

RESOLUTION No. 410

**IICA ACTION IN THE AREAS OF TRADE, AGRIBUSINESS, AGRICULTURAL
HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY**

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

HAVING SEEN:

The presentation on the topic “IICA’s Contribution to the Promotion of Trade, Agribusiness, Agricultural Health and Food Safety,”

Resolution IICA/CE/Res.386(XXIII-O/03) of the Executive Committee and Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.382(XI-O/01) of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture regarding the assessment of IICA’s Agricultural Health and Food Safety Program,

CONSIDERING:

That the countries of the Americas have entered into important trade agreements, for which their successful participation will depend on strengthened support services and improved policies for boosting the competitiveness of their agricultural and agroindustrial production, continued and expanded access to new markets, and measures to safeguard consumer health;

That the commitments assumed by the countries of the America for implementing the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan require greater support from IICA in the areas of trade, agribusiness, agricultural health and food safety;

That such efforts have received priority within the framework of the guidelines set out in the 2002-2006 Medium Term Plan and taking into account the Institute’s budgetary constraints, with the General Directorate working to give a new direction to and enhance the effectiveness of its Agricultural Health and Food Safety Program, linking it with the promotion of agribusiness and agricultural trade;

That the progress made to date shows that many of the recommendations from the overall assessment of IICA’s Agricultural Health and Food Safety Program, conducted in 2003, have been implemented;

That strengthening the Institute's work in the areas of agribusiness, trade, agricultural health and food safety depends on strengthening its financial situation and on its Member States bringing their quota payments up to date, so that the additional resources approved by means of IABA Resolution 391(XII-O/03) can be used to bolster the resources allocated by the Institute for action in agribusiness and trade, agricultural health and food safety,

RESOLVES:

1. To recognize the contributions the Institute has made in its Member States in promoting trade, agribusiness, agricultural health and food safety in order to modernize agriculture and improve its competitiveness within the framework of the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan and the process of integration and consolidation of free trade agreements in the Americas.
2. To recognize the progress made by the General Directorate in implementing Executive Committee Resolution 386 and IABA Resolution 382, referring to the assessment of said program.
3. To instruct the Director General to continue efforts aimed at strengthening and expanding IICA's cooperation services in the area of trade, agribusiness, agricultural health and food safety in the countries of the hemisphere, in partnership with national and international organizations.
4. To encourage the Member States to redouble their efforts to bring their quota payments up to date so that the Institute will have the additional resources approved by means of the aforementioned IABA Resolution 391, and which are necessary to strengthen cooperation in the promotion of trade and agribusiness.