping with the environmental conditions, soil structure, natural resources, culture and good practices of the rural inhabitants in each region. To achieve this, it is necessary for countries to be part of the process of formulating national public policies for sustainable production and consumption.
3. **International trade is a determining factor in the transformation of food systems**, as it connects them and assists in building a more sustainable global food system and achieving global food security. Thus, countries must drive the formulation of trade policies aimed at:
  - a. **Promoting international trade liberalization**, in order to simplify the supply process, while increasing food availability and the diversity of diets.
  - b. **Facilitating trade by promoting regulatory convergence**, promoting the introduction of new environmentally friendly technologies.
  - c. Using science as the basis for strengthening health systems and addressing **sanitary, phytosanitary and quality issues** in the international sphere, to increase the availability of safe food and improve animal and plant health.
  - d. **Complying with environmental objectives, rules, laws and agreements**, to promote the application of sustainable practices, improve access to clean technologies and ecological goods, while facilitating the use of niche markets for sustainable products.
  - e. Promoting regional trade in order to strengthen productive and trade chains, with a view to strengthening socioeconomic development and making better use of current trade agreements.



# Six Key Messages

4. To enhance the strategic role of agrifood trade, countries must strengthen the multilateral trade system, ensuring it is open, transparent, and governed by science-based rules. Thus, countries **will need to effectively participate in forums such as the Ministerial Conference** of the World Trade Organization (WTO). At the last conference (MC13) in February 2024, the **ministers examined the multilateral trade system** and participated in various analyses on **innovation and sustainable development**, as well as in in-depth debates on trade policy, **sustainable agriculture and trade**, and **inclusion**.
5. International trade assists farmers, especially from developing countries, to access **innovation** and new tools that will facilitate their entry into international markets. **Technological innovation** in the agrifood sector provides the tools needed to produce safe, nutritious, and affordable food for the global population, and at the same time contributes to mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change.
6. The growing trend in international markets to approve and implement **environmental standards** that are not based on science, clear criteria or adequate studies creates unnecessary technical barriers to the trade of agricultural products, which affects access to international markets and the competitiveness of producers.

# Conclusions

- Sustainable agriculture offers solutions to tackle current challenges and guarantee food security. **Technical cooperation and the exchange of best practices and technologies** play a fundamental role in promoting actions aimed at stimulating socioeconomic growth and environmental sustainability.
- Therefore, the promotion of sustainable agriculture requires effective support through **technical cooperation provided by international organizations and trade organizations grouped in Federations and the private sector** in all parts of the agri-food chain. The collaborative work of these actors will enhance the impact of this promotion.
- **The time has come to apply innovative solutions to tackle current challenges.** Integrated solutions to specific problems must be identified, given the close interrelationship between production and trade in achieving food security.
- This relationship should lead to the identification of decisions and actions. All of us are suffering the consequences of different crises. Thus, **we must increase cooperation among countries and stakeholders to resolve this situation.** IICA recognizes the importance of these issues and commits to unite efforts to execute technical cooperation in areas of common interest and specific activities that assist in creating a fairer and more market-oriented agricultural trade system, in a bid to meet the objectives established in the WTO agreements.

# COP 28



**Thank you very much!**