



**ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
(2/2015)**

PROCEEDINGS



Bangkok, Thailand

10 December, 2015



ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (2/2015)

10 December 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

PROCEEDINGS

The second meeting of the APAARI Executive Committee (EC) for 2015 was held at the Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand on 10 December 2015 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul, Chairman, APAARI, and Director General, DOA, Thailand. The Agenda items discussed are given in Annex. I. The meeting was attended by 44 participants including APAARI EC Members, APAARI members and special invitees (Annex. II).

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introduction

Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI welcomed Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul and requested him to chair the Executive Committee meeting. This was a special meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul, who was recently re-appointed as the Director General, DOA, Thailand, that took place in presence of many APAARI members who participated in the High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD). Dr Ghodake also welcomed all the members and special invitees for their participation in the meeting.

The EC members, special invitees and APAARI Secretariat staff were formally introduced by the Executive Secretary and the participants were apprised about the framed agenda. Relevant documents/papers were made available for the meeting. Though short, the meeting included crucial items for discussion and decision making for future planning and reorganization of APAARI programs and activities. The major discussion areas included strategic plan 2017-22, APAARI Vision-2030, governance, multi-stakeholder membership, resource mobilization and setting the pace for future direction.

Dr. Ghodake expressed his appreciation to the APAARI members present in the meeting and also the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Chinese Taipei Council of Agriculture (COA), and Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) centres, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders for their active role in APAARI meetings.

Agenda Item 2: Opening Remarks by the Chairman

Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul welcomed all the members and invited participants. He highlighted the importance of this meeting with a view to charting out strategies and priorities for APAARI during the next 6-7 years. Many changes have taken place and are happening within and outside APAARI and the Asia-Pacific region, and we need to look forward to the Association being highly relevant and progressive to the development of research and innovation systems in Asia and the Pacific.

The Chairman highlighted that APAARI has made significant achievements in the past. However, much more needs to be done in the years ahead in view of the changing agricultural scenario in terms of population growth, enhancement of agricultural production, food and nutrition security, poverty reduction, income generation, and climate change. APAARI strives to be a highly relevant, progressive and forward looking regional organization to cater to the needs of its members, partners and stakeholders and work towards sustainable agriculture through development of research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region. For this, the new Vision 2030 has to be in place to move forward the agenda of agricultural research and innovations for sustainable development with support and cooperation of its members and partners.

Some of the key challenges defining APAARI's new role to contribute towards meeting the needs of the region include accelerating productivity of agricultural and farming systems; reducing the losses of agricultural produce in the supply chains; enabling agricultural systems to produce new bio-materials and integrate with more advanced agro-industries; coping with climate change, price risks and economic shocks; greater integration of agricultural and food value chain actors with markets; expanding opportunities for communication and capacity development; and strengthening weak and underfunded ARI4D systems. APAARI is committed to meet these challenges by enabling and strengthening ARI4D systems in the region. For this to happen, APAARI will develop its implementation strategy in medium-term and will have biennial operational plans to implement these actions.

The Chairman also expressed his happiness that many new members joined APAARI during 2015 and a few members upgraded their membership status. This amply shows the confidence and faith of ARI4D organizations in this regional forum. He emphasized the need for more concerted efforts to attract more members representing diverse constituencies as its stakeholders to effectively address the ARI4D needs of the region.

Before concluding his opening remarks, Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul, Chairman, APAARI, released two new publications: i) Capacity Development Workshop on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation towards Measuring Outcomes and Impacts: Proceedings, and ii) Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region: Proceedings and Recommendations.

Finally, he declared the Second APAARI Executive Committee meeting for 2015 open.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Agenda by the Executive Committee

Before taking up further agenda items, the Chairman invited Dr. Md. Abdul Awal to act as Vice-Chair for the meeting since Dr. Abul Kalam Azad, elected Vice-Chair of EC, APAARI, and the Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), could not attend the meeting.

The Chairman introduced the meeting agenda and requested suggestions from the members on new agenda items or modification in any of the proposed agenda items. The Executive Secretary suggested an additional agenda item' namely "Consideration of Implications Arising from the HLPD". With this, the agenda items were approved for deliberations.

Agenda Item 4: Minutes of the last EC meeting

Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI, presented the salient features and key decisions from the proceedings of the last meeting held in Bangkok on 12 May 2015. The members perused the minutes, which were formally approved.

Agenda Item 5: APAARI Progress Report for May – November 2015

The Executive Secretary presented a brief report on APAARI activities and the progress made during May - November 2015 (Annex. III). The report covered the key areas such as major events/activities, including brainstorming session on developing APAARI Vision2030 at MARDI in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; capacity development workshop at MRADI in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; workshop on development of communication strategies for adoption of agro-biotechnology in Chiang Rai, Thailand; implementation of CRP DC scholarship program; knowledge management (publications); preparatory work on Dialogue on Bt Brinjal in Bangladesh; workshop on knowledge-based agricultural development in SE Asia; high level policy dialogue on investment in agricultural research for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific held in Bangkok; membership drive, project planning and organizing, collaboration with COA and participation with and contribution to GFAR.

It was agreed that all members of APAARI need to be included as Partners in GFAR, as they align, as does APAARI, with the mission and vision of the Global Forum¹.

During the discussion, a clarification was sought about APAARI's role in CRP DC scholarship program. It was clarified that APAARI's role is mainly in facilitating capacity development through co-ordination of training/scholarship program. It was also suggested that APAARI should collaborate with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for some activities. The members were informed that APAARI has been in touch with the ASEAN Secretariat but closer partnership is yet to be established. Further efforts would be made by the APAARI Secretariat in coming months to develop a link with ASEAN. For the Laos meeting, we should be looking at the involvement of AARNET which is the horticultural network of ASEAN and for which AVRDC is the official Secretariat organisation.

¹<http://www.gfar.net/about-us/gfar-structure>

At this point, mention was made of Crops for Future (CFF) requesting all members of APAARI to sign up to the Global Action Plan for Agricultural Biodiversity (GAPAB). This plan was launched under the leadership of CFF and the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA) at the recent Paris COP meeting. Further meetings will take place in Kuala Lumpur followed by Rome. This is something that APAARI would take up in consultation with CFF.

APAARI Progress Report May - November 2015 was endorsed and some relevant aspects will be included in the Progress Report: January – July 2016.

Agenda Item 6: Membership and Fee Payment Status

The Executive Secretary presented the report on membership and fee payment status as on 30 November 2015. He informed that the APAARI Secretariat and its partners continued to drive membership mobilization since January, 2015. This paid off in terms of increased membership from 55 in 2014 to 63 in 2015.

During the period January-November 2015, seven new Associate Members joined APAARI. One university upgraded its membership status from Affiliate to Associate Category. Besides, one university joined as a new Affiliate member.

The summary of updated status of payments of membership fee by the APAARI members (as on 30 November 2015) is given in Annex. IV. There has been an excellent progress in receiving the fee payments to the extent of 82 per cent (USD 219,000 out of total expected USD 269,000). At least half of the remaining collection of USD 50,000 is expected before the end of the year, especially around the Dialogue (or afterwards) and the rest in early 2016. There will also be an increase in the membership fee contributions (by about USD 16,500), as a few members are likely to join and others to upgrade their membership status.

There has been a considerable progress and further likely developments in terms of increased number of members and fees received. Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Cambodia, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) in Sri Lanka expressed their interest in joining as members of APAARI. Kamdhenu University, India, has already joined APAARI as an Associate Member effective January 2016. Navsari Agricultural University, India, SLCARP of Sri Lanka and BARC of Bangladesh will raise their membership category during 2016, while PCAARRD of the Philippines will raise its membership category from category II to category I effective 2017. New Caledonia announced upgrading their membership status (from category III to II) effective 2016. The private sector and civil society entities showed interest to join APAARI as members, and appropriate guidelines will need to be developed to decide on how to go about such members joining APAARI.

Gaps in membership were pointed out and there was a felt need for prioritization of NARS for membership. It was clarified that efforts will be made to increase membership from Pacific countries whose representation is presently low, and increase representation of women and youth groups.

Question was also raised as to whether APAARI should remain as the Association of Agricultural Research Institutions or wider stakeholders' forum. It was explained that initially the membership started with NARS (NARIs and NAROs) but it had been gradually expanding in view of the interest of wider stakeholders. For this, constitutional changes are necessary from legal angle but this can be looked into and addressed.

Some members expressed difficulties in transferring membership fee and asked for the possibility of paying fees for two years together in alternate years. This possibility can be looked into as a special case, in view the problem being faced by Iran, since there is no such restriction in the constitution of APAARI.

The representative of SLCARP stated that delay in payment occurred because the government took longer time to approve the raised payment by SLCARP from category III to II. The Executive Secretary informed that the membership fee is already being transferred from ARIA of Afghanistan and Lao PDR that will become APAARI member soon. The representative of IAC, New Caledonia, proposed that his organization will raise its membership category from III to II during 2016.

At this juncture, the meeting was informed about passing away of Thierry Mennesson, a member representing IAC, New Caledonia, over the years. One minute silence was observed as APAARI's respect and homage to the departed soul.

The progress on membership and fee payment status was appreciated and endorsed by the Executive Committee.

Agenda Item 7: Audit Report and Audited Financial Statement

APAARI External Auditor – The GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd. – carried out audit of APAARI financial statements for the period 1 January – 31 October 2015. The Executive Secretary presented the audit report and financial statements. The report was unqualified and satisfactory in all respects; including the way funds received and spent were presented that complied with generally accepted accounting principles. The funds spent in 2015 (USD 363,843.31) were less than the funds received (USD370, 935.08), amounting to a surplus of USD7, 091.77 with a total cash balance of USD 77,740.67. The expenditure was managed within the budgeted amount. The estimated funds to be received by APAARI during the remaining part of this year are USD 120,000 including membership fee and ACIAR contribution.

Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements as audited by APAARI External Auditor for the period January – October 2015 were endorsed.

Agenda Item 8: APAARI Vision 2030

The Executive Secretary briefly introduced the process involved in developing APAARI Vision 2030. The vision document was developed by following a structured process by the key members of the Executive Committee and some eminent resource persons as per the steps given in Annexure V.

- i) Development of vision document containing vision, mission and goal statements with outline of broad system level outcomes, strategic trusts and strategic interventions.
- ii) The vision document was developed in close consultation with EC Members and other eminent persons who participated in the EC meeting.
- iii) Draft vision document thus developed went through wider consultation with APAARI members, partners and stakeholders.
- iv) The Executive Secretary of APAARI had overseen the development of the vision document.

Dr. Mruthyunjaya, APAARI consultant, presented Vision 2030, which included background, key needs; key challenges; emerging opportunities; core values; vision, mission, and goal; APAARI ambitions, new competencies; strategic framework thematic thrusts; implementation focus areas; strategic planning and conclusion.

Profound thanks were expressed to Dr Mruthyunjaya for his contribution and to IFPRI for their funding support in providing Dr. Mruthyunjaya's services for this purpose.

During the discussion, a few important points emerged for inclusion in the document. These included focus on women and youth, extension and education to be included in the vision statement; social research and development; intellectual property issues, economic and social aspects, market linkage, integrated enterprise, quality seed production, transfer of technology, conservation and utilization of agro-biodiversity; and agro-forestry. It was clarified that most of the changes suggested are important and will be taken care of during the strategic planning process, while the prominent mention of innovation in the vision statement takes care of many aspects and disciplines. These will be part of the strategy document and no changes are required to be made at this stage to the vision document. The strategic plan will also give due considerations to cost effectiveness of APAARI operations (including its operations from two locations – Bangkok and Delhi) and resource mobilization aspects.

It was emphasized that the pertinent Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) should be reflected in the Vision document and APAARI needs to present itself strongly during the meetings of donors/funders at the regional level.

On the above basis, the APAARI Vision 2030 was approved to go ahead with printing.

Agenda Item 9: APAARI Work Plan: January – April 2016

The 13th General Assembly Meeting held on 1 November 2014 in Bangkok had approved broad and indicative Work Plan for implementation during 2015 and 2016. This was further reviewed in view of the new information and assessment of APAARI's internal and external scenarios and resources. A more detailed Work Plan was developed and approved by ECM, on 12 May 2015 for implementation during 2015. The Secretariat has developed an interim Work Plan for the period January – April 2016 based on planned activities to be completed in 2015 and high priority emerging activities (Annex. VI). Further detailed Work Plan for the entire year 2016 will be developed and presented to the ECM in April 2016.

It was mentioned that APAARI should take a lead role in GCARD3 since all donors, CGIAR centers, international agricultural research institutions (IARC's) and other stakeholders will be

participating. This opportunity needs to be cashed in by APAARI by raising all the relevant issues and highlighting the role of APAARI in the region. A mention was made about the FAO Regional Conference being organized in Malaysia which is to be attended by the Agriculture Ministers of most countries in the Asia-Pacific region. APAARI as a regional forum should participate in this conference. APAARI as GFAR's partner is looking for information on country-wise research and innovation investments – and impacts from investments in agricultural research and innovation – as part of a global drive to advocate for improved investment.

The work plan for January – April 2016 was endorsed by the Executive Committee.

Agenda Item 10: Developing APAARI Strategic Plan: 2017-2022

Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, informed that the Strategic Plan will be developed by focussing on the key thematic thrusts as contained in the Vision 2030 document. The thematic thrusts will be addressed through the following APAARI implementation focus areas: foresight and visioning, promoting and advocating, partnership and collaboration, strengthening and developing capacities, information and knowledge sharing, and inclusion of women and youth. Considerations will also need to be given in acquiring new competencies and skills to fulfil APAARI's ambitions.

Such strategic planning with results framework will need to be strongly equipped with an effective prioritization, monitoring and evaluation (PME) system to have in-built evidence of outcomes and impacts of such planned and implemented actions. These planned actions will be implemented through biennial operational plans, the first being for the biennium 2017-18 (to be considered by the GAM in 2016). In the course of planning and implementation, APAARI will need to strengthen and adhere to its core values such as visionary approach; devotion to merit and excellence; continuously learning and growing; inclusiveness with equity in participation; and accountability with highest integrity. In the process of strategic planning and implementation, APAARI will also strive towards its ambitions to become: i) a leading think tank; ii) the most sought after repository of up-to date knowledge; iii) a well-recognized centre of excellence; iv) able to continuously inspire; v) an influential policy advocate; and vi) an open, transparent, and financially secured system with best governance practices and efficient work culture. The fundamental basis for such strategy planning and results framework would remain the theory of change as draft outlined in Annex. VII. The outline of Activity Planning Matrix and Results /M&E Framework is depicted in Annex. VIII.

A number of points were raised, suggesting some topics/aspects be included in the Vision 2030 document. However, these topics/aspects being more appropriate for consideration in the strategic planning will be carefully looked at in the strategic planning process.

These also include the work on livestock and fisheries as well as the operations of APAARI from two locations – Bangkok and Delhi –for implementation of its programs and activities.

An estimated funding required would be around USD 25,000. It would take up to four months, involving participation by APAARI members and partners, and facilitation by resource person(s).

The development of Strategic Plan 2017-22 during the first half of 2016 was approved.

Agenda Item 11: Additional Member on Executive Committee

APAARI has been steadily expanding the membership of the Executive Committee since 2007, beginning with membership to CGIAR Centers, farmer organizations and GFAR. The membership was further expanded to NGOs in 2009 and further expanded with a seat to the Private Sector in 2015. A joint seat was also proposed to jointly represent members of the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA) and members from universities (the higher education sector). This is being considered and endorsed by the APAARI membership without any objection to go through the upcoming GAM in 2016.

However, a fresh proposal for a separate seat for the higher education sector on the Executive Committee was received for consideration by the EC. The proposal needs to be considered in view of the policy decision made by APAARI General Assembly in 2006 that key stakeholders should have representation on the Executive Committee so that all such important stakeholders participate in governance and policy decisions of APAARI. If supported, consideration should be given to make this arrangement effective as soon as possible with a provision of endorsement by the General Assembly for appropriate amendment to the Constitution and for the appointment of such a representative on the EC. The implication of this endorsement is that the AIRCA members will have an independent seat on the EC.

The proposal to create an additional seat on the Executive Committee for the higher education sector was approved, alongside the seat created for AIRCA.

Agenda Item 12: Other Matters

12.1: Recruitment of Administrative Support Staff

In order to effectively implement the planned strategic activities and functions of APAARI over the next 6-7 years, there is an urgent need to recruit an Administrative Assistant in the APAARI Office, Bangkok, effective as soon as possible and not later than 1 January 2016. The Assistant will be responsible for KBO functions and all administrative support matters and will be available to the Executive Secretary and other staff as necessary. The cost implication will be USD 10,000 per annum (approximately THB 30,000 per month).

The proposal for recruitment of Administrative Assistant was endorsed by the Executive Committee.

Placement/training possibilities from Members into the APAARI and GFAR Secretariats should also be considered, as ways to strengthen linkages and capacities in national systems and enhance the Secretariats' operation.

12.2: GCARD3

Dr. Mark Holderness made a presentation on GCARD 3 to be held in Johannesburg South Africa on 5-8 April 2016. He informed that national consultations are being organized by CGIAR in Bangladesh, Nepal and Vietnam. APAARI could facilitate these and also participate where possible. The High Level Policy Dialogue is also part of the GCARD3 process. The program of

GCARD3 is being developed and the details are available on GFAR website. APAARI needs to identify the constituencies from the Asia-Pacific region who should be represented in GCARD3. Clarification was sought as to whether a paper on the outcomes of HLPD can be presented in GCARD3, as well as the guidelines to identify the constituencies for participation in GCARD3 can be made available to APAARI. A process of identifying truly representative nominees from different sectors in the region to take part in the 2016 Partner Assembly and GCARD3 global event will be agreed between GFAR and APAARI Secretariats. APAARI will also consider directly sponsoring participants from the region to attend GCRAD 3 and GFAR Partner Assembly. Participating partners are requested to support their own travel where possible.

12.3: Implications of the Outcomes from the HLPD

The HLPD deliberated on the ASTI Program and found it to be highly relevant for implementation at the national level by countries in the Asia-Pacific Region. ACIAR expressed its interest in supporting this initiative and wished that APAARI co-ordinates this program to be implemented by IFPRI – ASTI Program, ACIAR and APAARI. This will have an implication to APAARI in terms of having a co-ordinator based at and hosted by APAARI. That will require at least 50 per cent cost of this position to be paid by APAARI, while remaining cost can come from the program to be funded by ACIAR. The person appointed at a P3 level will also be undertaking other jobs such as impact assessments and preparing compendium of innovations.

This was supported and approved by the EC.

12.4: Venue for Next GAM

The venue for the next General Assembly Meeting (GAM) and the topic of Regional Consultation to be held along with GAM were briefly discussed. The COA, Chinese Taipei volunteered to host the next General Assembly Meeting and this was supported by Dr. Dyno Keatinge, AVRDC and Ms. Esther, Penunia, AFA. It was agreed by the Executive Committee that the next GAM and the Regional Expert Consultation to be hosted by the COA, Chinese Taipei, and as for the topic of Regional Expert Consultation will be decided later.

Agenda Item 13: Concluding Remarks

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Somchai Charnnarongkul, Chairman, APAARI expressed his satisfaction and thanked all the EC members and other participants for their constructive and useful suggestions as well as for their approval/endorsement of various agenda items discussed in the meeting.

Agenda Item 14: Vote of Thanks

Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI extended vote of thanks to the Chairman, APAARI, and all the members, participants and the staff.

-----0-----



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (2/2015)

10 December 2015, Bangkok, Thailand

AGENDA

#	Time	Item	Facilitation
1	09.00-09.10	Welcome and Introduction	Dr Raghunath Ghodake Executive Secretary
2	09.10-09.20	Release/Display of Publications -Opening Remarks by Chairman, APAARI	Mr Somchai Charnnarongkul, DG, DOA
3	09.20-09.25	Approval of Agenda by the EC	Executive Secretary
4	09.25-9.35	Minutes of the last EC Meeting (1/ 2015) (for Approval)	Executive Secretary
5	09.35-10.10	APAARI Progress Report: May-November 2015	Executive Secretary
6	10.10-10.20	Membership and Fee Payment Status (as on 30November 2015)	Executive Secretary
7	10.20-10.30	Audited Financial Statements: January-October 2015	Executive Secretary
	10.30-10.50	Group Photograph & Tea/Coffee Break	
8	10.50-11.20	APAARI Vision 2030	Dr Mruthyunjaya
9	11.20-11.00	Work Plan: January-April 2016	Executive Secretary
		9.1 Forward Thinking for Agriculture Development in Western India	Dr M.C. Varshneya, President of IAUA
10	11.40 -11.50	Developing APAARI Strategic Plan: 2017-2022	Executive Secretary
11	11.50-12.00	Additional Member on the EC Representing Universities (Higher Education Sector)	Executive secretary
12	12.00-12.20	Other Matters	
		12.1 Administrative Support Staff	Executive secretary
		12.2 GFAR / GCARD 3 Update	Dr Mark Holderness
		12.3 Implications of the Outcomes from the HLPD	Executive secretary
		12.4 Venue for Next GAM	Executive secretary
13	12.20-12.30	Concluding Remarks	Chairman, APAARI
14	12.30-12.35	Vote of Thanks	Executive Secretary
	12.35-13.30	Lunch	

Executive Committee Meeting: List of Participants

#	Participants	Designation and address	Email	Country
I	EC members			
1	Somchai Charnnarongkul	Deputy Permanent Secretary Acting Director General Department of Agriculture Phaholyothin Rd., Chatuchak Bangkok 10900	somchai_moac@hotmail.com Pa.torsomchai@gmail.com	Thailand
2	Md. Abdul Awal	Chief Scientific Officer (CSO), Planning and Evaluation Division, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Farmgate, Dhaka- 1215	maawal70@barc.gov.bd; maawal70@yahoo.com; Maawal70@gmail.com	Bangladesh
3	Mark Holderness	Executive Secretary, The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), C/o Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153, Rome	mark.holderness@fao.org	Italy
4	John (Dyno) Keatinge	Director General, AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center, P.O. Box 42, Shanhua Tainan, Taiwan 74199	dyno.keatinge@worldveg.org	Chinese Taipei
5	David Shearer	General Manager, Corporate, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), 38 Thynne St Bruce ACT 2617, GPO Box 1571, Canberra, ACT 2601	david.shearer@aciar.gov.au	Australia
6	Raghunath Ghodake	Executive Secretary, APAARI, FAO Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Laung Road, Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100	raghunath.ghodake@apaari.org	Thailand
7	Reynaldo Eborá	Acting Executive Director, Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) - Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Paseo de Valmayor, Economic Garden, Bgy. Timugan, Los Baños, Laguna 4030	rvebora@gmail.com; r.ebora@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph	The Philippines

8	Ma. Estrella Penunia-Banzuela	Secretary General, Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), Room 206, Partnership Center, 59 c. Salvador St., Loyola Heights, Quezon City, 1108	afaesther@asianfarmers.org; afa@asianfarmers.org	The Philippines
9	A.R. Ariyaratne	Director/Secretary, Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (CARP), 114/9, Wijerama Mawatha, Colombo 07	arariya@hotmail.com; carp@slcarp.lk	Sri Lanka
10	Md. Abdul Mazid, Ph.D.	Advisor, Agriculture, BRAC International, BRAC Centre, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212	ma.mazid@brac.net; morshada.i@brac.net	Bangladesh
11	Javed Rizvi	Director, South Asia Program, ICRAF, South Asia Office, 1st Floor, CGIAR Block, NASC Complex, D.P. Shastri Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi – 110012	J.Rizvi@cgiar.org	India
II	Special Invitees			
12	Masa Iwanaga	President, Japan International Research Centre for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS), 1-1 Ohwashi, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8686	miwanaga@affrc.go.jp	Japan
13	Simon Hearn	Agricultural Consultant/Director, Hearn , 13 Wells Gardens, Griffith, Canberra, ACT 2603	perardua.hearn@gmail.com	Australia
14	Abdul Halim	Professor and Head, Department of Agriculture, PNG University of Technology, Lae 411	halimunitech@gmail.com; ahalim@ag.unitech.ac.pg	Papua New Guinea
15	Ajit Maru	Senior Officer, Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), Secretariat, C-610, DDNG, FAO, VialledelleTerme di Caracalla, 00153, Rome	ajit.maru@fao.org; Amaru_in@yahoo.com	Italy
16	Andrea Powell	Chief Information Officer, Publishing Directorate, CABI, Nosworthy Way, Wallingford, Oxon, Oxfordshire, OX108DE	a.powell@cabi.org; m.freedman@cabi.org	United Kingdom
17	Bhag Mal	Senior Consultant, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), C/o ICRISAT, NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi – 110012	b.mal@apaari.org	India

18	Boris C.K. Chang	First Secretary, Political Division Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in Thailand (TECO), 20th F Empire Tower 1, South Sathorn Rd., Bangkok10120	changboris@msn.com	Thailand
19	Chanerin Maneechansook	APAARI, FAO Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Laung Road, Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100	chanerin@apaari.org	Thailand
20	Charoen Nitiwatanapon	Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in Thailand (TECO), 20th F Empire Tower 1, South Sathorn Rd., Bangkok10120	charoen1952@hotmail.com	Thailand
21	Chawee Lomlek	Department of Agriculture Phaholyothin Rd., Chatuchak Bangkok 10900	plomlek@yahoo.com	Thailand
22	Javad Mozafari Hashjin	Director General, Academic Relations and International Affairs, Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization (AREEO), Yemen Ave., Chamran Highway, PO Box 19395-1113, Tehran	jmozafari@yahoo.com	Iran
23	Jawahir Lal Karihaloo	Senior Consultant, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), ICRISAT, NASC Complex, DPS Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110012	j.karihaloo@apaari.org; jlkarihaloo@gmail.com	India
24	Jintawee Thaingam	Director of International Agricultural Affairs Group, Department of Agriculture, 50 Phaholyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900	jintawee@hotmail.com	Thailand
25	Junne-Jih Chen	Director General, Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) of COA	jjchen@tari.gov.tw	Chinese Taipei
26	K.M. Bujarbaruah	Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat - 785013, Assam	kmbujarbaruah@rediffmail.c om; vc@aau.ac.in	India
27	Laurent L'huillier	Director General, Institut Agronomique Neo-Caledonien, Centre de Cooperation, Internationale en Recherche Agronomique Pour le development, B.P. 35 Paita Nouvelle-Caledonie	lhuillier@iac.nc; l.lhuillier@me.com	New Caledonia
28	Madangopal Varshneya	Vice Chancellor/President, Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA), Kamdhenu University, Karmayogi Bhavan, Block-1, B-1 Wing, 4th Floor, Room No. 414, Sector-10-A, Gandhinagar-382010, Gujarat	vc.kamdhenu.university@g mail.com; mcvarshneya@gmail.com	India

29	Margaret C. Yoovatana	Policy and Plan Specialist, Planning and Technical Division, Department of Agriculture, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900	luckymegy@yahoo.com	Thailand
30	Moirangthem Premjit Singh	Vice Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Iroisemba, Lamphel, Imphal – 795004, Manipur	mpremjit55@gmail.com; vcofficecau@yahoo.in	India
31	Lhap Dorji	Programme Director, RNR Research and Development Centre, Wengkkhar, DOA MOAF, RDC WENGGKHAR, PB 132, MONGAR	lhapdorji@moaf.gov.bt	Bhutan
32	Mruthyunjaya	Former National Director, NAIP (ICAR), G-502, NCC Urban, Meadows 2, Doddaballapur Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064	mruthyunjaya1947@gmail.com	India
33	Pramod K. Joshi	Director, South Asia, IFPRI, NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi-110012	p.joshi@cgiar.org	India
34	Prapas Songhongsu	Department of Agriculture Phaholyothin Rd., Chatuchak Bangkok 10900, Thailand	haripoonchai@hotmail.com	Thailand
35	Surendra Kumar Singh	Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, Amravati Road, Nagpur 440 033	director@nbsslup.ernet.in; skcssri@gmail.com	India
36	Surmsuk Salakpetch	Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture, Phaholyothin Rd., Chatuchak Bangkok 10900	ssalakpetch@gmail.com	Thailand
37	Tapsir Serin	Director of Strategic Planning and Innovation Management, MARDI HQ, Persiaran MARDI-UPM, 43400 Serdang, Selangor	tapsir@mardi.gov.my	Malaysia
38	Vilasini Pillai	Coordinator, APCoAB, FAO Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road, Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100	vilasini.pillai@apaari.org	Thailand
39	Warawut Chootummatouch	Department of Agriculture, Phaholyothin Rd., Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900	cwarawut@ymail.com	Thailand
40	Yama Pandey	Executive Director, Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC), Singh Durbar Plaza P.O. Box 5459, Kathmandu	ednarc@ntc.net.np; yrajpandey@yahoo.com	Nepal
41	Lee Jeong-Heon	Administrative official, International Technology Cooperation Center, Rural Development Administration (RDA), 300 Nongsaengmyeong-ro, Lseo-myeon, Wanju-gun, Jeollabuk-do, 440-706	leejhu@korea.kr	Republic of Korea

42	Jim Leandro Cano	Capacity Building and Policy Officer / Country Representative, YPARD Asia Pacific / YPARD Philippines, Green gate, Kayumanggi St., Colledgeville Subdivision, Brgy. Putho-Tuntungin, Los Baños, Laguna	ypard.philippines@gmail.com; jim.cano7@gmail.com	The Philippines
43	Joseph Carl Dakila I. Olfindo	YPARD, Proprietor, Consultant, (Fruit & Plantation Crops)	josephcarloffindo@gmail.com dreamagritech@gmail.com	The Philippines
44	Papia Jahan	YPARD, Bangladesh Representative and Lecturer, Dhaka Oriental College, 9/14, Vhagholpur, Savar, Dhaka	papia.jahan@yahoo.com	Bangladesh

Progress Report: May - November 2015

1. Major Events/Preparations Undertaken by APAARI

1.1 APAARI Executive Committee Meeting (1-2015) - 12th May 2015, Bangkok

The first meeting of the new APAARI Executive Committee (EC) was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Suwit Chakiattiyos, Deputy Director-General, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand. The meeting was attended by 24 participants including APAARI members and special invitees.

- As many as ten key decisions were made, including appointment of auditors, approval of audit report, developing APAARI Vision 2030 and strategic planning, work program - especially the organization of the High Level Policy Dialogue, income and expenditure plan 2015-16, formation on Steering Committees of APCoAB and APARIS, expansion in the membership of EC.
- A comprehensive proceeding is available in the folders.

1.2 Developing APAARI Vision 2030

- A structured process having the core committee comprised of EC members and eminent persons, drafting concept note, seeking comments on various drafts, two-day brain-storming exercise, constituting the drafting committee, and wider circulation of the final draft to APAARI members and many others was followed.
- The focus and coverage was to develop only major elements of the Vision document covering vision statement, mission statement, and goal statement as arising by considerations to the context and key needs of agriculture and agri-food systems in the Asia-Pacific region, major challenges defining APAARI's role, and emerging opportunities.
- The final draft is presented to the EC in this meeting for approval.

1.3 Capacity Development Workshop on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation towards Measuring Outcomes and Impacts

- APAARI in collaboration with ACIAR, GFAR and MARDI organized a five-day capacity development workshop, on 3-7 August 2015 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- The workshop provided an opportunity to participants to share their experiences in undertaking research projects in their respective countries. Presentations on necessary background information and evaluation concepts were given. Hands-on training helped participants to orient themselves to PM&E framework and tools for better project design, implementation and evaluation.
- The workshop was attended by thirty-one project team leaders who are involved in orientating, planning and evaluating agricultural R&D projects from 18 countries in Asia and the Pacific. Four resource persons representing ACIAR and GFAR provided valuable inputs in the workshop.
- The experience in organizing this workshop shows that ongoing encouragement and support are extremely necessary. It was acknowledged that using the impact pathway framework to formulate project design and delivery will be challenging, but the participants showed a strong commitment to use these new skills in the future. Besides, the workshop provided an excellent opportunity to build

supportive networks. This is anticipated to assist in overall knowledge development, throughout the Asia-Pacific that will be used in the future to continue to build the region's capacity to effectively undertake suitable evaluations of agricultural research projects.

1.4 Workshop on Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region

- APAARI/APCoAB organized a workshop on Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in Asia and the Pacific on 28-29 September 2015 in Chiang Rai, Thailand. It was organized in collaboration with ISAAA, MABIC and supported by COA, Chinese Taipei. The main objectives of the workshop were to: i) deliberate on issues and bottlenecks in the adoption of agri-biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region; ii) discuss policies, regulation and communication strategies that can expedite the adoption of agri-biotechnology; and iii) come up with recommendations and communication strategies that could expedite the adoption of biotech crops to harness its benefits in the Asia-Pacific region.
- International experts from nine countries together with twenty-four agriculture researchers from fifteen countries in the Asia and the Pacific participated and shared their experiences as resource persons, scientists, regulators and communicators.
- The participants deliberated on issues and bottlenecks in the adoption of agri-biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region and discussed on policies, regulations and communication strategies that can expedite the adoption of agri-biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region. All of the participants agreed that the key problems are no longer based around not having an adequate flow of technology in the region, but around not having commensurate communication and understanding of agri-biotechnology opportunities. Proceedings of this workshop have been published and a Communications Framework will be published by February 2016.

1.5 Implementation of CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program

- APAARI had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ICRISAT to collaborate in CGIAR Research Program (CRP) on Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program. This will contribute to the human resource capacity development in the region.
- Six candidates from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Sri P.V.N. Telangana State University for Veterinary, Animal, Fishery Sciences, Hyderabad, India; Field Crops Research & Development Institute, Mahalluppallama, Sri Lanka; Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, China; and B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, India, were selected for their Ph.D. research work.
- The Letters of Agreements between APAARI and the respective Universities/Institutions have been signed. The total allocated scholarship grant is USD 150,000 out of which USD 64,212 is allocated for scholarship of these six candidates. Out of this allocated amount, USD 19,263 (30%) amount) has been disbursed in the first tranche.

- Applications have been invited in the second call for identifying additional five candidates with projected grant of about USD 60,000 and the applications received are under process of evaluation and selection.

1.6 High Level Policy Dialogue –Planning, Preparations and Delivery

- Huge efforts and planning went into this event in terms of initial conceptualization, mobilizing co-organizers, funding, resource papers, participants (funded and self-funded), program developing, scoping, logistics, facilitation, etc.
- About 131 participants representing NARIs/NAROs (49%), international research centres (including CG Centres) (23%), the private sector (3%), CSOs/Civil society (including FOs) (28%), international development organizations (8%), regional fora of public agricultural research for development (11%), higher education institutions (6%) and international independent consultants (3%) were mobilized to participate.
- Many challenges faced and also many opportunities were presented and explored..
- Good outputs, useful recommendations and constructive way forward are expected from the meeting.

2. Knowledge Management (Publications)

2.1 Proceeding of the APAARI Executive Committee Meeting (1-2015) of 12 May 2015

- Comprehensive proceedings with key decisions, detailed deliberations, arising actions, and detailed submission and background papers, were the outcome of close consultations with EC members and others who participated in the meeting.
- They were circulated to all APAARI members and partners and uploaded on the website.
- The actions on various aspects are being taken-up as per the EC Proceedings.

2.2 APAARI Newsletter January – June 2015

- APAARI Newsletter for June issue (2015) was redesigned with new outlook having an editorial and important news story with a picture on the front page.
- The important features appearing in this issue (Vol. 24, No. 1) for the period January-July 2015, included: a profound tribute to Dr Raj Paroda, key decision of ECM (1-2015), recognition of former APAARI Chair – Dr Simon Hearn’s contribution, introduction of new member organizations and their heads, new publications, news and updates from member organizations and plans and updates of APAARI.
- The issue was widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders and posted on website. Copies are available in the folders.

2.3 APAARI Half-Yearly Progress Report for Period January-June 2015

- Highlights and recommendations of various meetings organized/attended during the period, namely, APAARI Executive Committee Meeting; Tropical Agriculture Platform - CD (AIS) Expert Group Workshop; International Training Course on Smart Use of Fertilizers to Improve Crop Production and Soil Conservation, have been covered.

- The report includes the progress on dissemination of information and publications including publication of proceedings of Expert Consultation on Food Safety, 12 Asian Maize Conference, APAARI GM Meeting, APAARI Newsletter, APAARI Flyer, APAARI Constitution, updating APAARI and APCoAB websites and web-based and CD information.
- The report was widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders as well as posted on the APAARI website and received many positive feedbacks. A copy of the report is available in the folder.

2.4 Proceedings of the Capacity Development Workshop on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation towards Measuring Outcomes and Impacts (Released on 10 December 2015)

The Proceedings embodies the following:

- Highlights of presentations made by resource persons.
- Summary discussions, outcomes and feedback from participants.
- Workshop recommendations.
- It will be circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders as well as posted on website

2.5 Proceedings of the Workshop on Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific region (Released on 10 December 2015)

The Proceedings of the workshop encompassed the following:

- Summaries of presentations by the resource persons.
- Discussions of the 5 groups representing different stakeholders on challenges faced when dealing with these groups.
- Recommendations and strategies to overcome these challenges.
- It will be circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders as well as posted on the APAARI website.

2.6 APAARI Calendar 2016 and APAARI on CD 2015

APAARI Calendar 2016 and APAARI on CD 2015 have been prepared for distribution to members, partners and stakeholder (copies in the member folder).

3. Membership Drive

- Collective efforts by APAARI Secretariat and Members were undertaken in formally writing to all current and potential members of APAARI as well as personally contacting them and many others. Support was also sought from APAARI advocates and stakeholders. Focus was given on NARIs/NAROs, universities and advanced research institutions/CG Centers. This helped in enhancing the membership from 55 member organizations in 2014 to 63 in 2015 as of 10 December 2015. A detailed report on Membership Fee Payment Status is given in a separate agenda.

4. Project Planning and Organizing

- Dialogue on Performance of Bt. Brinjal in Bangladesh and Prospects of its Wider Adoption (planned and approved in the last EC meeting).

- Policy Dialogue on Transforming Towards Knowledge-Based South East Asian Agriculture (planned and approved in the last EC meeting).
- National Workshop Forward Thinking for Agriculture Development in Western India (proposed by the higher education sector and to be considered during this meeting).

5. Collaboration with COA

APAARI and the Council of Agriculture (COA), Chinese Taipei, initiated a three-year collaborative project in January 2008 to support APAARI biotechnology program – the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB). After a review in 2011, the project was extended for three more years, and in 2014 another extension of three years (2014-16) took place. COA committed its funding to be USD 50,000 per year. The following are key activities that were undertaken in this reporting period:

- ### **5.1 Multi-Country Observational Study Mission on Revitalizing Rural Economies for More Inclusive Development** – COA, Executive Yuan, China Productivity Center and the Asian Productivity Centre together with APAARI, co-organized this mission on 14-18 September 2015 in Chinese Taipei. The aim was to study policy and institutional settings for better revitalization of rural economies as, well as to learn from the strategies, approaches and successful models used to revitalize the host country’s rural economies. The participants would then be able to formulate strategic action plans used for the revitalization of their own rural economies and disseminate findings of the mission in their respective countries. The program consisted of visits to sites of successful cases of revitalization of local economies in the host country, theme presentations, sharing of experiences among member countries, and individual/group exercises. APAARI nominated six participants, from Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Vietnam.
- ### **5.2 International Symposium on Bio-pesticides and Bio-fertilizers for Sustainable Agriculture** – The Agricultural Technology Research Institute (ATRI) co-organized the Symposium with APCoAB, COA and China Productivity Centre, from 13-15 October 2015 in Chinese Taipei. A total of 120 participants from industry, regulators and scientists from universities and research institutes in Taiwan, as well as experts and officials from five Southeast Asian countries took part in the event. The objectives were to understand: registration systems, policies and regulation rules in bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers of Southeast Asian countries, their development status, management, marketing promotion and marketing of bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers, as well as to promote international cooperation of bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers through international industrial development and co-operation. The Symposium covered talks from local and foreign regulatory officials and scientists from Taiwan and abroad. APAARI nominated participants from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam to participate in the event.
- ### **5.3 International Conference on Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza, Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI) – APCoAB and COA**

co-organized the conference on 21-22 October 2015 in Chinese Taipei. Participants discussed issues about enhancing communication and collaboration among Asian countries to fight against the disease. The conference provided opportunities to share information and experiences on prevention and control of avian influenza for government officials, researchers and stakeholders. The objectives were to establish a communication network for international collaboration in co-defence mechanisms, and fight the invasion and spread of avian influenza. The experts came from Japan, Chinese Taipei, USA and Korea. Participants represented Southeast Asian countries with APAARI-supported participant – Dr. Pham Minh Hang –from Vietnam.

6. Partnership –APAARI Contribution to GFAR

Organization of GFAR Constituent Assembly:

- APAARI nominated 15 members from various constituencies in the Asia-Pacific region to be on the GFAR Constituent Assembly.
- The actual event took place in Bangkok from 24 to 26 August 2015. A total of 90 participants attended the meeting. They deliberated and decided on various elements of new GFAR, which will have many constituencies including, regional fora, FOs, NGOs, development organizations, the private sector, women, co-operatives and others. Details can be under the Other Matters (GFAR/GCARD 3) update.

7. Participation in Meetings Organized by Other Organizations

7.1. A Regional Consultation on Agro-forestry - A Way Forward was organized jointly by TAAS, ICAR, ICRAF, the Indian Society of Agro-forestry and APAARI, from 8-10 October 2015 in New Delhi. The dialogue was a major initiative to take forward the recommendations of the World Congress on Agro-forestry and developing collaboration and partnership among regional countries. About 100 participants, including representatives from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and Vietnam, as well as farmers, researchers, policy makers, industry, finance, insurance sector, and NGOs, participated. There were five technical sessions and five panel discussions during the workshop. The technical sessions were based on national and global scenario of agro-forestry R&D, country status reports of the participating countries, innovations and developments in agro-forestry, socioeconomic and environmental issues. The panel discussions were held on formulating a road map for agro-forestry research, agro-forestry for land rehabilitation, agro-forestry education, role of industry / private sector and regional / international cooperation and partnerships.

7.2 TAP FAO and APAARI partnership in CD for AIS

- APAARI is one of the partners of the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) and a member of its Global Task Force and implementing partner in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- APAARI signed a LoA with TAP/FAO on 18 September 2015 for contributing to the implementation of the TAP action Plan, especially for raising awareness and promoting the Common Framework on Capacity Development for Agricultural

Innovation Systems at various regional and sub-regional events that APAARI will be conducting in 2015 and first half of 2016.

- In support of the activities of the CDAIS project in Laos and Bangladesh, APAARI will share information relevant to CDAIS, participate in national marketplace events, and facilitate contacts and linkages for creating opportunities for cooperation as required.
- APAARI will assist additional non-pilot countries of the CDAIS project to apply the Common Framework on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems.

Status of Membership Number and Fees Received (USD) as of 30 November 2015				
Membership Category	Number	Fees Received	Total to be Received	Yet to be received
		USD	USD	USD
• NARS	20	90,000	137,000	47,000
• Associate	24	120,000	120,000	0
• Affiliate	9	9,000	12,000	3,000
• Reciprocal	10			
• Total	63	219,000	269,000	50,000
Likely enhancement in immediate future				
• Upgrade by 1 affiliate members (NAU)				3,500
• One NARS upgrade (SLCARP)				3,000
• Two new Associate member joining (SDAU and Kamdhenu universities)	2			10,000
Total additional	2		16,500	16,500
Grand Total	65		285,500	66,500

Stepwise Action Plan with Timelines- Development of APAARI Vision 2030 – June to December 2030			
Step	Action	Time Line	Remark
1	Intensive comments/contributions/suggestions on the draft Concept by the Lead Group Members and possible queries /suggestions by Dr Mruthyunjaya (Lead Resource Person).	Beginning immediately and continue until 30 June 2015	Draft CN was available as per ECM of 12 May 2015.
2	Assimilations, considerations and reflections of such comments/contribution and development of the first draft of the Vision document by the Lead Resource Person.	July 2015	The first draft was developed and sent to the Lead Group Members.
3	Face-to-face brainstorming exercise involving the Key Lead Group Members in the first week of August in MARDI, Malaysia.	4-5 August 2015	Organized successfully with agreed outline document and key statements (vision, mission and goal) and some strategic elements.
4	Refinements by the Lead Resource Person and Facilitator.	August 2015	Performed in consultation with lead group.
5	Circulation of such draft document to wider groups including APAARI members, partners and relevant stakeholders for their comments/suggestions.	September 2015	Completed successfully with few interventions.
6	Considerations to the approved SDGs to articulate any terms, messages, language, etc. and preparation of Final Draft.	First week of October 2015	SDGs approved and reflected as needed.
7	The final draft is sent to APAARI members and others as needed and consideration/reflection of any final refinements.	October/until 20 November 2015	Received a few comments which have been considered/reflected.
8	The final draft presented to the EC and others (as present) for their approval.	10 December 2015	Coinciding with High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD).
9	Final editing and printing/ uploading, circulating, etc.	By the end of January 2016	
10	Approved Vision document will be followed by Strategy Planning, Medium-Term Operational Plan based on Theory of Change/Result Framework	During Early 2016	

APAARI Proposed Work Plan: January-April 2016

I Publications

- 1.1 APAARI Newsletter (July – December 2015)
- 1.2 Mobilizing Success Stories (circular sent)
- 1.3 APAARI Six-Monthly Progress Report (July – December 2015)
- 1.4 APAARI Vision Document
- 1.6 Proceedings of the High Level Policy Dialogue
- 1.7 Booklet on Recommendations and Way Forward

II. Major Meetings/Events

- 2.1 Planning and Developing APAARI Strategic Plan: 2017-2022
- 2.3 Dialogue on Performance of Bt. Brinjal in Bangladesh and Prospects of its Wider Adoption
- 2.4 Policy Dialogue on Transforming Towards Knowledge Based Agriculture in SE Asia
- 2.4 Forward Thinking for Agriculture Development in Western India (Proposed by higher Education Sector and to be considered during this meeting.)
- 2.5 Training Activity with COA (TBI as we go along)

III. Corporate Matters

- 3.1 Recruitment and placement of Coordinator-Knowledge Management
- 3.2 APAARI EC Meeting (1)/2016 (April)
- 3.3 APCoAB Steering Committee Meeting (April)
- 3.4 APARIS Steering Committee Meeting (April)
- 3.5 Redesigning APAARI and APCoAB Websites from Window to Door
- 3.6 Continue improving and implementing APAARI Communication/knowledge sharing activities
- 3.7 Supporting the development and implementation of APAEON
- 3.8 Planning and mobilizing human resources in support of effective implementation of Strategic Plan 2017-2022
- 3.9 Initiate planning legal status for APAARI
- 3.10 recruitment of an Administrative Assistant (as approved)

IV. GCARD /CGIAR and Other Partners

- 4.1 Participation by members in national consultation as needed under GCARD 3 processes
- 4.2 Organizing and participating by APAARI members in Global GCARD 3 event to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 5-8 April 2016.
- 4.3 Facilitation and participation by APAARI in the CRP II Phase
- 4.4 Participation in TAP CDAIS (Capacity Development on Agricultural Innovation Systems) Exercise – Awareness and participation in the pilot projects in Bangladesh and Laos
- 4.5 Continue implementation of CRP DC Scholarship program
- 4.6 Participation by APAARI in any other relevant events as organized by other partners
- 4.7 Further brief on GFAR/GCARD 3 is given under Other Matters

V. Planning, Mobilization and Implementation of Resources and Partnerships

- 5.1 Membership Drive; especially smaller NARS and others such as universities, CSOs (NGO, FOs), private sector
- 5.2 Developing guidelines for the private sector taking membership of APAARI

- 5.3 Mobilization of funding support from sponsors, for planned major events
- 5.4 Re-strengthening of APARIS as Core Role of APAARI in Knowledge /Innovation for Development
- 5.5 Developing work plan, major events and detailed budget for remaining year 2016.
- 5.6 Financial management and improved accounts keeping

APAARI Theory of Change Draft Outline

Attaining Sustainable Development Goals with Emphasis on Reducing Extreme Poverty, Eliminating Hunger and Malnutrition, Generating Sustainable Rural Livelihoods, Improving Environment and Quality of Life in the Asia-Pacific Region

- ✓ Provides accessible, affordable, safe, healthy, nutritious food
- ✓ Produces conventional and new bio-based industrial feedstock
- ✓ Generates energy from renewable resources
- ✓ Provides environment services
- ✓ Provides recreation and tourism
- ✓ Protects heritage and culture

Contributions from other Development Systems such as IT, Financial, Health, Education, Infrastructure, based on good Governance

Transforms and strengthens Agriculture and Agri-food Systems in the Region

More effective and efficiently generated, demand driven information, knowledge, skills, and technologies to address challenges and satisfy needs of Innovation and development

Transformed and strengthened Agri-food Research and Innovation Systems in the Region

Change in APAARI

- Renewed Vision, Mission, Strategy
- Management of Operations, Finances, and Human Resources
- Governance - Membership - Constitution, Statutory Committees
- Resource Mobilization and Management
- Capacity Development (Human and Infrastructure)
- Information and Communications
- Management for sharing information among various agricultural research and innovation systems
- Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation of APAARI and its programs

Dialogues on Critical Issues related to ARD and Actions on them through Collaboration and Collaboration with Impact Assessment

Change in National, Sub-Regional, Regional and International Partners

- Participation of all stakeholders
- Focus on women and youth
- Sharing and exchange of information, knowledge, skills, technology, infrastructure, resources
- Enabling improved good governance and investment in capacity development
- Developing new capacities and renewing existing capacities
- Enabling integration and coherence in research and innovation systems
- Forward thinking
- Strengthening thematic and commodity research
- Strengthening and improved information and communication systems and knowledge sharing
- Planning, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural research and innovation

Strategic Plan: 2017-2022 - Activity Planning Matrix and Results /M&E Frameworks							
		APAARI Implementation Focus Areas					
	Thematic Thrust Areas	Foresight & visioning	Promoting & advocating	Partnership & collaboration	Strengthening & developing capacities	Information & knowledge sharing	Inclusion of women & youth
1	Transforming agriculture and agri-food systems	Activity name and Scheduling					
2	Greater integration of agricultural value chain actors with markets						
3	Knowledge intensive agriculture for economic development						
4	Enabling sustainable use of natural resources, renewable energy, and forests						
5	Managing the spread of trans-boundary diseases and pests						
6	Coping with risks and uncertainties in agriculture and agri-food systems						
7	Investment and capacity development for impact based agricultural research and innovation						
8	Improving APAARI governance and resource mobilization						