

**Proceedings
of the
XIII APCoAB STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
14 February 2011
NASC Complex, New Delhi**



**Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology,
C/o ICRISAT Delhi Office,
National Agricultural Science Centre,
Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi – 110 012, India**

**ASIA-PACIFIC CONSORTIUM ON AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY
(APCoAB)**

**XIII STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
14 FEBRUARY 2011
NASC COMPLEX, ICAR, NEW DELHI**

PROCEEDINGS

The XIII Steering Committee Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) was held on 14th February 2011 at the National Agricultural Science Center (NASC) Complex, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Dr. S. Ayyappan, Chairman, APAARI, Co-chaired by Dr. Abd Shukor Abd Rahman and attended by nine Steering Committee (SC) members, representatives and special invitees (Annexure I). Dr. William Dar, Dr. Malcolm Hazelman and Dr. Randy Hautea were represented by Dr. Kiran Sharma, Principal Scientist, ICRISAT, Mr. Gopi Ghosh, FAO regional office for Asia-Pacific, New Delhi and Mr. Bhagirath Choudhary, National Coordinator, ISAAA, New Delhi, respectively.

Agenda item 1: Welcome Remarks

Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI welcomed the participants to the XIII SC meeting. He thanked Council of Agriculture (COA), Chinese Taipei, especially Dr. Su-San Chang for its funding support to APCoAB under APAARI-COA collaborative project, which has been extended by another term of three years. He also appreciated the continued funding commitment of Mahyco and support of FAO. While welcoming Dr. Kiran Sharma, he thanked ICRISAT for housing APCoAB secretariat and extending other facilities. Dr. Paroda appreciated the cooperation of MARDI and the whole hearted support provided by Dr. Abd Shukor for hosting two APAARI expert consultations during the past two years.

Dr. Paroda apprised the SC about the current status of agricultural biotechnology adoption in the Asia-Pacific region and issues with regard to regulatory approvals. While Bt cotton has been a great success in India and China and Bt maize is being cultivated in the Philippines for several years, issues have been raised about biosafety of Bt brinjal in India which need to be discussed and resolved. APCoAB, established to serve as a neutral forum has been organizing meetings and consultations on these issues. But more efforts would be needed at the national and regional levels to remove the misapprehensions and advocate appropriate policies.

Agenda item 2: Address by the Chairman

Dr. Abd Shukor read the Chairman's address on behalf of Dr. Ayyappan. While welcoming the participants, he expressed regret that other members of SC, Dr. Wais Kabir, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Dr Malcolm Hazelman, FAO-RAP, Bangkok and Dr. Randy Hautea, Director ISAAA could not attend due to urgent engagements.

Dr. Abd Shukor highlighted the great opportunity provided by biotechnology for improving agricultural productivity of crops, farm animals and fishery resources. Some of the promised

benefits have already been realized in India and China. However, he also emphasised the need to assess environmental and economic impact of biotechnology as well as building capacities so that all the stakeholders in the region could benefit from these powerful tools. He expressed happiness that APCoAB is making consistent progress as evident from the range of activities comprising expert consultations, training programs and publications carried out since last SC meeting. Dr. Adb Shukor was pleased that the expert consultation on post harvest of horticultural held in Malaysia was very well attended and it yielded valuable recommendations. He thanked COA for extension of the collaborative program on biotechnology as also MAHYCO for its continued funding support for APCoAB.

Agenda item 3: Approval of minutes of XII Steering Committee Meeting

The SC was informed that the proceedings of XII SC had been circulated on 3rd June 2010 (Annexure II). Comments received from Mr. Malcolm Hazelman with respect to decisions regarding FAO support to activities proposed for 2010 were put before the members. Chairman sought the concurrence of members for approval of minutes which was granted unanimously. The members also adopted the agenda for the XIII Steering Committee (Annexure III).

Agenda item 4: Brief Report

a) Action Taken Report

Dr J. L. Karihaloo, Coordinator, APCoAB presented a brief on the action taken on recommendations of XII SC meeting. The same are detailed below:

| Sl. No. | Recommendation | Action Taken |
|---------|--|---|
| 1 | It was recommended to request COA for extension of APAARI-COA collaborative project for another term of three years with enhanced funding support | COA has agreed to extend the project for another term of three years with funding of US\$ 50,000 per year |
| 2 | ICAR would consider favourably the request of APAARI to waive training fee for courses being organized in ICAR institutes | ICAR waived training fee for APAARI participants in the training held at NBPGR during 2010 |
| 3 | The SC unanimously agreed to request ICAR funding support to APCoAB particularly in view of the observation that a large proportion of its activities relate to agricultural R&D in India. These include publication of status reports highlighting achievements of India agricultural research and organization of training programs in ICAR institutes | ICAR has been requested by Executive Secretary for such support |
| 4 | Mr. Gavin Wall, FAO representative in India offered to follow the pending proposals with respective departments in FAO, comprising TCP project and revision of publication on Biosafety Regulations. He suggested the possibility of Ms. Rosa Rolle, Senior Agro- | Following feed back was received from Mr. Malcolm Hazelman: 1) TCP project could not make through the competitive process 2) To communicate with Ms. Rosa |

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| | Industry and Post-Harvest Officer, FAO-RAP getting associated with the APAARI Expert Consultation on Post-Harvest Technology being held in Malaysia. | Rolle regarding her possible involvement with the Expert Consultation |
| 5 | Following detailed discussion on the proposal received from MARDI regarding organization of Expert Consultation on Post-Harvest Technology, it was suggested that the program should give due prominence to rural-based PH technologies that help in linking farmers with markets. It was suggested that IFAP could consider farmer participation in the meeting | 1) The emphasis of the consultation was low cost rural based technologies for small farmers 2) IFAP nominated farmer representative was supported by APAARI for participation in the consultation |
| 6 | Based on specific needs, joint funding proposals for capacity building of stakeholders in the AP region would be formulated in collaboration with ICRISAT | Being done in collaboration with Dr. Kiran Sharma, Principal Scientist, ICRISAT |
| 7 | It was suggested that the APCoAB website news update releases should also be emailed to potential users | News mailers are being sent to all APAARI members and other potential users. Others interested are encouraged to register for the service |

b) Progress Report

Dr. J. L. Karihaloo, Coordinator, APCoAB presented a report on the activities carried out during the period under report.

- **Expert Consultation Meeting on Postharvest and Value Addition of Horticultural Produce, Malaysia, 29 November – 2 December, 2010**

APAARI-APCoAB in collaboration with the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) organized the expert consultation with support of GFAR, FAO-RAP, HortCRSP and Malaysian Agricultural Corporation. Eighty six participants attended the meeting comprising international experts and experts from APAARI member countries, representatives of farmer organizations in the Asia-Pacific engaged in postharvest handling of horticultural produce and local participants from government agencies, traders, farmers and private sector. The four day event comprised two days of presentations and group discussions, and two days technical visits. The presentations were organized under four sessions followed by two sessions of Group Discussions, Plenary Discussion and Recommendations.

- **Training Workshop on Assisted Reproductive Technologies for Livestock Genetic Improvement, Livestock Research Institute (LRI), Chinese Taipei, 24-26 October, 2010**

APCoAB in collaboration with Livestock Research Institute, Tainan, Chinese Taipei (LRI) and International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) organized the Training Workshop which was attended by eight participants, five of whom (from Malaysia, Iran, Philippines,

India and Oman) were nominated by APCoAB. The training comprised lectures by LRI and ILRI staff on principles and applications of artificial insemination (AI) in mammalian species, poultry, ducks and geese; embryo transfer and *in vitro* fertilization; nuclear transfer and somatic cell cloning; livestock and poultry genetic diversity; genomic breeding technology; and utilization of animal genetic resources for biomedical research. Demonstrations were held on AI, including equipment and procedures; preparation technology for frozen semen; *in vitro* fertilization; and somatic cell manipulation. The trainees visited local livestock and poultry cooperative farms for gaining first hand experience on practical application of improvement and rearing practices. APCoAB Coordinator made a presentation on the status, issues and options for biotechnology application in the developing countries.

- **Training Course on Edible Mushroom Production for Asian Farmers and Entrepreneurs, Taiwan Agriculture Research Institute (TARI), Taichung, Chinese Taipei, 21-27 November, 2010**

The training course was aimed to equip researchers, government officers and extension workers in the AP region with a working knowledge and share experiences on improved technologies for mushroom production. Fifteen participants undertook the course, of whom three (from Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam) were nominated by APCoAB. The course comprised lectures on edible and medicinal mushrooms, their cultivation technology, production, nutritional and medicinal value, and market prospects. Practical demonstrations were given on preparation of substrates, tissue isolation and sub-culture, and preservation of cultures. The participants were exposed to on-farm mushroom cultivation and management practices through visits to mushroom farms and interaction with large and small scale growers. The participants also observed cultivation of mushroom as value-added products.

- **International Training Course on *In Vitro* and Cryopreservation Techniques for Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi, 15-27 November, 2010**

The training course organised in collaboration with ICAR and Bioversity International was attended by 14 participants from eleven countries, four of whom (from Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei and Iran) were nominated by APCoAB. The faculty was drawn from NBPGR and other local organizations, Bioversity International, APCoAB and Royal Botanic Garden, Kew. The course was organized into 28 lectures and practicals on topics related to *in vitro* conservation and cryopreservation of germplasm of vegetatively propagated and non-orthodox seed species, and use of molecular tools for management and conservation of plant genetic resources. Hands-on training was provided on cryopreservation of non-orthodox seeds like citrus, mulberry buds and pollen.

- **Publication entitled “Micropropagation for Production of Quality Banana Planting Material in Asia-Pacific”**

This is third publication published in the series on micropropagation of vegetatively propagated horticultural crops brought out by APCoAB. The publication is compiled into five main chapters: 1) Introduction; 2) Banana Propagation; 3) Micropropagation for Quality Banana Planting Material; 4) Health Management in the production of Disease Free Planting Material Through Micropropagation; and 5) Prospects of Banana Micropropagation for Quality Planting Material Production in Asia-Pacific. Eight Annexures provide detailed tissue

culture and disease indexing protocols and standards for establishment of micropropagation facilities.

- **New APCoAB Website**

A new website of APCoAB (www.apcoab.org) has been launched with user-friendly design, navigation and relevant information to all users. The website provides information on mandate, genesis, organizational strategy, supporters, composition of steering committee, and current activities in detail. It provides access to rich resources such as APCoAB publications, databases of institutions, biosafety regulations etc. The website provides links to several national, regional and global organizations and presents on regular basis global news and events on agricultural biotechnology.

As recommended by the XII SC, APCoAB news updates are being circulated to APAARI members and other potential users through email.

Agenda item 5: Work Plan for 2011

The work plan for 2011 was presented by Dr. Karihaloo and approved by the SC (Annexure IV)

Agenda item 6: Audited Accounts

Dr Karihaloo presented the Audited Accounts for the period January-December 2010 (Annexure V) which were approved unanimously by the SC. The committee also approved the budget for 2011-2012 (Annexure VI).

Agenda item 7: General Discussion on Activities and Resource Generation:

- All the members participated in the discussion following the presentation of progress reports. Following suggestions/remarks were made:
- The Steering Committee unanimously appreciated the progress made by APCoAB during the period under report. Particular mention was made about the high quality of expert consultations and the number of relevant training programs organized by APCoAB.
- Regarding the recommendation of the Expert Consultation on Post-harvest and Value Addition for Horticultural Produce, Dr Ayyappan offered to establish a Regional Center for South Asia on Post-harvest Technology in India. Dr. Abd Shukor offered to set up a center for South East Asia in Malaysia.
- Dr. Paroda highlighted the need for policy advocacy and public awareness on GM food crops in view of the current controversy and moratorium on release of Bt brinjal in India. He proposed ICAR and DBT to address these issues for which APCoAB could play a facilitation role.
- Dr Holderness highlighted the diverse perspectives about biotechnology and the need for APCoAB to project these views in a balanced manner. He also emphasized the importance of proper needs assessment before initiating biotechnology R&D projects.

- Dr Ayyappan informed the SC about the quarterly ICAR Agribiotechnology Newsletter to create awareness among the stakeholders in India. He suggested APCoAB to contribute articles to this newsletter.
- Dr. Hearn mentioned about the lack of institutional capacity in biosafety regulation in a number of AP countries and the need to address this issue to facilitate decision making process.
- Dr Su-San Chang suggested participation of APCoAB in high level policy dialogues on biotechnology conducted by APEC to create linkages and other organizations in South East Asia with similar objectives.
- It was proposed to follow up on outcomes of training courses conducted by APCoAB and find out how these are being utilized by the trainees in the respective organizations.
- It was suggested to make the training materials like lecture notes and laboratory protocols available on APCoAB website.
- In response to a suggestion to organize training program on Marker Aided selection, it was recommended that APCoAB should work as a facilitator for NARS members to gain access to such courses being organized by CG centers and some NARS.
- Regarding collaboration with ICRISAT, it was suggested that joint training programs on Agri-business Incubators could be held at ICRISAT with the support of World Bank and other funding organizations. Similarly, joint activities with ISAAA on public awareness and policy advocacy need to be identified.
- The proposal to revise the publication on biosafety regulations and organize a workshop of biosafety Focal Points was appreciated and it was recommended to pursue the proposal for funding by FAO. ICRISAT could be approached to host this workshop, as earlier one was also held in Hyderabad.

Agenda item 8: Any other Business

- Reconstitution of APCoAB Steering Committee

Since the present APCoAB SC had completed its term, a new SC was proposed and approved.

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| Chairman | Dr. S. Ayyappan, ICAR, India |
| Members | Dr. Simon Hearn, ACIAR, Australia Dr. Su-San Chang, COA, Chinese Taipei Dr. William D. Dar, ICRISAT, India Dr. Malcolm Hazelman, FAO RAP, Thailand Mr. Raju Barwale, MAHYCO, India Dr. Raj Paroda, APAARI |
| Secretary | Dr. J. L. Karihaloo, APCoAB |

- The SC was informed that following the resignation of previous Office Secretary, a new Secretary had been appointed.
- The proposed recruitment of one Research Fellow was also approved.

Agenda item 9: Chairman's closing Remarks

Dr. Ayyappan in his concluding remarks thanked the participants for attending the meeting and making important contributions. The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair and Co-chair.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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XII APCoAB STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
24 April 2010
NASC Complex, New Delhi**



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Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB)

XII STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

PROCEEDINGS

The XII Steering Committee (SC) meeting of Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) was held on 24th April 2010 at National Agricultural Science Centre complex, New Delhi. It was chaired by Dr. Abd Shukor Abd Rahman, Chairman, APAARI and attended by nine other members/representatives and special invitees (Annexure I). Dr. Malcolm Hazelman, FAO-RAP was represented by Dr. Gavin Wall, FAO representative in India, Dr. William Dar, DG, ICRISAT by Dr. Kiran Sharma, Principal Scientist, ICRISAT, and Dr. S. Ayyappan, DG, ICAR by Dr. A. K. Bawa, Principal Scientist, ICAR.

Agenda item 1: Welcome Remarks

Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI welcomed the Chairman, other members of SC and special invitees. He congratulated Dr. Gavin Wall on his new assignment in India and apprised him about the long association of APAARI with FAO. Dr. Paroda expressed appreciation of the strong support extended by ICRISAT to APCoAB and requested Dr. Kiran Sharma to convey APAARI's gratitude to Dr. Dar. While responding to welcome remarks of Dr. Paroda, Dr. Bawa informed the committee of the urgent engagements of Dr. Ayyappan due to which he could not attend this meeting.

Agenda item 2: Address by the Chairman

Dr. Abd Shukor welcomed the SC members and other participants also conveying his thanks to Dr. Ayyappan for hosting the meeting. He expressed his regret that other members of the SC, Dr. Wais Kabir, Mr. Thierry Mennesson, Dr. Mark Holderness and Dr. Randy Hutea could not be present due to unavoidable reasons.

Dr. Abd Shukor highlighted the activities carried out during the past six months, which in his opinion were quite substantial. He expressed happiness that APCoAB is being recognized by international agencies like FAO and Convention on Biodiversity as they had invited APAARI-APCoAB to organize and participate in their technical meetings. He thanked Mahyco for continued funding support and hoped that Council of Agriculture (COA), Chinese Taipei would extend its collaboration in biotechnology program with APAARI for another term of three years.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Minutes of XI Steering Committee Meeting

The SC members were informed that the proceedings of XI SC meeting had been circulated on 21st December 2009 to which no comments were received. Chairman sought the concurrence of members for approval of the minutes. The same were adopted unanimously. The members also adopted the agenda of XI SC meeting (Annexure II)

Agenda Item 4: Action Taken Report

In his introduction to the Action Taken Report, Dr. Paroda apprised about the earlier developments that led to the establishment of APCoAB under the umbrella of APAARI. While, it was initially anticipated that private sector and other stakeholders would support a neutral forum like APCoAB, these hopes have somehow not been met. He, however, felt that there is better appreciation of the need for such a forum.

Dr. J. L. Karihaloo, Coordinator, APCoAB presented a brief on the actions taken on recommendations of XI SC meeting and elaborated on the following points:

- Regarding TCP on “Tissue culture platform for South Asia for regional cooperation for production, exchange and delivery of high quality planting materials and low-cost biotechnology products to smallholder farmers”, it was informed that the Executive Secretary, APAARI had approached FAO’s AGP Division for reconsideration of the proposal. The proposal has since been resubmitted to FAO-RAP for consideration.
- FAO has been requested to accord permission for revision and funding support for printing of “Biosafety Regulations” and reprinting of another FAO funded publication. Dr. Gavin Wall, representing FAO, informed that the proposal was under consideration and he would apprise FAO about the need for supporting revision of this important publication.
- With regard to the recommendation of XI SC meeting on funding arrangements for training programs, it was informed that fifty percent of travel costs of participants are being met by APCoAB while the nominating NARS are requested to bear the other half. Other training costs are jointly borne by the host organization and APAARI. It was further informed that APAARI had requested ICAR to waive training fee for courses held in ICAR institutes or provide funding support for organizing these trainings. Another reminder for the same will be sent for final decision.
- The earlier offer of Dr. Mike Butterfield representing DG, ICRISAT in the XI SC meeting to co-organize with APCoAB some events related to translational research and business partnership development in biotechnology was further taken up during the presentation of ATR. Dr. Kiran Sharma representing ICRISAT in this meeting reiterated the offer and elaborated on the activities that APCoAB could carry out jointly with ICRISAT.
- In response to recommendation made by Dr. Randy Hutea in XI SC for APAARI to foster exchange of information and apprise the leadership on issues that are important for harnessing biotechnology in the region, the Coordinator highlighted the following activities:
 - APAARI and APCoAB are actively involved in policy advocacy and information exchange through expert consultations, print publications and web-based information dissemination.
 - Executive Secretary, APAARI has been apprising policy makers in India on GM technology, particularly issues related to Bt brinjal, through meetings with policy makers, media interviews and newspaper articles.

- Coordinator, APCoAB convened “Asia-Pacific Regional Specific Session” in FAO conference on Agricultural Biotechnology (ABDC-10) held in Mexico on 1 – 4 March 2010, wherein issues related to adoption of biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region were highlighted.

Agenda Item 5: Progress Report

Coordinator, APCoAB briefed the SC about the following activities carried out during the period under report.

- **Expert Consultation on “Biopesticides and Biofertilizers for Sustainable Agriculture in Asia-Pacific”, TARI, Taichung, 27 – 29 October 2009.**
This meeting was organized at Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung under the APAARI-COA collaborative project on agricultural biotechnology. Seventy-two participants from 23 countries representing NARS, CG centres, other academic institutions, CSOs, private sector and farmer organizations participated in the deliberations and field visit. Group discussions were held on priorities for R&D, commercialization, policy regulation and regional cooperation for promotion of biopesticides and biofertilizers. The delegates expressed consensus that these bio-inputs have an important role in creating sustainable agriculture, reducing cost of inputs and achieving Millennium Development Goals.
- **Meeting of South Asia Network on Plant Genetic Resources, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi, 3 – 5 November 2009.**
SANPGR is a sub-regional network established with the aim of improving conservation and use of plant genetic resources through collaborative efforts amongst the member countries in South Asia. The network meeting was jointly organized by Bioversity International, APAARI and ICAR with 28 participants attending it. The meeting reviewed the status of conservation and use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in accordance with Global Plan of Action, and implementation of Treaty and Standard Material Transfer Agreement.
- **FAO International Technical Conference on “Agricultural Biotechnologies in Developing Countries: Option and Opportunities in Crops, Forestry, Livestock, Fisheries and Agro-Industry to Face the Challenges of Food Insecurity and Climate Change” (ABDC-10), Mexico, 1 – 4 March 2010.**
APCoAB Coordinator representing APAARI, attended and organized the Asia-Pacific region specific session in the conference. This session comprised two introductory presentations, discussion and compilation of recommendations. These recommendations were presented in the Plenary Session of the conference and form a part of the consolidated conference report.
- **Sixth Coordination Meeting of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on Biosafety Capacity Building, Siem Reap, Cambodia, 1-3 February, 2010.**
APCoAB Coordinator participated in the meeting at the invitation of CBD. He presented APAARI’s programs on biosafety and capacity building in the AP region and invited the participation of CBD parties in these programs.
- **Meeting of the GlobalHort Board of Directors, Bangkok, Thailand, 12-13 November 2009.**

APCoAB Coordinator attended the meeting as GFAR representative. on a specific request. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Norman Looney and attended by representatives of CIRAD, ICDF, CGIAR, IFAD, NEPAD, AVRDC, GFAR and HortCRSP. APCoAB offered to include GlobalHort nominees in its training programs in horticulture and related areas.

- **Training Course on “*In Vitro* and Cryopreservation Techniques for Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources”, NBPGR, New Delhi, 9 – 21 November 2009.**

This training course was organized in collaboration with Bioersity International and ICAR. Eleven participants including four sponsored by APAARI (one each from PNG, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and Vietnam) attended the course covering areas of *in vitro* conservation, cryopreservation and molecular markers for genotype identification and genetic stability testing.

- **Publication: Proceedings of Expert Consultation on Biopesticides and Biofertilizers for Sustainable Agriculture.**

This publication is an outcome of the APAARI-COA meeting on Biopesticides and Biofertilizers for Sustainable Agriculture held on 27-29 October 2009 at Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Taichung.

- **Web-based information dissemination.**

APCoAB website (www.apcoab.org) provides information on APCoAB programs and latest developments in agricultural biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region. A new website with added features and user-friendly navigation is under development.

Agenda Item 6: Work Plan

The work plan for 2010, as approved by XI Steering Committee, was reviewed. Members were briefed on the progress relating to following proposed activities during the current year:

Expert Consultations/Symposia/Meetings

- Expert Consultation on “Post Harvest Technology and Value Addition of Horticultural Produce” to be held at MARDI, Malaysia during December, 2010.
- APCoAB SC meeting to be held in Korea in October 2010, alongwith General Assembly Meeting of APAARI.

Training Courses

- Training Program on "Edible Mushroom Production for Asian Farmers and Entrepreneurs" in collaboration with COA to be held at TARI, Taichung, 15-21 November, 2010.
- Training Program on "*In vitro* and cryopreservation techniques for conservation of Plant Genetic Resources", to be held at NBPGR, New Delhi, 15-27 November, 2010.

- Training Program on "Assisted reproductive technologies for livestock genetic improvement" in collaboration with COA and ILRI to be held at Livestock Research Institute, Chinese Taipei.

Publications

- Publication of success stories on Banana Tissue Culture in India and Banana Tissue Culture in the Philippines.

Agenda Item 7: Audited Accounts 2009 and Budget 2010

The audited accounts statement of APCoAB for the period January to December 2009 was presented by the Coordinator for review (Annexure III) and the same was duly approved. He also presented the budget for 2010, which was approved unanimously (Annexure IV). The members noted with satisfaction that the expenditure had been kept to bare minimum and limited to only committed activities under the work plan.

Agenda Item 8: General Discussion and Suggestions of Members

All the members participated in the discussion following the presentation of Action Taken Report and Progress Report. Following suggestions were made:

- The SC appreciated the progress of APCoAB particularly the important activities carried out during the period under report. The success of programs undertaken during the last few years is evident from the international recognition and visibility gained by the consortium.
- The continuing support of Mahyco and CAO was appreciated. It was recommended to request COA for extension of APAARI-COA collaborative project for another term of three years with enhanced funding support.
- As agreed by DG, ICAR, who attended the APAARI Executive Committee meeting held in the forenoon, and reiterated by Dr. Bawa in the SC meeting, ICAR would consider favorably the request of APAARI to waive the training fee for courses being organized in ICAR institutes.
- The SC unanimously agreed to request ICAR for funding support to APCoAB particularly in view of the observation that a large proportion of its activities relate to agricultural R&D in India. These include publication of status reports highlighting achievements of Indian agricultural research and organization of training programs in ICAR institutes.
- Dr. Gavin Wall offered to follow the pending proposals on TCP project and revision of publication on Biosafety Regulations with respective departments in FAO. He suggested the possibility of Ms. Rosa Rolle, Senior Agro-Industry and Post-Harvest Officer, FAO-RAP getting associated with the APAARI Expert Consultation on Post-Harvest Technology being held in Malaysia later this year.
- Following detailed discussion on the proposal received from MARDI regarding organization of Expert Consultation on Post-Harvest Technology, it was suggested that the program should give due prominence to rural-based PH technologies that

help in linking farmers with markets. It was suggested that IFAP could consider farmer's participation in this meeting.

- Dr. Kiran Sharma and Coordinator, APCoAB would identify specific joint activities related to agribusiness development and biotechnology translation. Based on specific needs, joint funding proposals for capacity building of stakeholders in the AP region would be formulated.
- It was suggested that the news updates posted on APAARI website should also be emailed to potential users.

Agenda Item 9: Any Other Business

No specific item under this Agenda was discussed.

Agenda Item 10: Concluding Remark

Dr. Abd Shukor in his concluding remarks thanked the participants for their consistent support and advice. Dr. Paroda thanked the members and funding agencies for their trust and appreciation of the need for a neutral forum on biotechnology such as APCoAB.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



**ASIA-PACIFIC CONSORTIUM ON AGRICULTURAL
BIOTECHNOLOGY**

XIII STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

**14 February 2011, 14:30 – 17:00
National Agricultural Science Centre,
New Delhi**

TENTATIVE AGENDA

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| 1. Welcome Remarks | : Dr. Raj Paroda |
| 2. Address by the Chairman | : Dr. S. Ayyappan |
| 3. Approval of Minutes of X SC Meeting | : Dr. S. Ayyappan |
| 4. A Brief Report | : Dr. J. L. Karihaloo |
| 5. Work Plan for 2011 | : Dr. J. L. Karihaloo |
| 6. Audited Accounts | : Dr. J. L. Karihaloo |
| 7. General Discussion on Activities and Resource Generation | : Members |
| 8. Any other Business | : Members |
| 9. Chairman's Closing Remarks | : Dr. S. Ayyappan |

ASIA-PACIFIC CONSORTIUM ON AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

XIII STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

14 February 2011, 14:30 – 17:00
National Agricultural Science Centre,
New Delhi

AGENDA NOTES

1. Welcome Remarks

Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI will welcome the members and other participants of the Steering Committee.

2. Address by the Chairman

Chairman APAARI, Dr. S. Ayyappan will deliver his Opening Address.

3. Approval of Minutes of XII SC Meeting

Proceedings of the XII Steering Committee meeting held on 24 April 2010 at NASC complex, N. Delhi were circulated to all the participants on 3 June 2010. Comments of FAO with respect to decisions regarding FAO support for some activities proposed for 2010 were received from Dr. Malcolm Hazelman, FOARAP. The same will be placed before the committee.

4. A Brief Report

Coordinator, APCoAB will brief the Steering Committee about the following activities carried out/ under progress during the period under report.

- 1) Expert Consultation Meeting on “Postharvest and Value Addition of Horticultural Produce” held in Malaysia, 29 November - 2 December 2010.
- 2) Training workshop on “Assisted Reproductive Technologies for Livestock Genetic Improvement” held at Livestock Research Institute, Tainan, Chinese Taipei, 24 – 29 October 2010.

- 3) Training Course on “*In Vitro* and Cryopreservation Techniques for Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources”, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi, 15 – 27 November 2010.
- 4) Training course on “Edible Mushroom Production for Asian Farmers and Entrepreneurs held at Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung, 21 – 27 November 2010.
- 5) Publication of success story on Banana Micropropagation in India.
- 6) Revision of APCoAB website.
- 7) Report on other effort towards promotion of biotechnology

5. Work Plan

Work plan for 2011 as approved by APAARI General Assembly will be reviewed.

6. Audited Accounts

The audited accounts statement for 2010 will be presented.

7. General Discussion

Discussion on progress, program for 2011, resource generation activities and budget will be held.

8. Any other Business

Any other item shall be taken up with the permission of Chair.

9. Closing of the Meeting

The Chairman will deliver closing remarks and the Executive Secretary, APAARI will propose a Vote of Thanks.

APCoAB WORK PLAN FOR 2011

| | |
|---|--|
| Expert Consultations /Symposia/Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert Consultation on “Biosecurity, Biotechnology and Biosafety” (tentative topic), to be held in Chinese Taipei in collaboration with COA during Oct. - Nov. 2011. • Meeting on Genetically Modified Food Crops in India, in collaboration with FBAE, ABLE-AG, NSAI, Mahyco |
| Training Programs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Program on “Rapid Bioassay for Pesticide Residues (RBPR) on Fruits & Vegetables for Market Inspection and Farm Education”, in collaboration with COA. • Training Program on in collaboration with COA (topic to be decided). • Training Program on “<i>In vitro</i> and cryopreservation techniques for conservation of Plant Genetic Resources”, to be held at National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi/”GM technologies for Crop Improvement”. |
| Publications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micropropagation for Production of Quality Banana Planting Material in Asia-Pacific • Proceedings of Expert Consultation on Postharvest and Value Addition of Horticultural Produce • Revision of Biosafety Regulations of Asia-Pacific Countries to be preceded by a workshop of National Biosafety Points (FAO support requested; publication \$10,000; workshop \$30,000) |



SUMMARY ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF APCoAB
01 January – 31 December 2010
 (Amount in US Dollars)

| ITEMS | Amount B/F | RECEIVED | DISBURSEMENTS | | BALANCE |
|--|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | | Budget | Actual Used | |
| 1. Contributions | | 9,990.99 | | | |
| 2. Interest Income | | 30.25 | | | |
| 3. Other Income: | | 90,000.00 | | | |
| 3.1 Refund | | 9,753.37 | | | |
| 4. Secretariat Support: | | | | | |
| 4.1 Office Stationery & Office equipment | | | 15,000.00 | 1,647.32 | |
| 4.2 Miscellaneous / Communication | | | | 2,815.31 | |
| 5. Publications | | | 10,000.00 | 836.34 | |
| 6. Consultancy, Salary of Assistant | | | 50,000.00 | 48,594.46 | |
| 7. Travel | | | 10,000.00 | 10,994.18 | |
| 8. Training | | | 20,000.00 | 22,484.00 | |
| 9. Meetings | | | 5,000.00 | 9,198.04 | |
| 9.1 Expenses of Steering Com/General/High Level Meetings | | | | - | |
| TOTAL | | 109,774.61 | 110,000.00 | 96,569.65 | 33,631.56 |
| | | | | | 46,836.52 |

Remark: Expenditure on behalf of APAARI USS 4,467.95

Total amount in BKK office:
 Total amount in New Delhi office:

USS 32,083.39
 USS 10,285.18

Grand Total:

USS 42,368.57

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[Signature]
 Dr. Raj Paroda
 Executive Secretary, APAARI

.....
[Signature]
 Ms. Urrairat Rujirek
 Accountant, APAARI

.....
[Signature]
 Mr. Rattanachai Dumnensawat
 External Auditor

Annexure VI

APCoAB Budget 2011

| | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. INCOME | US\$ 146,863.52 | US\$ |
| 2. ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE 2011 | | |
| 2.1. Consultancy | | 50,000.00 |
| 2.2. Secretarial Support and miscellaneous | | 15,000.00 |
| 2.3. Publications | | 10,000.00 |
| 2.4. Travel | | 10,000.00 |
| 2.5. Training | | 20,000.00 |
| 2.6. Meetings Expenses | | 20,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | 125,000.00 |

Expected Income 2011

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. CONTRIBUTORS | US\$ |
| 1.1 APAARI | 28,000.00 |
| 1.2 ACIAR | 12,000.00 |
| 1.3 Mahyco | 10,000.00 |
| 1.4 COA | 50,000.00 |
| 2. B/F 2010 BALANCE | 46,863.52 |
| TOTAL | 146,863.52 |