

# IICA



## CONTRIBUTION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE (IICA) TO THE JAMAICAN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR DURING 1998

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IICA OFFICE IN JAMAICA

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## INTRODUCTION

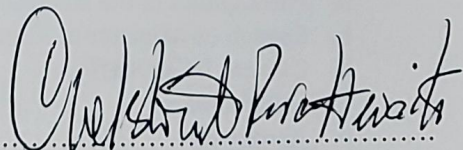
The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Office in Jamaica is pleased to present this report, which seeks to keep the agricultural sector informed about our activities and programmes carried out in 1998.

The Institute acknowledges the contribution of the private sector, national, regional and international organizations and the farmers of Jamaica in the achievements of the results here reported. Special mention must be made of the cooperation of the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Roger Clarke and his staff in the Ministry of Agriculture, for their cooperation and support for the work programmes of the IICA office in Jamaica. The hard work and cooperation of the staff of the IICA office in Jamaica is also acknowledged.

IICA has redefined its cooperation programme in order to be more effective, to be more participatory and to give Jamaican institutions, stakeholders and individuals the opportunity to participate more actively in the programmes of the Institute. We believe that this new chapter in IICA – Jamaica relations allows us to envision opportunities for an innovative partnership between IICA and the Jamaican agricultural sector that will make a significant contribution to the modernization of the sector in cooperation with the efforts of other national, regional and international institutions and so position Jamaica's agriculture for competitiveness in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We hope that the information enclosed will not only serve as a record of our contribution to the sector, but will also provide a basis for cooperation with national, regional and international institutions and the private sector which are involved in agricultural development in Jamaica.

Signed:.....



**Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite**  
**IICA Representative in Jamaica**



## OUR MISSION



**“To cooperate with the Government of Jamaica, the private sector, national, regional and international institutions in order to improve competitiveness and promote the sustainable development of agriculture in Jamaica”.**

## OUR GOALS



- ⇒ **To support better use and management of the natural resources, particularly hillside lands and watershed areas.**
- ⇒ **To contribute to rural development, food security, poverty alleviation and social stability.**
- ⇒ **To improve middle management, technical capabilities and farmers skills.**
- ⇒ **To foster Agri-business development and private sector participation in agriculture.**
- ⇒ **To contribute to the strengthening of the dialogue and coordination between Public and Private Sectors and Regional and International Agencies in Agriculture.**
- ⇒ **To strengthen the linkages between Jamaica’s Agriculture and that of the wider Caribbean and Latin America.**
- ⇒ **To support activities which contribute to enhancing the competitiveness of the Jamaican agricultural sector.**



# 1. REDEFINITION OF IICA'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION

## 1.1 Challenges and Opportunities for Jamaica's Agricultural Sector

Jamaica's agricultural sector, like those of the rest of the Caribbean countries, faces considerable challenges and opportunities if it is to develop in a sustainable manner and contribute to the overall development of the national economy. The sector also faces several constraints, but has much strength to overcome the challenges and to benefit from the opportunities. These can be grouped into external and internal factors.

### External Factors

There are five major external factors, among others, that provide global, regional and national challenges and opportunities to Jamaica's agricultural sector.

**Globalization and trade liberalization:** The world is becoming more integrated as the process of globalization and trade liberalization accelerates. Following the Uruguay Round of negotiations and the establishment of the WTO, new rules and regulations are governing international trade. These rules and regulations are improving market access and opening of new markets, reducing and in some cases eliminating tariff barriers drastically and establishing new standards for trade in products that incorporate social, health and environmental considerations. In addition, products and services are market driven. Small economies like Jamaica will have to adjust quickly to the new trade and market scenarios through policies and institutional changes and a reorientation of production if their agricultural sectors are to survive the onslaught of increased competition.

**Hemispheric and regional integration:** Accompanying the process of increased globalization and trade liberalization are efforts to access economic integration in the hemisphere. The proposed FTAA and the single market and economy in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) are the major processes in place. The challenge to Jamaica's agriculture is to compete with other Caribbean and the larger, more efficient producers of agricultural products in Latin America for markets in the hemisphere, as well as to maintain its competitive position in the domestic market.



**Declining importance of preferential markets:** Jamaica's agriculture has long depended on the preferential markets in Europe and North America for selling its traditional export products, primarily sugar, banana, citrus, cocoa and pimento. This dependence reinforced the major role of these sub-sectors vis-a-vis the non-traditional crop and livestock sub-sectors. The preferential markets are increasingly becoming less important and the preferential trade agreements are likely to totally disappear in the near future. The challenge to Jamaica is to re-orient its production, marketing and distribution and trading arrangements to diversify and export new products to compete in the former preferential markets.

**Advances in information and communications technology:** Rapid changes in information and communications technology offer new challenges and opportunities to the agricultural sector. They provide easy and immediate access to information on markets, trade opportunities, consumer preferences and competitors around the world. They also facilitate advertising, promotion and dissemination of information to current and potentially new clients and customers. The new technology, together with increased globalization and market integration are influencing changes in both the demand and supply of food in the local market. Institutions and individuals in Jamaica's agriculture need to exploit the opportunities provided by the new technology to increase the competitiveness of its products and develop new market opportunities.

**Greening of markets:** Consumers are increasingly demanding products that are environmentally-friendly and healthy – 'green' products. The new trade regulations as well as importing countries are placing greater emphasis on human safety and health in the consumption of agricultural products. At the same time, the global trend in sustainable development strategies is to place increasing emphasis on and respect for the environment and the better use and management of natural resources. These issues and concerns are also relevant to Jamaica as it seeks to diversify its production and export base, while at the same time conserving its environment for the sustainable development of the economy.



## Internal Factors

Jamaica's agricultural sector continues to be affected by several policy, institutional, management and infrastructural problems. The major ones are discussed below.

**Trends in Jamaica's farm sector:** Like all Caribbean countries, a long term trend in Jamaica has been a decline in the agricultural sector's contribution to overall economic development, declining employment in agriculture and resource productivity, increasing consumption of imported foods, continued high rural unemployment, and aging of the farm population. This trend will likely continue but strategies are needed to increase farm productivity, to contribute to increased food security and to attract young people into farming.

**Reduced role of the state:** The private sector has a greater role to play in the overall economic development as the public sector continues to decline in size and importance in the economy. Like most countries, Jamaica embarked on structural and economic reform programmes, which among others, reduced the state's role in agriculture. This has been done through the reduction of subsidies, the deregulation of commodity boards, the divestment of state enterprises and government-owned lands and reduction in state support services such as research and extension. While the private sector is expected to increase its role, the challenge to policy makers is to design appropriate strategies and provide the correct mix of incentives to increase private sector participation in agriculture, particularly as a source of investment resources and the development of marketing channels.

**Capitalization in the sector:** Investment in agriculture remains relatively low and resource mobilization for re-investing in the sector is not effective. Interest rates are high which constrains borrowing by most small farmers and young entrepreneurs and potential entrants into agriculture. In addition, human capital is also limited, particularly to meet the new challenges and exploit emerging opportunities for the sector.



**Inadequate infrastructure:** Inadequate infrastructure facilities (roads, transport, irrigation, etc.) continue to affect the process of diversification, particularly the non-traditional sector, small farmers and general rural development. This situation, together with inadequate social infrastructure and few employment opportunities are together a push factor for the rural-urban migration and low investment in the rural sector.

## 1.2 Areas of Cooperation

IICA has been serving agriculture in Jamaica since 1975 when Jamaica signed the Convention of the Institute. In early 1998, the Institute began a process for the redefinition of the focus of its technical cooperation programme in Jamaica. The process coincided with the appointment of a new Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Roger Clarke, who defined modernization of the agricultural sector as a new mandate of his Ministry. In addition, IICA designated Dr. Chelston W. D. Brathwaite to the post of Representative of its office in Jamaica. The process of redefinition was consultative and participatory and began with consultations with the various entities of the sector and culminated in a seminar on July 3, 1998, where representatives of the sector presented their views on what they perceived to be the future role of the Institute in Jamaica.



IICA Representative in Jamaica, Dr. Chelston Brathwaite, welcomes the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Minister Roger Clarke to the Seminar to redefine IICA's Technical Cooperation Programme in Jamaica in Kingston, July 1998.



As a result of the consultations and the views expressed in the seminar, IICA Jamaica has produced a strategic plan to guide the future work of the Institute in Jamaica. The plan is flexible and subject to review. In fact, an advisory committee headed by the Permanent Secretary has been established to guide implementation of the plan, thus ensuring cooperation and collaboration between the work of the Institute and the plans and programmes of the sector. The plan has, as its basic objective, to cooperate with national agricultural institutions to improve competitiveness of Jamaica's agriculture. The strategic areas for intervention and the priority actions for implementation in 1999 are as follows:

- a. Assist the Jamaica agriculture sector in its preparation for free trade and participation in the global economy.**
  - i. Strengthen efforts to enhance competitiveness
  - ii. Technical support to modernize Agricultural Health
  - iii. Establishment of a programme of training and information
  
- b. Promote the sustainability of Hillside Farming Systems and Watershed Management.**
  - i. Continue initiatives in Morant Yallahs Watershed Area with RADA, Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and the European Union (EU)
  - ii. Continue initiative in the Rio Cobre Watershed Area with RADA and the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)
  
- c. Support agri-business micro enterprises with emphasis on the incorporation of women and youth in agricultural development.**
  - i. Develop information support services and training programmes for micro enterprises agricultural projects
  - ii. Promote profit oriented activities among rural women and youth
  - iii. Identify opportunities for rural agro-industry and small agri-business development in Jamaica



- d. **Facilitate cooperation and interchange of technology and experiences between Jamaica, the wider Caribbean and Latin America.**
- i. Provide opportunities for professionals from the wider Caribbean and Latin America to visit Jamaica and provide relevant technology and information
  - ii. Provide a flow of relevant information and technologies from the wider Caribbean and Latin American countries to Jamaica
  - iii. Provide opportunities for Jamaican nationals to visit the wider Caribbean and Latin American countries to obtain relevant technology and information



Mr. Robert Kestell (l), representative of the Inter-American Development Bank and Mr. Errol Graham (r), representative of the World Bank, were among the participants at IICA's Redefinition Seminar, which was held at the Hilton Kingston Hotel, Jamaica on July 3, 1998.

## 2. **SEMINAR ON GLOBAL MARKET INTEGRATION AND THE AGRI-FOOD SECTOR**

Taking into consideration the apparently irreversible process of globalization and free trade, the Institute places emphasis in its work on preparing the local agricultural sector for transformation:

- With the removal of Market Protection and Preferential Trade Agreements, Jamaica must adjust to the changes as other signatories to the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement, thus the need for increased productivity and competitiveness.
- To facilitate the local agricultural sector adjusting to the phenomena of free trade and globalization, IICA in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, other allied institutions and the private sector, held a workshop on Global Market Integration and The Agri-Food Sector in March 1998. This seminar was held within the ambit of the Regional Project on Agricultural Competitiveness, which has its headquarters in the IICA Caribbean Regional Centre in Trinidad and Tobago. The seminar was sponsored by IICA in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Centre for Food and Agriculture Policy (NCFAP) in association with the Agri-business Council of Jamaica, Jamaica Broilers Group Limited, and the Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS).

The seminar focussed attention on the following areas:

1. Anti-dumping, safeguards and counter vailing measures
2. Regional Agreements as building blocks to free trade
3. The Brazilian, Guatemalan, Colombian and Costa Rican experiences in negotiation of trade agreement and the management of Trade Monitoring Units.
4. The Agri-Food Policy in an open economy
5. Latin America and the Caribbean Agriculture within the WTO and the Free Trade Areas of the Americas (FTAA).

It is believed that the Workshop achieved its objectives of:

- deepening the understanding among the public and private sectors of the Agriculture Agreement and the anti-dumping procedures under the WTO and on-going hemispheric integration processes;
- developing the capacity of the public and private sectors of participating countries to respond to dumping and unfair trade practices for agri-food products;
- enhancing the countries' capacity to develop Trade Monitoring Units for the agri-food sector;
- strengthening the knowledge base of participants regarding the on-going process of integration at the sub-regional, regional and hemispheric levels.



Participants were drawn from the public sector, particularly the Ministries of Agriculture and Industry & Investment, the private sector and other commercial interests. Countries represented were Belize, the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Trinidad & Tobago, and the host country, Jamaica.

It is hoped that the discussions and recommendations emanating from this seminar will inform the Jamaica agricultural sector as it prepares for free trade and the effects of globalization.

Consistent with IICA's long term goal of assisting in the preparation of the agricultural sector for Free Trade and Globalization, the Institute will continue to provide help for the agricultural sector to be prepared to compete in the New World Order due for the year 2005 – with the implementation of the FTAA. It is proposed to engage a highly qualified professional in Trade Policies and Free Trade Agreement Negotiations who will work with public and private sector institutions in their preparation for free trade.



(l-r) Dr. Arlington Chesney – Director of the IICA Caribbean Regional Centre (CaRC), Professor Dale Hathaway – Director of NCFAP in Washington D.C., the Honourable Seymour Mullings – Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, and the Honourable Roger Clarke- Minister of Agriculture, at the Seminar on Global Market Integration and the Agri-food Sector. The Seminar was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in March 1998.



Other participants in the Seminar on Global Market and Integration and the Agri-food Sector were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> left Dr. Keith Roach, Jamaica Broilers Group
- 2<sup>nd</sup> left Mr. Andrew Wildish, Jamaica Broilers Group
- centre Dr. Patrick Antoine, IICA Trinidad & Tobago
- 2<sup>nd</sup> right Dr. Trevor Dewdney, Jamaica Broilers Group
- 1<sup>st</sup> right Mr. Robert Best, Jamaica Broilers Group

### **3. CONTINUATION OF PROJECTS ON INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT IN MORANT/YALLAHS AND RIO COBRE WATERSHEDS**

#### **3.1 Morant/Yallahs Agricultural Development Project (MYADP)**

During the year, the Institute continued to support RADA through the Technology Generation and Validation (TGV) component of MYADP. In this the final year of the project, emphasis was placed on documentation and institutional strengthening.

- IICA/CARDI worked closely with RADA's Training Division to complete the review of five extension brochures.

Five technical reports were prepared based on results of field trials. These publications will be used to strengthen technology transfer in the project area. Survey to identify problems and possible solutions to the main crops were carried out.



- Arrangements were formalized with the Research & Development (R&D) Division to have personnel from Bodles participate in on-farm trials in Phillipsfield. Variety trials on cauliflower, broccoli, sweet corn, string beans and sweet pepper were conducted in support of RADA's Domestic Food Crop Project.
- Yardly Hybrid carrot (a recent introduction) is now in demand in the Font Hill area as it continues to out perform the Danvers, especially under drought conditions. It also produces a superior quality tuber.
- TGV worked closely with RADA's Land Husbandry Specialist to disseminate good land husbandry techniques in the vegetable growing areas of Font Hill, Penline Castle and Somerset.

Over 40 farmers benefited from a programme to establish pineapple barriers in Font Hill – a major carrot growing area. The new live barrier is acceptable to farmers because of the potential to derive an income from pineapples and likely reduction in labour to rebuild barriers from year to year.

Farmers' adoption of peanut continued, but the rate of adoption was checked by market problems identified in the first year.



Peppers, one of the products produced by the small farmers in the Morant Yallahs Project in St. Thomas, Jamaica. Here, a group of women farmers show their produce to IICA Agronomist, Mrs. Hyacinth Chin Sue (2<sup>nd</sup> left).

Other technologies to which farmers were exposed include:

- Oxen-drawn plough, minisett yam, insect repellent plants, composting, low cost goat housing, plantain as temporary shade and income earner in coffee, dry farming (mulch) in escallion, carrot on ridges, West Indian red hot pepper variety and individual basins for tree crops.
- Presentation of videos to farmers groups
- Establish demonstration station at 4-H Centre, Font Hill
- Farmer exchange visits
- Workshop on On-Farm Adaptive Research (OFAR) with RADA extension staff

### 3.2 Rio Cobre Project

The Rio Cobre Watershed Project is a joint undertaking of IICA, GTZ and RADA and is designed to provide a broader framework for watershed management in Jamaica.



IICA Representative in Jamaica, Dr. Chelston Brathwaite, presents a Certificate of Participation to Miss Lisa Latchman of the Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA) at the end of the course on "Sustainable Indicators". Dr. Carlos Reiche of IICA/GTZ Costa Rica looks on. The course was held at the IICA Office in Jamaica during July, 1998.



The year 1998 is the second in the project life and among the major achievements are:

- Increased farmer participation
- Institutional strengthening in the project area

With the objective of sustainability, focus and emphasis were placed on environmentally friendly technologies with high-income generation potential.

Collaborators are mainly:

- RADA
- Coffee Industry Board (CIB)
- Local Management Committees (LMC)



Some participants at the Workshop on the “Development of a Matrix of Sustainable Indicators to Monitor Integrated Watershed Management”, held at the IICA Office in Jamaica in July, 1998. Participants were drawn from several national institutions involved in watershed management in Jamaica.

Important technologies introduced include:

- Goat Agro-forestry Production System (GAPS) based on the Costa Rican model. Some communities have constructed rustic goat houses (9-10 animals per unit), built from local materials, such as bamboo and round wood. Fodder banks are established from some five important leguminous and non-leguminous species from which all feed requirements are met.

Waste/manure from the goat pens is broken down by the Red California Earthworm and used as fertilizer in the fodder bank or on other crops.

- Multiple-cropping which ensures a steady income for the farmers. Avocado as the permanent crop, being inter-cropped with corn, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, plantain, pineapple and eating cane planted in alternate strips on contour barriers – pineapple and sugar cane being the live barriers.
- Establishment of other environmentally-friendly technology, such as the introduction of Macuna: a viney leguminous plant which provides ground cover, produces large quantities of biomass which can be used to improve soil fertility.
- Development of pesticide from locally grown shrubs.
- Reinforcement of simple local technologies, such as soil conservation barriers fabricated from bamboo, wood, farm debris, and the production of sugar cane or pineapples – the latter two having the effect of stabilizing the barriers and providing income for the farmer.

Additionally, regular farmer training sessions are held resulting in improved group dynamics and group interaction.



Most importantly, the Rio Cobre farmers, being convinced of the benefits of these simple environmentally friendly practices, have started to adopt some of them. For example, GAPS, use of Red California Earthworm for the management of waste and the establishment of soil conservation barriers with sugar cane and pineapples as stabilizers.



A goat house being constructed by farmers in the Rio Cobre area, St. Catherine. The model for this goat house was transferred from Costa Rica by Jamaican farmers who visited Costa Rica on an IICA sponsored visit in 1998.

#### 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INFORMATION AND TRAINING CENTRE

##### 4.1 Information

Being cognizant of the need for Jamaica to be technologically efficient if the country is to become competitive and ultimately meet the requirements of globalization, IICA office has (in 1998) established an Information Centre and has engaged the services of an Information Specialist.

In its early stage, the library is being organized towards eventually creating an on-line database of the collection at IICA. This is expected to make documents more easily located.

The database will also facilitate the sharing of bibliographic information across distances, as it is planned to have the database on the Internet. From this, IICA's documented research can be made available to researchers, students and other interested groups. It is hoped that in 1999, IICA's Information Services will be fully developed for access by clients.

Some 2000 documents have already been processed and will be entered into the database.

Some of the services proposed by the Information Centre:

- Information Dissemination

Relevant information will be disseminated to IICA staff, consultants, researchers, extensionists and farmers.

- Reference

This Centre is to become a source of ready-reference information.

- Referral

A referral service will be offered, inclusive of a Human Resource Skill Bank.

- Internet

Internet sessions will be a part of the training sessions for farmers.

- Library Database

Access to the holdings of the Information Centre will be available via the library database, which will also be made available via the Internet.



- Additional Database Access

Access will be facilitated to other regional databases, such as Agro Info, for extra Agricultural Market and Trade Information. Initial links have been forged with other agencies seeking cooperation in the provision of information to clients.

An additional project acquisition proposed include development of an Internet Web-site for IICA Jamaica, which will incorporate information on all aspects of the Technical Cooperation Agency -IICA in Jamaica, its mission, objectives and activities.



Miss Kathryn Duncan, the new Information Specialist at the IICA Office in Jamaica. The Information and Training Centre seeks to convert the IICA Office into a Centre of Services for the agricultural sector.

## 4.2 Training

Training has been an integral component of IICA's activities in Jamaica. Additional training has started at the farmer level, in areas such as:

- Micro Project Preparation
- Goat Agro-forestry Project System (GAPS)
- Waste Management and Agro-Eco-Tourism

Other areas targeted for training are:

- Environmental Impact Assessment;
- Sustainability for Integrated Watershed Management;
- Identification and Conservation of Crop Bio-Diversity;
- Globalization and Introduction to the Operations of the WTO; and
- Agri-business which will receive special emphasis.



Additionally, IICA will be incorporating some new technologies in its training programmes, including Distance Education – to be linked to the Barbados-based Regional Distance Education Centre for Agriculture and the Centre for Distance Learning at IICA Headquarters in Costa Rica.

The Information Unit will complement the training activities where feasible by providing information from the library for training sessions, and Internet access for farmers.

Also, the unit will be responsible for assisting in the preparation of training materials and the coordination of workshops and seminars.

Some of the activities have started and the Institute is committed to the establishment of a modern, state-of-the-art Information and Training Centre, to provide appropriate communication technology to support its programmes.

## **5. FACILITATING COOPERATION AND THE INTERCHANGE OF TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERIENCES BETWEEN JAMAICA, THE WIDER CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICA.**

Recent initiatives in trade liberalization and sub-regional integration, the formation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the formation of the Associates of Caribbean States (ACS), and the proposed FTAA, have resulted in a new consciousness of the need for greater integration and increased alliances in commercial, economic and cultural affairs between Latin America and the Caribbean.

As a result of the above, the Institute places high priority on horizontal technical cooperation among the countries. The Institute has established the Programme for Horizontal Technical Cooperation in Agriculture between the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (CARILAC) with Headquarters at the IICA Technical Cooperation Agency in Jamaica.

During the year under review, IICA increased its efforts to intensify the country's exposure to technologies and information available in the wider Caribbean and Latin America.



The office facilitated the participation of eleven Jamaicans from the public and private sector in activities in countries of Latin America and the wider Caribbean. Those who participated, the country visited and the purpose of their visit are presented below:

- a. **The Honourable Roger Clarke**, Minister of Agriculture, visited Costa Rica from October 28 to November 2, to participate in the IICA Executive Committee Meeting and to visit agricultural projects in Costa Rica.
- b. **Mr. Aaron Parke**, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, visited Costa Rica from October 28 to November 3, to participate in IICA Executive Committee meeting and to visit agricultural projects in Costa Rica.
- c. **Miss Marie Strachan**, Director of Planning in the Ministry of Agriculture, visited Chile from November 21 to 25, to participate in a Seminar on the Negotiation of Trade Agreements. The seminar was sponsored by IICA, the World Bank and FAO.
- d. **Mr. Wayne Peart**, an officer of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, visited Chile from November 12 to 15. He attended the first Inter-American Meeting of Small Farmers Agri-business Organisations and was elected Coordinator for the Caribbean region.
- e. **Mr. Timon Waugh**, Manager of Coffee Board Loans Section, visited Costa Rica from November 30 to December 5, to attend a Seminar on Technologies of Coffee Harvesting in Heredia, Costa Rica.
- f. **Mr. Douglas Nelson**, Data Processing Manager of RADA, visited Costa Rica from October 25 to 31. He observed AGRO INFO – Electronic Agricultural Information Systems in Costa Rica with a view to establishing a similar system in Jamaica.
- g. **Mr. Piers Harvey**, General Manager of Advanced Farms Technology, visited Mexico from September 29 to October 1, to participate in the Food Safety and Agricultural Trade Seminar.



- h. **Miss Lorna Gooden**, Director of Home Economics, RADA, visited Haiti in August 1998 to determine the appropriateness of Kredifamn Project (small business loans project) to Jamaica.
- i. **Mr. Thomas Burton**, Deputy Executive Director of RADA, visited Costa Rica in October 1998 to observe Electronic Agricultural Information System of Costa Rica.
- j. **Miss Marlene Harris**, a private farmer, visited Trinidad and Tobago to participate in the Launching of Network for Rural Women in Trinidad and Tobago.
- k. **Mr. Gusland McCook**, Technical Officer of Coffee Industry Board (CIB), visited Guatemala to observe coffee production, to learn Spanish and to act as liaison between the CIB and the coffee producers in Central America within the context of the PROMECAFE Project.



(l-r) The Honourable Jeremy Scott – Minister of Agriculture in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. Chelston Brathwaite – IICA Representative in Jamaica, Mr. Aaron Parke – Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture in Jamaica, the Honourable Roger Clarke – Minister of Agriculture in Jamaica, at the entrance of Zarcero National Park, Costa Rica during the trip to observe the agricultural development projects.



The reports prepared by the Professionals who went on these visits suggest considerable benefits were derived which will contribute to Jamaica's agriculture. The participation of the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Roger Clarke, in the IICA Executive Committee Meeting was acknowledged by the Institute. The Honourable Minister presented the closing remarks at the Meeting which are reproduced as an Appendix of this report.

## 6. COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### a. Agri-business Council

IICA, CARDI and the Jamaica Agri-business Council signed a Cooperation Agreement in 1998 to facilitate the development of Fresh Produce Availability and Demand Information System. This project seeks to open an avenue that will, in the short run, increase the opportunities for a relatively large number of agricultural producers and traders to access information and increase business transactions by publishing in the daily papers, information on the availability of fresh produce in Jamaica. The project also aims to test the demand for a fresh produce information service and to determine parameters for its sustainability. The system has now been in operation for two months and will be evaluated in early 1999.

### b. Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA)

IICA and RADA have been working closely in the development and implementation of the Agri-industry Information System Project (AIIS) which is designed to computerise the operations of RADA and to provide relevant and timely information for the agricultural sector, such as production, technological and marketing information.

The system will provide four services. These are:

- i. Registry services – information on agri-related entities, facilities and events;
- ii. Technical guide services – technical information covering production, nutrients, infestation management, marketing and other topics;
- iii. Tracking services – mainly quantitative information on production, marketing and other related activities; and



iv. Predictive models – formula driven methods that will indicate future output and prices based on current variables.

IICA and RADA are also collaborating in the development of a Strategy Business Plan (SBP), 1999-2003. This SBP will provide the blueprint for policy, institutional or operational changes which may be necessary to allow RADA to be effective during the fiscal 1999-2003 period and to lay the basis for continued success into the century. It will provide the necessary decision making information for the restructuring and retooling of existing capacities as well as for introducing innovation to fast-track or deepen development initiatives. It will allow the Board to consolidate, to strengthen and to extend the good things that RADA is doing, as well as to limit or expunge those things which are less effective than the new options or which do not inure to agricultural production. In the final analysis as a result of this work, the Board expects to accomplish the following objectives:

- To elucidate, document and approve the RADA mission, objectives and targets for the next triennium.
- To develop organizational and operational strategies for achieving them.
- To identify the resource requirement and the options for bridging any resource gap.
- To lay the base for an effective RADA to move into the next decade of its life. The reorganized entity will be:
  - properly tooled up to the task
  - with a highly motivated staff based on principles of
    - i. personal accountability
    - ii. client/customer service
    - iii. cutting edge technology and above all, production for sustainability and export

c. **Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA)**

IICA and the JEA have developed an agreement for cooperation which will be finalized in 1999.

d. **Latin American Caribbean Centre (LACC)/University of the West Indies (UWI) Agreement**

IICA and the LACC of UWI have developed a cooperation agreement which will be finalized in 1999.



e. **Jamaica Agricultural Development Foundation (JADF)**

IICA and the JADF are reviewing an existing agreement with a view to developing new areas of cooperation

f. **College of Agriculture, Science & Education (CASE)**

IICA and CASE are developing a cooperation agreement which will be finalized in 1999.

g. **Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI) and JAMALCO**

IICA, the JBI, RADA and JAMALCO have initiated discussions on the possibility of implementation of a project to recover soils which were mined for bauxite production for agricultural activities.

7. **VISITORS FROM THE CARIBBEAN REGIONAL CENTRE (CRC)  
AND THE IICA HEADQUARTERS**

Both the Caribbean Regional Centre and the IICA Headquarters contributed to the goals of the IICA Office in Jamaica during 1998. This assistance included visits of the Director of the Regional Centre and Regional Specialists of the Centre to participate in seminars and technical cooperation activities. The Director of the Centre, Dr. Arlington Chesney, presented the T.P. Lecky Memorial Lecture to the Jamaican agricultural sector officials and made a presentation at the Redefinition Seminar and the Seminar on Global Market Integration and the Agri-food Sector. Other professionals from the Regional Centre supporting the office in 1998 included Dr. Patrick Antoine, Mrs. Susana Dancourt, Mrs. Marlene Antoine, Dr. Antonio Pinchinat, Mr. Everton Ambrose and Dr. Sandra Vokaty. From Headquarters, Dr. Dowlat Budrham, Director of the Centre for Investment Projects and Programmes (CEPPI), provided valuable assistance in the redefinition of the technical cooperation programme, Drs. Carlos Reiche and Martin Carnap of GTZ reviewed the IICA/GTZ Rio Cobre Project and Mr. Jaime Acosta, Internal Auditor provided assistance in the administrative reform of the office.



## 8. INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION

- a. A meeting seeking to foster closer cooperation between regional and international agencies that support the agricultural sector in Jamaica was held in November 1998 at the IICA Office. The agencies present were the Caribbean Food & Nutrition Institute (CFNI), UWI, CARDI and IICA. The agencies agreed to meet quarterly to coordinate programmes and to implement joint initiatives.
- b. IICA participated as a member of the Donor/Lender Environmental Committee which is chaired by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDÁ). Among the agencies represented on this Committee are the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the USAID.
- c. IICA gave support by providing financial assistance to the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Food Crops Society (CFCS) which was held jointly with the Jamaica Society for Agricultural Scientists (JSAS) in Montego Bay from July 12-18, 1998. In Addition, IICA Representative in Jamaica participated as a member of the Organizing Committee. He also participated in the panel discussion on **"Enhancing Regional Food Security and Export"** and made a presentation on **"Food Security in the Caribbean"** on the first day of the meeting.
- d. IICA participates on the Gene Bank Committee which comprises representatives from the National Commission on Science and Technology (NCST), the Scientific Research Council (SRC), the Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA), the Institute of Jamaica (IOJ), the University of the West Indies (UWI), the National Arboretum Foundation (NAF), the College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE) and the African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica. The objective of the Committee is to promote and coordinate the preservation and sustainable utilization of genetic resources in Jamaica.



## 9. PUBLICATIONS FOR 1998

**ANON.** Technical Cooperation Agenda: A Strategic Plan to Support Sustainable Agricultural Development in Jamaica. Kingston, Jamaica: IICA Office in Jamaica, 1998. 27 p.

**ANON.** Proceedings of the Workshop on Global Market Integration and the Agri-food Sector. (Publication of the IICA Office in Trinidad & Tobago on the Jamaica Seminar), 1998. 99 p.

**ANNIKIE, Zithroy.** A Case Study of Waste Management in a Goat Production System for Sustainable Agriculture in Rio Cobre Watershed. Occasional Working Paper Series, IICA Office in Jamaica, 1998.

**ANTOINE, P., Michael HENRY, Diane FRANCIS.** Jamaica Agriculture Trade – Performance and Context, Socio Economic Policy, Trade and Investment Programme. Occasional Working Paper Series, IICA Office in Trinidad and Tobago, June 1998. 12 p.

**BRATHWAITE, C. W. D.** (Presentations were made by the Representative at the following seminars and the documents have been prepared as Occasional Papers of the Jamaica Office).

- a. “The need to redefine IICA’s Technical Cooperation Programme in Jamaica”. Presented at the Seminar on the Redefinition of IICA’s Technical Cooperation Programme in Support of the Agricultural Sector in Jamaica, Kingston, July 3, 1998.
- b. “The Role of International Cooperative Programmes (PROCIS) in Agricultural Development”. Presented at the PROCICARIBE National Consultation, Kingston, August 3-5, 1998.
- c. “The Important Role of an Agri-business Council in Jamaica”. Presented at the Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Agri-business Council of Jamaica, Kingston August 12, 1998.
- d. “The Role of Commodity Exchanges in the Agricultural Marketing Process”. Presented at the Inauguration of the Fresh Produce Availability and Demand Information Service Project, Kingston, October 15, 1998.
- e. “The Role of IICA in Rural Agricultural Development in Jamaica”. Presented at the RADA Retreat, Ocho Rios, November 19-20, 1998.



- f. "CARDI/IICA Collaboration in Terms of Regional Cooperation in Agricultural Research". Presented at the Seminar on Integrated Commodity Research Approach in the Hot Pepper Industry, St. Mary, November 30, 1998.

**CAMPBELL, L., B. RAMAKRISHNA.** Report of Two Cases of Waste Management for Sustainable Agriculture: Pulper Waste Management Using Red California Earthworm (*Eisenia foetida*) in Jamaica and Waste Management for Organic Farming in Costa Rica. Paper presented at the Scientific Research Council Seminar on Waste Management, Kingston, Jamaica, 1998.

**CHIN SUE, H., L. D. WICKHAM.** Improving Traditional Yam Production Systems: The Case of Yellow Yams in Jamaica. Tropical Agriculture (Trinidad) 75. p.252-256

**RAMAKRISHNA, B.,** 1998, Technology Transfer from Central America to Jamaica; A Case Study of Goat Agro-forestry Production System (GAPS) in two parishes. Economic Policy and Sustainable Rural Development, Volume 4, No. 3, September 1998. (Caribbean Regional Centre, Trinidad and Tobago).

### PUBLICATIONS OF THE MORANT YALLAHS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

- a. Coffee Resuscitation.
- b. How to Make and Use the A-Frame.
- c. A Guide to Practical Application of Minisett Technology.
- d. The Effect of Rate and Time of Application of Fertilizer on Yield and Post Harvest Loss of Carrot within Morant Yallahs Watershed.
- e. Comparative Performance of Two Varieties of Peanut in Llandewy.
- f. Coffee and Coconut Cropping System – an experience in Rio Cobre Watershed and is applicable to Morant Yallahs Agricultural Development Project.
- g. Effect of Seed Quality on the Performance of Corn in Llandewy.



## 10. RELOCATION OF IICA OFFICE TO HOPE GARDENS

Through a mutually beneficial agreement between IICA and the Government of Jamaica, the IICA office in Jamaica was relocated from a private residence on Fairway Avenue to Hope Gardens in March 1998. The new facilities are more spacious and adequate for the work of the office as the facilities are closer to some of the Institute's main collaborators such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) and the Scientific Research Council (SRC). The current office was formerly the Headquarters of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Hillside Agricultural Project (HAP) and previously the residence of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture.

IICA is grateful to the Government of Jamaica for the provision of these excellent facilities in such gracious surroundings.



The new IICA Office in Hope Gardens.

# APPENDICES



## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT IICA'S REDEFINITION SEMINAR

| <u>Name</u>                  | <u>Address</u>  | <u>Telephone No:</u> |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| The Hon. Roger Clarke        | Minister of Agriculture<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6  | 927-1731             |
| The Hon. Dr. Fenton Ferguson | Minister of State<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6  | 927-1731             |
| Mr. Aaron Parke              | Permanent Secretary<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6 *  | 927-1790             |
| Mr. Sam Lawrence             | Chairman<br>Rural Agricultural<br>Development Authority<br>Hope, Kingston 6   | 977-1158-64          |
| Ms. Michelle Alexander       | Policy Analyst<br>Office of the Prime Minister<br>1 Devon Road, Kingston 10   | 927-9941             |
| Mr. Michael Chambers         | Manager, Project Preparation Unit<br>Office of the Prime Minister<br>1 Devon Road, Kingston 5                         | 968-1358             |
| Ms. Donna McFarlane          | Economist - Tourism<br>Office of the Prime Minister<br>1 Devon Road, Kingston 5                                       | 920-4929             |
| Ms. Cheryl Gopaul            | Programme Coordinator<br>Land Adm. & Management Programme<br>Office of the Prime Minister<br>1 Devon Road, Kingston 5 | 906-2431             |
| Dr. George Grant             | Director of Veterinary Services<br>Veterinary Division<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6                 | 977-2489             |
| Miss Carol Thomas            | Chief Plant Quarantine Officer<br>Plant Quarantine Division<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6            | 977-0637             |
| Dr. Richard Harrison         | Chief Technical Director<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6   | 927-1731             |

|                           |  |            |
|---------------------------|--|------------|
| Dr. Florence Young        | Consultant<br>Research & Development Division<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6                       | 977-1874/5 |
| Ms. Marie Strachan        | Director<br>Planning, Policy & Development Div.<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6                     | 927-2818   |
| Miss Paulette Lyons       | Director<br>Project Management Coordination Div.<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6                    | 927-1702   |
| Ms. Judith McWhinney      | Acting Director<br>Economic Planning & Research Div.<br>Planning Institute of Jamaica<br>Ocean Boulevard, Kingston | 967-3690   |
| Mr. Christopher Blackwood | Economist (Agriculture)<br>Planning Institute of Jamaica<br>Ocean Boulevard, Kingston                              | 967-3690/2 |
| Mrs. Audrey Wright        | Acting Assistant Vice President<br>Agribusiness Group<br>JAMPRO<br>35 Trafalgar Road, Kingston 10                  | 929-9450   |
| Ms. Paulette Mitchell     | Director of External Funding<br>JAMPRO<br>35 Trafalgar Road, Kingston 10   | 929-9450   |
| Mr. Alford Williams       | Manager, Extension & Research<br>Coffee Industry Board<br>Marcus Garvey Drive<br>Kingston 15                       | 923-5850   |
| Mr. Basil Been            | Director of Research<br>Coconut Industry Board<br>18 Waterloo Road, Kingston 10                                    | 926-1770   |
| Miss Marilyn Headley      | Conservator of Forests<br>Forestry Department<br>173 Constant Spring Road<br>Kingston 10                           | 924-2125   |
| Mr. Patrick Sibbles       | Chairman<br>Agribusiness Council of Jamaica<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope, Kingston 6                         | 927-0528   |
| Mrs. Elsie Gomez          | Executive Director<br>Agribusiness Council of Jamaica<br>Ministry of Agriculture<br>Hope Gardens, Kingston 6       | 927-0528   |



|                        |   |            |
|------------------------|---|------------|
| Mr. Leslie R. Grant    | Project Manager<br>Morant Yallahs Agricultural Dev.<br>Project (MYADP)<br>RADA, Morant Bay                                    | 703-6167   |
| Mr. Barrington Cameron | Manager -Extension Services Unit<br>Agricultural Credit Bank<br>15 Oxford Road<br>Kingston 5                                  | 929-4010   |
| Mr. Neville Lindo      | Senior Project Officer<br>Agricultural Credit Bank<br>15 Oxford Road<br>Kingston 5  | 929-4010-7 |
| Mr. Robert Reid        | Chief Executive Officer<br>Jamaica Agricultural Society<br>67 Church Street<br>Kingston                                       | 922-0610   |
| Ms. Cordia Thompson    | Management Consultant<br>3 Worthington Terrace<br>Kingston 10   | 968-0492   |
| Dr. Franz Alexander    | (Past IICA Representative<br>Guyana and the OECS)<br>The Veterinary Medical Clinic<br>13 West Kings House Road<br>Kingston 10 | 931-2163   |
| Mr. Lenworth Gordon    | Director - Sales and Marketing<br>Jamaica Export Trading Co. Ltd.<br>6 Waterloo Road, Kingston 10                             | 929-4390-1 |
| Mrs. Pauline Grey      | Executive Director<br>Jamaica Exporters Association<br>13 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5  | 929-1292   |
| Dr. Karl James         | President<br>Jamaica Exporters Association<br>13 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5   | 929-1292   |
| Mr. Charles Reid       | Jamaica Exporters Association<br>13 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5  | 929-1292   |
| Mr. Aston Wood         | Managing Director<br>AGROCON<br>1 Ardenne Road, Kingston 10   | 978-2154   |
| Mr. Patrick Maitland   | Managing Director<br>Caribbean Marketing & Consulting<br>188 Spanish Town Road<br>Kingston 11                                 | 923-7428   |

|                     |   |            |
|---------------------|---|------------|
| Dr. Lyndon McLaren  | c/o Jamaica Society of<br>Agricultural Scientists<br>17 Ruthven Road<br>Kingston 10   | 929-8090   |
| Dr. Trevor Dewdney  | Second Vice President<br>Jamaica Agricultural Society<br>67 Church Street, Kingston   | 922-0610   |
| Mr. Vivian Chin     | Farmer  | 905-3434   |
| Mr. Herman Hamilton | Managing Director<br>PADCo.<br>10 South Avenue, Kingston 4  | 922-6095   |
| Dr. George Wilson   | 27 Shenstone Drive, Kingston 6  | 927-9509   |
| Mrs. Budhai         | Ja. Organic Growers Association   | 978-1721   |
| Dr. Fitzroy Henry   | Director<br>Caribbean Food & Nutrition<br>Institute (CFNI)<br>University of the West Indies<br>Mona Campus, Kingston 7      | 927-1540-1 |
| Mr. Errol Graham    | Liaison Officer/Economist<br>The World Bank<br>Island Life Centre<br>6 St. Lucia Avenue, Kingston 5                         | 960-0459   |
| Mr. Howard Batson   | Acting Chief - Environmental Office<br>United States Agency for<br>International Dev. (USAID)<br>2 Haining Road, Kingston 5 | 926-3781   |
| Mr. Robert Kestell  | Resident Representative<br>Inter-American Development Bank<br>40-46 Knutsford Boulevard<br>Kingston 5                       | 926-2342-4 |
| Mr. Naoto Yamamoto  | Deputy Resident Representative<br>United Nations Dev. Programme<br>1-3 Lady Musgrave Road<br>Kingston 5                     | 978-2390   |
| Mr. Chris Baker     | Rural Development and<br>Management Advisor<br>European Union<br>c/o MYADP, RADA, Morant Bay                                | 703-6168   |
| Mr. Frank McDonald  | Country Team Leader<br>CARDI<br>University of the West Indies<br>Mona Campus, Kingston 7                                    | 927-1231   |



|                              |   |          |
|------------------------------|---|----------|
| Dr. Joseph Lindsay           | Soil Conservation Specialist<br>CARDI<br>University of the West Indies<br>Mona Campus, Kingston 7                 | 927-1231 |
| Mr. Dave Hutton              | Agricultural Representative<br>Faculty of Agriculture<br>University of the West Indies<br>Mona Campus, Kingston 7 | 977-3072 |
| Dr. HAD Chesney              | Director<br>Caribbean Regional Centre<br>Trinidad & Tobago  |          |
| Dr. Patrick Antoine          | Head, Multinational Unit<br>Caribbean Regional Centre<br>Trinidad & Tobago  |          |
| Ms. Marlene Antoine          | Regional Coordinator Rural Dev. Project<br>Caribbean Regional Centre<br>Trinidad & Tobago                         |          |
| Dr. Antonio Pinchinat        | Regional Specialist<br>Technology Generation and Transfer<br>Caribbean Regional Centre<br>Trinidad & Tobago       |          |
| Dr Dowlat Budhram            | Director, CEPPI<br>IICA Headquarters, Costa Rica  |          |
| Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite | Representative<br>IICA Office in Jamaica<br>Hope Gardens, Kingston 6  |          |
| Dr. B. Ramakrishna           | Farming Systems and<br>Watershed Management Specialist<br>IICA Office in Jamaica<br>Hope Gardens, Kingston 6      |          |
| Mr. Dennis Moses             | Regional Coordinator for External Relations<br>IICA Office in Jamaica<br>Hope Gardens, Kingston 6                 |          |
| Mrs. Hyacinth Chin Sue       | Technical Coordinator (MYADP)<br>IICA Office in Jamaica<br>Hope Gardens, Kingston 6                               |          |
| Mr. Joseph Dehaney           | Agronomist (MYADP)<br>IICA Office in Jamaica<br>Hope Gardens, Kingston 6  |          |
| Mr. Garfield Wallace         | Assistant Agronomist (MYADP)<br>IICA Office in Jamaica<br>Hope Gardens, Kingston 6                                |          |

Mr. Howard Demetrius

Assistant Agronomist (MYADP)  
IICA Office in Jamaica  
Hope Gardens, Kingston 6

Mr. Zithroy Annikie

IICA Office in Jamaica  
Hope Gardens, Kingston 6

Mr. Carlos Rodriguez

Green Hearts Volunteer from Nicaragua  
IICA Office in Jamaica  
Hope Gardens, Kingston 6



**SPEECH PRESENTED BY THE HONORABLE ROGER CLARKE,  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE OF JAMAICA TO IICA'S EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE MEETING AT IICA HEADQUARTERS IN SAN JOSE ,  
COSTA RICA. OCTOBER 28-30, 1998.**

Mr. Chairman - Director General of IICA Dr. Carlos Aquino, Distinguished Delegates of member countries of IICA, my Caribbean Colleagues, Members of Affiliated Organizations, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my honour and a great privilege that I take this opportunity to make a few comments at the end of what has been a most stimulating, participative and enlightening Committee meeting of IICA.

For me it has been a most rewarding experience that I shall always cherish.

I am honoured to be the representative of my country at this time and ask that you spare me a personal moment to extend on behalf of the Government and the People of Jamaica, our sincere appreciation and gratitude for the tremendous contribution IICA has made and continues to make towards the development of Agriculture in Jamaica.

I would also like to enjoin my CARICOM Colleagues in those expressions recognizing the positive influence IICA is having on Sustainable Development of the Agricultural sectors in the Caribbean region.

It is with a sense of pride that we recognize the unique contribution of the Director General; that affable and efficient gentleman Dr Carlos Aquino, in the transformation of this important institution.

Under his astute leadership, we have witnessed over the past 5 years truly remarkable flexibility and responsiveness of IICA to the many challenges facing the development of agriculture in our region.

In particular, I wish to highlight the process of decentralization that has truly empowered regional and country offices to provide relevant support to the unique needs of each member state.

In Jamaica we are extremely pleased with the partnership that we have managed to forge with IICA and here make special mention of the IICA Country Representative, Dr Chelston Brathwaite, for his untiring efforts.



In referring to the meeting itself, I must highlight a few issues, that to my view, provide the main substance of our deliberations :

1. The return of Canada to the fold of IICA.  
We are all very thankful to the Government and People of Canada for the magnificent gesture. This will contribute to greater optimism for the success of IICA. I look forward to Canada playing a major role in assisting us to resolve some of our difficulties within the region.

2. The medium term plan that articulates the vision and strategic direction of the Institution over the next few years was well conceived.

I wish to once again congratulate Dr. Aquino and the IICA Staff and all the contributors for their insight in capturing accurately the unique challenges and opportunities of the region and in mirroring these in the strategic focus and actions that will guide the Institution's support to our various members.

3. The proposal to restructure the Inter-American Board is an excellent one that seeks to have IABA focus more on the substantial political and policy issues relevant to agricultural and economic development of our region.

We endorse the proposal by the Director General to develop a Management Committee appropriately configured, represented and empowered to advise the Institute on management issues, thereby relieving the IABA of the need to spend a great deal of time discussing day to day operational and management issues.

#### 4. ***Food Safety***

Yesterday I reiterated our support to the proposal put forward by the Mexican Delegation which requests IICA to give priority to the issue.

It is a matter of record that the recommendation has gained favour in the appropriate resolution and we are satisfied by the reaction of the Director General that action will be taken.

#### 5. ***Water***

The importance of water; its conservative equitable and efficient use of this resource cannot be over emphasized. The Caribbean region in particular regards the issue of irrigation as germane to any attempt to increase agricultural productivity and competitiveness.

We believe that there are avenues within the IICA family for supporting each other in our attempt to develop our water resources and in strengthening our capabilities to ensure better management of these resources for sustainable development.



6. ***Distance Learning Centre***

Finally, I must mention my great pleasure in witnessing this morning the Inauguration of the Distance Learning Centre.

We attribute this epoch making event to the vision and courage of Dr. Aquino and the active collaboration of all those who assisted in making this event the tremendous success that it was.

This brave attempt to bring state of the art technology to the agricultural sector is absolutely correct and we pledge to ensure that the Caribbean area is not left behind in this pursuit of excellence.

This development will ensure that training and educational opportunities can reach the remotest areas of our region.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the interaction has been most refreshing and I hope that we have been able to establish lasting personal friendships and that the agenda for the future co-operation within the region has been firmly established.

Let me also thank the Government and People of Costa Rica for their exemplary hospitality and support for this conference.

I have taken the opportunity to spend a few more days here to observe agricultural development in Costa Rica. I am assured that the tour will be most educative and enlightening.

Again I say thanks to all who have contributed to making the sojourn of my delegation here such a wonderful experience.

## CURRENT STAFF OF THE IICA OFFICE IN JAMAICA

### Representative

DR. CHELSTON W.D. BRATHWAITE

### *Technical Staff*

|                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mrs. Hyacinth Chin Sue | Technical Coordinator (MYADP) |
| Mr. Zithroy Annikie    | Agronomist (IICA/GTZ)         |
| Mr. Joseph Dehaney     | Agronomist (MYADP)            |
| Mr. Howard Demetrius   | Assistant Agronomist (MYADP)  |
| Mr. Garfield Wallace   | Assistant Agronomist (MYADP)  |
| Miss Kathryn Duncan    | Information specialist        |

### *Support Staff*

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs. Maureen Machado     | Executive Secretary      |
| Mrs. Ann Marie Hinds     | Programme Secretary      |
| Mrs. Andrea Tucker       | Secretary                |
| Miss Donna Halstead      | Administrative Assistant |
| Mrs. Karen Gumbs-Barrett | Accounting Assistant     |
| Mr. Henry Powell         | Driver/Mechanic          |
| Miss Leonie Simmonds     | Office Attendant         |
| Mr. Aston Daley          | Gardener                 |

### *Consultant*

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Mr. Glenroy Ennis | Economist |
|-------------------|-----------|



## COLLABORATORS

Agribusiness Council of Jamaica  
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)  
Caribbean Food & Nutrition Institute (CFNI)  
Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)  
Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ)  
European Union (EU)  
Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
Forestry Division (FD)  
Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA)  
Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS)  
Jamaica Promotions Corporation (JAMPRO)  
National Development Foundation of Jamaica (NDFJ)  
Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)  
Organization of American States (OAS)  
Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA)  
The Coffee Industry Board  
The Coconut Industry Board  
The Farmers  
The Ministry of Agriculture  
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
University of the West Indies (UWI)

## ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

|         |   |   |
|---------|---|---|
| ACS     | - | Association of Caribbean States   |
| ADC     | - | Area Development Committee  |
| AIIS    | - | Agri-Industry Information System  |
| CARDI   | - | Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute                               |
| CARICOM | - | Caribbean Community   |
| CARILAC | - | Programme for Horizontal Technical Cooperation between Latin American and the Caribbean |
| CASE    | - | College of Agriculture, Science and Education   |
| CFCS    | - | Caribbean Food Crops Society  |
| CFNI    | - | Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute  |
| CIB     | - | Coffee Industry Board   |
| CIDA    | - | Canadian International Development Agency   |
| CaRC    | - | Caribbean Regional Centre   |
| EU      | - | European Union  |
| FAO     | - | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations                                 |
| FTAA    | - | Free Trade Area of the Americas   |
| GAPS    | - | Goat Agro-forestry Production System  |
| GTZ     | - | German Technical Cooperation  |
| HAP     | - | Hillside Agricultural Project   |



## ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS Cont'd.

|       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| IDB   | - | Inter-American Development Bank                         |
| IICA  | - | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture |
| IOJ   | - | Institute of Jamaica                                    |
| JADF  | - | Jamaica Agricultural Development Foundation             |
| JAS   | - | Jamaica Agricultural Society                            |
| JB I  | - | Jamaica Bauxite Institute                               |
| JEA   | - | Jamaica Exporters Association                           |
| JSAS  | - | Jamaica Society for Agricultural Scientists             |
| LACC  | - | Latin America-Caribbean Centre                          |
| LMC   | - | Local Management Committees                             |
| MYADP | - | Morant/Yallahs Agricultural Development Project         |
| NAF   | - | National Arboretum Foundation                           |
| NAFTA | - | North American Free Trade Agreement                     |
| NCFAP | - | National Centre for Food & Agriculture Policy           |
| NCST  | - | National Commission on Science & Technology             |
| NRCA  | - | Natural Resources Conservation Authority                |
| OFAR  | - | On-Farm Adaptive Research                               |
| RADA  | - | Rural Agricultural Development Authority                |
| R&D   | - | Research and Development                                |

**ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS Cont'd.**

|       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| SBP   | - | Strategic Business Plan                            |
| SPS   | - | Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Measures               |
| SRC   | - | Scientific Research Council                        |
| TGV   | - | Technology Generation and Validation               |
| UNDP  | - | United Nations Development Programme               |
| UNEP  | - | United Nations Environment Programme               |
| USAID | - | United States Agency for International Development |
| UWI   | - | University of the West Indies                      |
| WTO   | - | World Trade Organization                           |



**INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE IN JAMAICA**

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