



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Twenty-Second Regular Meeting
2 - 3 October 2002

IICA/CE/Doc.403(02)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL ON COMPLIANCE WITH RESOLUTION No. 361 OF THE INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

A. DRAFT RESOLUTIONS PENDING CONSIDERATION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMISSION ON MANAGEMENT ISSUES (SACMI)

The Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), at its Eleventh Regular Meeting, held in Bavaro, Dominican Republic, on November 26-29, 2001, issued Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.361(XI-0/01) "Draft Resolutions Pending Consideration by the Executive Committee and the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues," in which approval of the following draft resolutions was postponed:

1. Draft resolutions related to the Institute's technical cooperation actions

- Draft resolution 11: IICA/FAO Relations
- Draft resolution 21: Approval of a Special Budget for the Construction of IICA Offices in Brazil
- Draft resolution 24: Strengthening IICA's Technical Cooperation in the Area of Irrigation and Drainage for Agriculture and Rural Development
- Draft resolution 26: IICA's Participation in Projects with the Regional Center for Model Forests for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Draft resolution 27: Assessment of IICA's Agricultural Health and Food Safety Program

2. Draft resolutions related to the IABA's responsibilities in its capacity as the highest-level hemispheric forum on agricultural policy

- Draft resolution 19: New Responsibility of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) in the Summit of the Americas process

- Draft resolution 20: Implementation of and Follow-up to the Summit of the Americas Process in Matters related to Agriculture and Rural Life
- Draft resolution 28: Fourth Ministerial Forum

The justification for Resolution 361 was that, during the course of the meeting, the participants did not have enough time to analyze these draft resolutions. Given their subject matter and importance for the hemisphere and the Institute, it was considered that they deserved further consideration.

In Resolution No. 361, the IABA, using its powers, delegated to the Executive Committee the task of approving these draft resolutions, which were to be analyzed first by the SACMI.

In order to comply with this mandate, and taking into consideration that the terms of the members of the SACMI expired in December 2001, the Director General asked the Member States, in memorandum SC/DG-064, dated January 30, 2002, to appoint new members to the Commission. He also proposed a mechanism for automatic rotation of the countries comprising groups II, III and IV,¹ so that the country to represent each group on the Commission would be designated for each year.

The Member States responded favorably to the Director General's request and approved the rotation procedure for the countries representing groups II, III and IV. Consequently, each year the Commission will comprise members appointed by the six largest contributors of quota resources to IICA: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, the United States of America and Venezuela, and the corresponding countries from groups II, III and IV, in accordance with the approved rotation procedure.

At present, the members of the Special Advisory Commission are: Argentina: Dr. Lilita Monica Sola; Brazil: Dr. Paulo Nicola Venturelli; Canada: Mr. Paul Murphy (regular delegate) and Mrs. Eileen Durand and Mrs. Anne MacKenzie (alternates); United States of America: Mrs. Jocelyn Brown (regular delegate) and Mr. Daniel Cento and Mrs. Marianne McElroy (alternates); Mexico: Mr. Víctor Villalobos A. (regular delegate) and Dr. Lourdes Cruz Trinidad (alternate); Venezuela: Mr. Ángel Arístides Leal M; Ecuador: Mr. Diego Gándara, representing Group II; Guatemala: Dr. Silvia Davila, representing Group III; and Dominica: Mr. Raymond Austrie, representing Group IV.

¹ Group II: Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay
 Group III: Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama
 Group IV: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago

B. OPINIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL ADVISORY COMMISSION ON MANAGEMENT ISSUES ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS PENDING APPROVAL

Once the SACMI had been reconstituted and all its member appointed, the Director General submitted to their consideration the draft resolutions pending approval. To facilitate this process, an electronic support system was incorporated into the Institute's web page, which offers the following features: (i) access to electronic versions of the documents; (ii) a discussion forum; (iii) rules governing the work of the Commission; (iv) e-mail; and (v) a section for posting the versions agreed upon by the Commission.

The system worked well and made it possible, on the one hand, to include the comments of the members of the Commission on the draft resolutions and, on the other, for the General Directorate, through the Secretariat of the IABA and Executive Committee, to produce the amended versions, which included the observations and comments of the Commission members.

Lastly, the members of the Commission, meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica on July 18-19, reached agreement on the final versions of the draft resolutions. It should be mentioned that, at this meeting, the Government of Brazil, through its delegate, withdrew Draft Resolution 21 "Approval of a Special Budget for the Construction of IICA Offices in Brazil".

C. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Resolution 361, the Director General sent to the members of the 2002 Executive Committee: Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and St. Kitts and Nevis, the versions of the draft resolutions approved by the Commission, with the request that they vote on same by correspondence.

Pursuant to memorandum SC/DG-1247, of July 31, 2002, which the Director General sent to the members of the Executive Committee, they would have until August 25 to submit comments on the draft resolutions. If no observations or objections were received by that date, they would be considered approved and enter into force.

The versions of the draft resolutions recommended for approval by the Commission are appended to this report.

Accordingly, the Director General has complied fully with Resolution 361, and wishes to thank the members of the Commission for participating and offering recommendations, which helped him carry out this mandate.

Lastly, and to complete the process, the Director General will send to all the Member States the final version of the resolutions approved by the Executive Committee, by correspondence and in fulfillment of the mandate delegated to it by the IABA.

Chelston W.D. Brathwaite
Director General of IICA
San Jose, Costa Rica, August 19, 2002

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IICA/JIA/PR-11rev(IX-O/01)
19 July 2002
Original: Spanish

DRAFT RESOLUTION No. 11

IICA/FAO RELATIONS

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Eleventh Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

Document IICA/JIA/Doc.264(01), "IICA/FAO Relations"

CONSIDERING:

That both IICA and FAO strive to improve agriculture and rural life and to promote food security, agricultural research, and agroindustry as essential contributors to the reduction of poverty and the advance of sustainable development;

That regional and international agricultural organizations should aim to establish greater coordination for the advancement of food security, agriculture and rural development;

That in recent years IICA and FAO have made efforts to consolidated and improved their cooperation efforts;

That the study on the necessary steps to move forward in the coordination of activities with the FAO to achieve, if this is feasible, the integration of their operations in the region, as called for by the IABA in 1993 in Resolution IICA/JIA/Res.240 (VII-O/93),

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate both the Director General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), through the good offices of FAO's Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Director General of IICA on the positive results obtained through their joint activities.

2. To request the Directors General of FAO and IICA to: (a) submit the study mentioned in Resolution 240 to the consideration of the next Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee; (b) include in that study proposals and mechanisms so that both organizations, working together, within an institutional framework, may provide effective cooperation to the Member States of IICA, in their efforts to implement both the mandate of the Third Summit, and the Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro; and (c) continue with efforts to coordinate and expand the joint actions implemented by both organizations, tapping the synergy generated by the complementary nature of their technical and operational capabilities, in order to promote the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the Americas.

IICA/JIA/PR-20rev(XI-O/01)
19 July 2002
Original: Spanish

DRAFT RESOLUTION N° 20

**IMPLEMENTATION OF AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMIT OF THE
AMERICAS MANDATES AND THE DECLARATION OF BAVARO**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, as the primary ministerial forum in the hemisphere for agriculture,

HAVING SEEN:

The “Declaration of Bavaro for the Improvement of Agriculture and Rural Life in the Americas;”

Resolution AG/Res.1728(XXX-Ordinaria/00) of the Thirtieth Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which recognizes the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) as the primary ministerial forum for agriculture and rural life in the Americas;

The Declaration of Quebec City, adopted at the Third Summit of the Americas, which established the mandate to orient the joint action of the countries of the hemisphere towards the improvement of agriculture and rural life;

CONSIDERING:

That it is necessary to develop and present a plan that translates into action the aforementioned documents and a progress report for presentation at the next Summit of the Americas;

That the Ministerial Delegates, with IICA’s support, should coordinate the process of implementation, follow-up and reporting on these efforts in their respective countries, and search for hemispheric consensus;

That IICA’s Medium Term Plan (MTP) should include a description of how to support the process by which the Summit’s mandates and the Declaration of Bavaro will be implemented and reported on,

RESOLVES:

1. To entrust the Director General with supporting the Ministerial Delegates in coordinating, by means of consultation in the Member States, the process to prepare a plan of action for the implementation of the Declaration of Bavaro and the relevant provisions of the Summit of the Americas' Plan of Action.
2. To charge IICA with ensuring that the Plan of Action is given the appropriate follow-up.
3. To entrust the Director General with preparing concise, timely, results-based reports on the progress made in implementing and following-up on the Plan of Action, and that same be consulted with the Ministerial Delegates before presenting them to the Summit's follow-up mechanisms.
4. To entrust the Director General with presenting the results of these activities at the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, and the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG).

DRAFT RESOLUTION N° 24

**STRENGTHENING IICA'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Eleventh Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That the efficient use of natural resources, and in particular water resources, represents an important factor for increasing competitiveness in agriculture in the Americas;

That, consequently, it is indispensable that countries adopt policies and implement strategies with the participation of the users to facilitate an integrated and efficient management of water for irrigation and drainage;

That the Third Water Meeting held between October 24 and 26, in addition to highlighting the importance of water for agriculture and rural development and the urgent need for governments to discuss this issue, established a Permanent Secretariat with the mission to coordinate the issue of water, organize hemispheric activities and stimulate technical and scientific exchange between the countries of the region;

That IICA has been participating in regional dialogue and exchange initiatives in this field and in the identification of opportunities for cooperation,

RESOLVES:

1. To entrust the Director General, subject to the availability of financial resources in the Program Budget, or with voluntary contributions received for this purpose:
 - a. To include where appropriate the subject of irrigation.

- b. To establish mechanisms with governments and other international agencies to stimulate the generation of shared policies and the implementation of joint actions among countries.
 - c. To support the Permanent Secretariat of the Water Meeting in the fulfillment of its functions.
2. To urge Member States to give priority to IICA in the implementation of technical cooperation services in projects with national or international funding, which include irrigation and drainage components.

IICA/JIA/PR-26(XI-O/01)
28 November 2001
Original: Spanish

DRAFT RESOLUTION No. 26

**PARTICIPATION OF IICA IN PROJECTS WITH THE REGIONAL MODEL FOREST
CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Eleventh Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That the growing destruction of native forest, resulting from the action of extensive stock raising, shifting agriculture, population pressure and urban growth, affects, to a greater extent, people who depend on agroforestry activities for their living, most of whom belong to disadvantaged ethnic groups with limited access to education and the labor market;

That the instrument known as a “Model Forest”, which originated in Canada and has been adopted by other countries, and currently covers 12 million hectares, is a profitable and appropriate option for protecting forests and improving the living standards of the population that depends on agroforestry activities for its living. This model has also proven to be a useful way of focusing actions and attracting international financing resources, and of creating greater awareness regarding sustainable development;

That four countries (Canada, Chile, Mexico and the United States) recently established, in Santiago, Chile, the Regional Model Forest Center for Latin America and the Caribbean, with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

RESOLVES:

To entrust IICA, in accordance with the availability of approved resources or voluntary funds, to participate actively in implementing projects with the Regional Model Forest Center for Latin America and the Caribbean, submitted jointly to international financing institutions.

IICA/JIA/PR-27rev(XI-O/01)
July 19 2002
Original: English

DRAFT RESOLUTION No. 27

**ASSESSMENT OF IICA'S AGRICULTURAL HEALTH
AND FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Eleventh Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That agricultural health and food safety is a topic of increasing importance in the Americas, and around the world, as evidenced by the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization and the Free Trade Area of the Americas Agreement;

That advancement and cooperation in the area of agricultural health and food safety is critical for making the agricultural products of IICA's Member States more competitive in international markets and improving their export earnings;

That agricultural health and food safety also play an increasingly important role in other related areas including food security, food quality, tourism and public health,

RESOLVES:

To request that the Director General undertake an overall assessment of IICA's agricultural health and food safety program, and report the results back to the Member States at the earliest possible date, and to present them to the Executive Committee at its Twenty-second Regular Meeting.

IICA/JIA/PR-28rev(XI-O/01)
19 July 2002
Original: Spanish

DRAFT RESOLUTION No. 28

FOURTH MINISTERIAL FORUM

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Eleventh Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

The Report of the Fourth Ministerial Forum focusing on “Challenges for the Improvement of Agriculture and Rural Life of the Americas,”

CONSIDERING:

That this event was the first activity organized by the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) under OAS Resolution 1728 of June 2000, which recognizes it as “the primary ministerial forum within the OAS for analyzing and building consensus on policies and strategic priorities for the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the hemisphere”;

That the Director General submitted a document entitled “The current status and outlook for agricultural and rural development in 2001”, in compliance with articles 3 and 23.d of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA, which provide that as a point of the agenda of the Regular Meetings of the IABA, the Director General submit a report on the status of the development of agriculture and the rural milieu and examine emerging topics of common interest, with a view to establishing consensus on policies and concrete actions;

That the Fourth Ministerial Forum was inaugurated with a keynote address by His Excellency, the President of the Dominican Republic, Hipolito Mejia, who also presided the First Session, which included statements by the Ministers and Secretaries of Agriculture;

That the Report summarizes the main proposals presented during this first session, as well as the two following sessions, which include specific technical and thematic aspects in line with the central theme of the Fourth Forum, as well as the opinions and views of leaders from the community of agriculture and rural life of the Americas present at the meeting,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the conclusions of the Fourth Ministerial Forum and bear these in mind to establish a common agenda for the improvement of agriculture and rural life in the Americas.
2. To refer to IICA the task of ensuring that these conclusions are taken into consideration in the preparation of its new Medium Term Plan 2002-2006 and report to the Member States on the actions taken regarding these conclusions.