



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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
(1/2016)**

**PROCEEDINGS**



**Bangkok, Thailand**

**8 September 2016**



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

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (1/2016)**

**8 September 2016, Bangkok, Thailand**

### **PROCEEDINGS**

The first meeting of the APAARI Executive Committee (EC) for 2016 was held at the Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand on 8 September 2016. Dr Waraporn Prompoi, Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand was the chairperson, representing Mr Somchai Charnnaroungkul, Chairman, APAARI & DG, DOA, Thailand and Dr. Shah Md. Ziqrul Haq Chowdhury, Member Director (Livestock), BARC, was the Vice Chair, representing Dr. Abul Kalam Azad, Co-Chairman, APAARI & Executive Chairman, BARC, Bangladesh. The Agenda items agreed and discussed are given in Annex. I. The meeting was attended by 20 participants including 9 APAARI EC Members, special invitees, APAARI Secretariat staff and members of the Task Force engaged for the Strategic Planning Exercise (2011-2022). List of participants is attached (Annex. II).

The meeting considered and discussed all agenda items in order of its schedule. The minutes of the meetings are detailed below:

#### **Agenda Item No. 1. Welcome Remarks and Introduction by EC-APAARI**

Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI welcomed and thanked Dr Waraporn Prompoi, for chairing the Executive Committee Meeting and her opening remarks and also welcomed the participants. Dr Ghodake then formally introduced all the participants one by one and elaborated all agenda items for the EC Meeting and also apprised the members about the documents/papers made available for the meeting. It was confirmed that the needed quorum for holding EC was complete to make decisions as 9 out of 12 EC Members were present in the meeting. He then requested the Chairperson to officially release two recent publications of APAARI (i) APAARI Vision 2030; (ii) Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific.

#### **Agenda Item No. 2. Opening Remarks by Chairperson**

EC Meeting began with the opening remarks by the Chairperson, Dr Waraporn Prompoi. She appreciated the achievements made by APAARI and emphasised on its greater role on four program areas on which APAARI is now focusing, i.e. the knowledge management, partnership and networking, capacity building and advocacy. She was of the view that the APAARI strategies

in the proposed Strategic Plan should be able to respond to the changing needs of the Asia-Pacific Region (APR). She elaborated that whilst the region has experienced rapid economic growth in recent years and consequently has made impressive progress against the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), large disparities persist and the most poor continue to be denied their share of the benefits. She pointed out that 18 per cent of the APR population (or 772 million people) still live on less than US\$ 1.25 per day and rising incomes and purchasing power are placing pressure on food supplies, driving an increase in income inequality and raising questions of future sustainability. Thus, in this context she viewed APAARI as a regional forum to play its role in building partnerships for wide spread agricultural research and innovations by engaging all NARIs, NAROs, CG Centres, Farmers' Associations, NGOs, and other stakeholders and contribute towards realizing its Vision 2030. Finally, she declared the first APAARI Executive Committee Meeting 2016 open. Full version of her speech is in Annex 3.

### **Agenda Item No. 3 Approval of Agenda by the EC**

The already framed agenda as circulated was officially approved for discussion in the EC Meeting,

### **Agenda Item No. 4 Minutes of the last meeting (2/2015)**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI presented the salient features and key decisions from the proceedings of the last EC Meeting (2/2015) that was held on 10 December, 2015. These included

1. Proceedings ECM of 12<sup>th</sup> May approved
2. Interim Audit Report (Jan- October 2015) approved
3. APAARI Vision 2030 approved
4. APAARI Work Plan for Interim period: Jan- April 2016 approved
5. Approval granted for structured development of APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22
6. Additional member representing Higher Education sector proposed
7. APAARI participation in GCARD 3 approved
8. ASTI Project position with 50% funding support by APAARI approved
9. Administrative staff position approved

And all these actions have been implemented.

The EC members perused the minutes and these were formally approved. It was emphasized on engaging all stakeholders, farmers' organizations in decision making. It was also proposed to establish a Foresight Global E-Forum of all stakeholders with APAARI taking a leading role. Dr Ghodake assured that APAARI will consider becoming a partner of such a Platform.

## **Agenda Item No. 5 APAARI Progress Report December-2015 to August 2016**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI presented the progress report (Annex-IV) for the above mentioned period which covered the major events / activities including, APAARI Strategic Plan, CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program, meetings and workshops knowledge management (publications) and information sharing, , project planning and organizing, membership drive collaboration, participation in various International meetings organized by other organizations, planning of the forthcoming events, staff changes, etc.

It was pointed out as to how the propped actions be pushed into operational plans. It was clarified that after the Strategic Plan is approved, the Operational Plans will be developed on a biennial basis.

APAARI Progress Report December 2015 – August 2016 was endorsed by the EC.

## **Agenda Item No. 6 Membership Fee Payment Status**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI presented the report on the current membership status and informed that the APAARI Secretariat and its partners continued APAARI drive for mobilizing membership and as a result of this drive memberships increased from 55 in 2014 to 68 in 2016 (Annex-V). The membership payment status as on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 was found satisfactory.

The representative from COA, Chinese Taipei emphasized on continued support of COA, Chinese Taipei for APAARI Programs including APCoAB Program. Members recognized significant contribution of Chinese Taipei to APAARI programs and activities. It was clarified that APAARI membership is open to all the countries including China, and assured that it should never violate the full rights of existing members in the Asia-Pacific region and APAARI had been making sincere efforts to get China included as its valued partner. Also a clarification was sought about the membership category I, II, III for the NARS. This was clarified that this distinction is due to the difference in the amount of membership fee (Category I - \$10,000, Category II - \$6,000, Category III - \$3,000). It was also gratefully appreciated the up-gradation of membership by PCAARRD (from category II to I), by SLCARP and New Caledonia IAC (from category III to II)

The progress on membership / fee payment status was appreciated by the EC

## **Agenda Item No. 7 Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements: 1 January - 31 December 2015**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI presented the audited financial statements for the period 1 January to 31 December 2015 as prepared by the APAARI's External Auditor – The GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd. The report was unqualified and satisfactory in all respects and the comments from the Auditors were quoted as “presented correctly and reasonably, as they should be and comply with generally accepted accounting principles”.

During the discussion, it was suggested that the External Auditor from the Audit Firm should present the Audit Report in the EC or General Assembly Meetings (GAM). To this it was pointed

out that organizations like APAARI or any other corporate bodies do not get external auditor to make presentation at the EC of GA meetings and that would not be appropriate as normally management or a member of management make such presentations. This is the norm in all such corporate bodies and APAARI would not be different.

However, it was reemphasized that APAARI External auditor should present APAARI audit report to the next may EC meeting. APAARI Secretariat will request the external auditor accordingly.

The audit report and the audited financial statements undertaken by the external auditor for January-December, 2015 were endorsed.

#### **Agenda Item No. 8 Financial Statement 1<sup>st</sup> January to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016)**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI apprised the EC on the financial statement and position of APAARI for the period 1 January to 15 August 2016 (Annex-VI). Detailed statements including funds received, transferred and currently available and funds spent during this period were presented. He also presented the derived balance and also the funds available in various bank accounts. It helped to derive estimates for funds receivable and to be spent and carry over balance to 2017. This report will be included to compile the report for the entire year 2016 and that will be audited by the external auditor in January/February 2017 and such audited report will be presented to the ECM during the next. Also there is plan to undertake interim audit report for the period 1 January – 30 September and that will be available for the presentation to the GAM in November.

During the discussion, Ms. Rose, Dong-Chong Hsiou, Deputy Director of Dept. International Affairs Department, COA, Taiwan, presented a formal official letter of transfer of grant of US\$50,000 to APAARI as its commitment for APAARI activities, mainly APCoAB Program. The Chairperson, Dr Waraporn while accepting the payment on behalf of APAARI appreciated the good gesture and commitment of COA, Taiwan.

EC endorsed the income / expenditure statement. For the period 1 January – 15<sup>th</sup> August 2016/

#### **Agenda Item No. 9 APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022**

Subsequent to the approval of APAARI Vision 2030 by APAARI EC in December, 2015 and consequent decision by EC to develop comprehensive APAARI Strategic Plan – 2017-22 to help providing direction and guidance to APAARI. The Task Team developed the Strategic Plan 2017-2022 based on the inputs from the members of Advanced Consultation Group. Dr Simon Hearn and Dr Emma Zalcman made presentations of respective components explaining the salient features of the SP.

There was in-depth discussion on the SP-2017-2022 with most of the members appreciating the procedure followed and the efforts made by the Task Team. As the draft SP document has already been widely circulated, its full version is not annexed. However, Executive summary of the plan was attached (it is reproduced in Annex-VII) for the information of the EC members

Points were raised to clarify the roles and responsibilities of APAARI Secretariat and APAARI as an Association for implementing the Strategic Plan 2017-22. It was clarified that the APAARI members and partners implement the activities and not the APAARI Secretariat alone. Hence, the member countries need to include the activities in their Operational Plans. APAARI is a platform and its secretariat has to play an effective facilitation role. A few EC Members were of the view that an Operational Plan should have a part of the current SP-2017-2022, but it was clarified that the Operational Plan can only be developed once the SP is approved by the GAM that would be held in November 2016. Operational Plan will be more specific with effective monitoring and evaluation plan and that will also need commitments and ownership by APAARI members, AFRIS and its partners. Some other points raised were in relation to access to land, help in improving developing small organizations, and also concern about GMOs.

It was agreed that the minor changes proposed will be considered as appropriate before the SP-2017-2022 will be ready for circulation amongst APAARI members and partners by mid September, 2016. Once feedback is received from the stakeholders the SP shall be refined appropriately and presented to the General Assembly for its final endorsement.

The EC approved the Strategic Plan 2017-2022 subject to endorsement by GAM in November 2016.

#### **Agenda Item 10 Additional Members on EC Representing AIRCA and Higher Education Sector (Universities)**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI appraised the EC members on the proposal to amend article 10 of APAARI constitution to accommodate for two additional seats on the APAARI Executive Committee to represent AIRCA and the Higher Education Sector (Universities). This proposal was raised during the last two EC meetings as directed by the 13<sup>th</sup> General assembly. In formal circular to all the APAARI members, the proposed change in the constitution was supported without any objection... Proposal in Annex VIII

EC approved the proposal and the final endorsement will be considered by the General Assembly in November 2016.

#### **Agenda Item No. 11 Rejuvenation and Strengthening of APCoAB Program**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI apprised the EC on the current status of APCoAB Program and the need for its rejuvenation and strengthening under the recently developed APAARI Strategic Plan. He informed that APCoAB has been one of the important programs of APAARI that was established in 2003. Its major objective was to serve as a neutral forum for the key partners engaged in research, development, commercialization and education/learning of agricultural biotechnology as well as environmental safety in the Asia-Pacific region. COA, Taiwan, had been continuously supporting APCoAB Program since 2008 and has assured to continue to support this program for next 3-4 Years. It was emphasized the focused activities relating to agricultural biotechnology should continue. The Steering Committee of APCoAB is planned to be held on 31 October at Taichung, Taiwan. The main issue raised was with regards to GMOs and how APCoAB program would pragmatically address such concerns by focussing its work on the advanced biotechnology but not only on GMOs. It was agreed to implement planned activities of APCoAB during

remaining part of this year and develop APCoAB program project for funding and implementation over the next 4 years.

The rejuvenation and strengthening of the APCoAB program focusing on advanced biotechnology was approved by the EC.

### **Agenda Item 12 APAARI Governance and Development: Resource Mobilization – Short to Long Term Implications**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI presented to the EC that since the approval of APAARI Vision 2030 in December 2015, the APAARI has been planning for developing extensive Strategic Plan 2017-22 so as to shape its pathways towards delivering on its Vision 2030 in order to effectively strengthen agri-food research and innovation systems in the APR. Then based on the Vision - 2030, the APAARI Strategic Plan (2017-2022) was developed. To achieve various targets under the SP, some fundamental changes are needed for improving APAARI governance and development (Outline in Annex-IX). This change is going to be the principal driver not only in APAARI becoming efficient and effective but also encouraging and promoting APAARI partners and collaborators to be effectively engaged and participating in much needed collective actions as mentioned in APAARI Strategic Plan. From Jan. 2017 additional resource mobilization in terms of human and financial resources will be needed. EC was requested to approve the proposal for early implementation so that the same may be placed in the upcoming GAM in November 2016. Two vacant positions and five new positions were requested for recruitment along with a financial plan. It was also emphasized that the reform in APAARI is extremely necessary to realize its Vision 2030 and for this resource mobilization both for human and financial resources has to be take place at the earliest.

Deliberations on this agenda item drew attention that equal salary structure for the same category of staff must be observed. It was agreed that out of the reserve fund of nearly 1.0 million, an amount of USD 75,000 per year could be utilized for two years to contribute to such expenses.

EC approved the recruitment additional positions and also existing vacant positions and use of USD 75,000 per annum for two-year period, beginning in early 2017 to help APAARI grow..

### **Agenda Item No. 13 APAARI Work Plan September – 2016 to December-2016**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI presented the Work Plan for the period September to December, 2016 (Annex-X). The main activities included holding of the 14<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Meeting to be held on 3 November 2016, Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-Food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific, Training Program on Food Safety Management by Chinese Taipei in Taiwan, co-organizing first International Agro-biodiversity Congress, publications, development of biennial operational plan 2017-18 which can be presented to the next ECM early 2017, subject to approval of the Strategic Plan 2017-22 by GAM. Other activities include APCoAB SC meeting, APARI SC meeting, development of APCoAB Program project proposal and also implementing planned APCoAB activities.

EC endorsed the APAARI Work Plan September - December, 2016 as was presented.

## **Other Matters**

### **Item No. 14 Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-Food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific**

Dr Bhag Mal, and Dr Ms Rose, Dong-chong Hsiou, presented the details of the Expert Consultation on Agri-Food Innovations to be held in Chinese Taipei from 1-3 November, 2016. The detailed program, and the roles and responsibilities of APAARI as well as COA, Taiwan, were clearly elaborated. The point was raised that field day visit for half day instead of one full day will not be sufficient. However, it was clarified that due to major focus on technical program and paucity of time, it is difficult to spare one full day for field visit. However, this could be decided in consultation with other co-organizers including COA.

EC approved the organization of Expert Consultation in Collaboration with other Co-Organizers

### **Agenda Item No. 15 Fourteenth APAARI General Assembly Meeting on 3 November, 2016**

The Executive Secretary, APAARI apprised the Committee on the proposed 14th APAARI General Assembly Meeting to be held in the afternoon of 3 November 2016 in Taichung, Taiwan. The proposed draft outline agenda items were shared as under (Details Annex-XI)

- Chairman's address to the GA
- Consideration and approval of the agenda of GAM
- Progress report for the biennium 2015-16
- APAARI membership changes and status
- Annual audit report and financial statements for 2014 and 2015
- Interim audit report and financial statement – January - September 2016
- APAARI Strategic Plan: 2017-22 (for Approval)
- Additional members on the APAARI Executive Committee
- Resource mobilization plan as consequence of approved APAARI Strategic Plan
- APAARI reforms including constitutional change
- Election of APAARI Executive Committee for the Biennium 2017-18
- Closing remarks by Chairman
- Statement by incoming Chairman

There was suggestion from some members on including APAARI reforms and constitutional change. The point was raised as to how the agenda on APAARI reforms and constitutional change can be placed before General Assembly unless it is agreed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary, APAARI explained that the reform and constitutional change is very vital for the growth of APAARI to fulfil its Vision 2030 and implement its Strategic Plan 2017-22. Moreover, this subject matter needs to be first introduced to the GAM as the GAM is the apex authority on such reform and constitutional matters. The GAM will then consider and decide how it wishes to handle. The GAM being the top body of the Association it has power to deliberate and handle as it wishes. If GAM wishes that the ECM should go into details of such reform that then can be taken up by the EC.



Any delay in introducing this vital change will be detrimental to the growth and performance of the Association as planned in the Strategic Plan and Vision 2030.

However, some members were adamant and EC decided to agree to include all the items as proposed in the submission (as outlined above) except the item “APAARI reforms including constitutional change”. So now it will be left to GA to consider what it wishes to do.

#### **Agenda Item No. 16 Terminal payment to Ms Urairat Rujrek**

The Executive Secretary apprised the EC that Ms Urairat Rujrek has worked with APAARI as Administration and Accounts Officer for 18 years and looked after major responsibility of administrative and financial matters and also providing logistical support to all APAARI events and activities. She left the job effective 30 April 2016. It was proposed to seek EC approval for payment of an additional terminal payment of 2.5% of her present salary for her 18 years’ service with APAARI and that comes to a rounded figure of USD 8000.

EC approved the terminal payment of USD 8000 as proposed.

#### **Concluding Remarks**

In her concluding remarks the Chairperson of Dr Waraporn Prompoi, Deputy Director General of Department of Agriculture, Thailand expressed her 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. She expressed satisfaction on the progress and achievements of APAARI. She also emphasized on the need for increasing the membership of universities and other stakeholders to make APAARI a strong regional forum to effectively deliver its programs and activities towards strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in Asia and the Pacific

#### **Vote of Thanks**

Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI extended vote of thanks to the Chairman and vice chairman and all the members, participants, special invitees and the staff. While thanking, Dr Ghodake also remarked that development APAARI Vision 2030 and construction of the ambitious Strategic Plan were undertaken so that APAARI can move to new heights and successes. However, to begin with, APAARI will require dynamic and pragmatic changes in APAARI governance and development. He therefore assured that collective and positive change in APAARI governance and development is a must.

**Annex 1**  
**ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (1/2016)**  
**8 September 2016 (8.30 – 13.30 hrs)**  
**AGENDA**

#	Time	Item	Facilitation
1	8.30-8.40	Welcome and Introduction	Dr Raghunath Ghodake Executive Secretary
2	8.40-8.55	Release /Display of Publications - Opening Remarks by Chairman, APAARI	Dr Waraporn Prompoj, DDG, DOA
3	8.55-9.05	Approval of Agenda by the EC	Executive Secretary
4	9.05-9.15	Minutes of the last EC Meeting (2/ 2015 ) (for Approval)	Executive Secretary
5	9.15-9.30	APAARI Progress Report: December 2015–August 2016	Executive Secretary
6	9.30-9.45	Membership/ Fee Payment Status (as on 30 <sup>st</sup> August 2016)	Executive Secretary
7	9.45-9.55	Audited Financial Statements: January – December 2015	Executive Secretary
8	9.55-10.10	Financial Statement: January – August 2016	Executive Secretary
	10.10-10.40	<b>Group Photograph &amp; Tea/Coffee Break</b>	
9	10.40- 11.20	APAARI Strategic Plan: 2017-2022	Dr Simon Hearn/Dr Emma Zalcman
10	11.20-11.30	Additional Members on APAARI Executive Committee (AIRCA and Higher Education Sector)	Executive Secretary
11	11.30-11.40	Strengthened APCoAB Program	Executive Secretary and Dr Rose of COA
12	11.40-11.55	APAARI Governance and Development: Resource Mobilization – Short to Long-Term Implications	Executive Secretary
13	11.55- 12.05	Work Plan: September – December 2016	Executive Secretary
		<b>Other Matters</b>	
14	12.05- 12.25	Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-Food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific – Taichung, Taiwan (1-3 November 2016)	Dr Bhag Mal/ Dr Rose
15	12.25 – 12.35	14 <sup>th</sup> APAARI General Assembly Meeting – Taichung, Taiwan (3 November 2016)	Executive Secretary
16	12.35 – 12.45	Terminal payment to Ms. Urairat Rujirek	Executive Secretary
17	12.45 – 12.55	Concluding Remarks	Chairman, APAARI
18	12.55 – 13.05	Vote of Thanks	Executive Secretary
	<b>13.20</b>	<b>Lunch and Departure</b>	

**Annex II**  
**List of Participants – ECM (1/2016)**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation/Organization</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Email</b>
<b>1</b>	Waraporn Prompoj (in Place of) Dr. Somchai Charnnaroungkul	Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture, 50, Paholyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok	Thailand	"wprompoj@yahoo.com"; 'pattarapornj@gmail.com' somchai_moac@hotmail.com; <a href="mailto:somchaic@moac.go.th">somchaic@moac.go.th</a>
<b>2</b>	Dr. Shah Md. Ziqrul Haq Chowdhury,	Member Director (Livestock), BARC, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.	Bangladesh	<a href="mailto:ziqrul06@yahoo.com">ziqrul06@yahoo.com</a>
<b>3</b>	Dr. Reynaldo V. Ebor	Acting Executive Director, Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), Philippines	The Philippines	rvebora@gmail.com; r.ebora@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph
<b>4</b>	Dr. Hemantha Wijewardena	Director/Secretary, Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (CARP)	Sri Lanka	wijehema@yahoo.com
<b>5</b>	H.E. Mr. Vinaka	High Commissioner of Fiji in Malaysia	Fiji	<a href="mailto:koliniotakali55@gmail.com">koliniotakali55@gmail.com</a> psa@govnet.gov.fj
<b>6</b>	Mr. Asif Saleh	Senior Director, BRAC, Dhaka- 1212, Bangladesh	Bangladesh	<a href="mailto:asif.s@barc.net">asif.s@barc.net</a>
<b>7</b>	Mr. Raul Socrates Banzuela,	National Coordinator, PAKISAMA, AFA	The Philippines	raulsocrates@yahoo.com
<b>8</b>	Ms. Heidi Gallant	Executive Director, APSA	Thailand	heidi@apsaseed.org; apsa@apsaseed.org
<b>9</b>	Dr. Simon Hearn	Agricultural Consultant Canberra, ACT 2603	Australia	perardua.hearn@gmail.com
<b>10</b>	Ms. Rose, Dong-chong Hsiou	Deputy Director of Dept. International Affairs of COA	Chinese Taipei	chong@mail.coa.gov.tw
<b>11</b>	Yu-Chen Shih	Secretary, Political Division, TEC Office	Thailand	ycshih@mofa.gov.tw
<b>12</b>	Charoen Nitiwatanapong	Secretary, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office	Thailand	<a href="mailto:charoen1952@hotmail.com">charoen1952@hotmail.com</a>
<b>13</b>	Ms. Jintawee Thaingam	DAO, Thailand	Thailand	'Jintawee Thaingam' <jintaweet@hotmail.com>
<b>14</b>	Margaret C. Yoovotana	DOA, Thailand	Thailand	
<b>15</b>	Dr Raghunath Ghodake	APAARI	Thailand	raghunath.ghodake@apaari.org
<b>16</b>	Dr. Bhag Mal	APAARI	India	<a href="mailto:b.mal@apaari.org">b.mal@apaari.org</a>
<b>17</b>	Dr S G Abbas	APAARI	Pakistan	
<b>18</b>	Emma Zalceman	APAARI	Thailand	'Margaret Yoovatana' <luckymegy@yahoo.com>
<b>19</b>	Thansita Tanaphatrujira	APAARI	Thailand	thansita@apaari.org
<b>20</b>	Celilu Bitong	APAARI	Thailand	c.bitong@apaari.org



**Annex III**  
**Opening Remarks by Chairman Dr Waraporn Prompoj,**  
**Deputy Director General of Department of Agriculture**  
**Thailand**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (1/2016)**

Good morning ladies and gentlemen!

I am very pleased and honoured to chair this session of the APAARI Executive Committee. I am doing this in place of our DG Mar. Somchai Charnnarongkul, as he is busy in another important assignment.

On his behalf and on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Government of Thailand, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all (EC members, special invitees and APAARI Secretariat staff) to this very important and crucial meeting.

In my opening statement, I would like to briefly dwell on an important issue of how the Asia-Pacific region is currently at the cross roads in terms of its socio-economic development, especially agricultural development in the post 2015 development agenda. And in that context, how APAARI, being strategic regional forum, should be able to contribute to agricultural development in the region.

The Asia-Pacific Region is home to nearly 60 per cent of the world's population (that is 4.4 billion people). The region is highly diversified with different levels of economic development, rates of economic growth, per capita income, contribution of agriculture to the economy, agro-ecologies and degree of vulnerability to climatic change.

The region has experienced rapid economic growth in recent years and consequently made impressive progress against the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, large disparities persist. Most poor continue to be denied their share of the benefits. Eighteen per cent of the region population (or 772 million people) still live on less than USD 1.25 per day. Rising incomes and purchasing power are placing pressure on food supplies, driving an increase in income inequality and raising questions of future sustainability. Many of the poorest people in the region are still small agricultural producers, hampered by low productivity and inadequate access to input and output markets. Gender inequality and disengagement of youth in agriculture also persist to hamper rural development efforts.

Malnutrition remains a significant barrier to socioeconomic development in the region. Despite recent progress, the region is still home to approximately 490 million chronically hungry people, over 60 per cent of the world's undernourished.

The region also faces environmental challenges. Population growth and rising incomes have placed pressure on natural resources creating fierce competition for water, land and energy. Deforestation, soil degradation, overfishing and air pollution are emerging issues, which will create future challenges to agri-food systems. Therefore the agri-food systems development remains at the center of the region's key challenges and opportunities.

In this context I see very crucial role that APAARI can play as a regional forum in agricultural research and innovation. It has modest but critical mass of representation by NARS, NARIs, CG Centers, advanced research organizations, agricultural universities, civil society organizations and the private sector. It is well positioned in terms of its specified mandate of knowledge sharing, partnership and networking, capacity development and advocacy. Right steps have been taken by the association by developing APAARI Vision 2030. That provides overall guidance to strengthening of agri-food research and innovations systems in the region. On the basis of this framework APAARI has recently embarked on finding optimal set of pathways towards the strengthening of these systems. This is through its Strategic Plan 2017-22, which will be an important agenda item that we will be addressing today.

Being researcher my-self, I certainly see tremendous scope and value of well-developed, coordinated and networked agri-food research and innovation in the region. It will not only provides growth in intellectual capacity but will also contribute to the necessary synergy and complementarity to combined efforts. The pathways seen are that APAARI, the agri-food research and innovation systems, other partners and stakeholders, come together in collective actions in strengthening the research and innovation systems. Such strengthened systems with complementary inputs from relevant development organization and communities, make enhanced contribution to agri-food systems development and further sustainable agricultural development. That has the vital potential in contributing to the realization of sustainable development goals in the Asia-Pacific region. This is simple because agriculture is going to the common thread in delivering of all those 17 sustainable development goals.

Over the last 25 years, APAARI has made a substantial contribution in promoting, and advocating agricultural research for development. It has proved to be a regional mechanism for effective collaboration, promotion and advocacy. With the renewed and objectively designed pathways, I am sure the Association will rise to new heights and will contribute immensely not only in realizing its own vision 2030 but also making invaluable contribution to the realization of SDGs in the Asia-Pacific Region.

In today's meeting, we are challenged to deal with a number of important agenda items, including looking at the Strategic Plan- 2017-22. This is going to be the crucial step in shaping tomorrow's APAARI. Therefore we all look forward to our collective deliberations and contributions towards positive outcomes of this meeting.

Thank you all.

**Dr Waraporn Prompoj**  
Deputy Director General  
Department of Agriculture, Thailand

**ANNEX IV**  
**Progress Report: December 2015 - August 2016**

**1. Major Events/Preparations Undertaken by APAARI**

**1.1 APAARI Executive Committee Meeting (2-2015) - 10<sup>th</sup>December 2015, Bangkok**

- The second meeting of the new APAARI Executive Committee (EC) was held under the Chairmanship of Mr Somchai Charnnarongkul, DG, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand. The meeting was attended by 44 participants including Executive Committee members, other APAARI members and special invitees.
- As many as nine key decisions were made, including endorsement of audit report and financial statement, approval of APAARI vision 2030, developing APAARI strategic plan 2017-22, work program, additional members on EC. GCARD 3 and additional position for ASTI project.
- Comprehensive proceedings is available in the folders.

**1.2 Meetings/Workshops/Conferences**

- APAARI organized and co-organized several activities comprising various meetings, workshops and conferences during January – August 2016. These included: i) Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD 3; ii) A National Workshop on Forward Thinking for Agricultural Development in Western India; iii) Inception Meeting on APAARI Strategic Planning; iv) Advanced Consultation on APAARI Strategic Planning; v) Implementation of Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program; and vi) APAARI Meeting with Mahanakorn University of Technology, Bangkok. Details of these meetings are given in the APAARI Progress Report - January – June 2016 (separately available in the folders).

**1.3 Development of APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022**

- Major efforts made and time spent by APAARI secretariat with partnership of consultants were on developing APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22. A structured process involving stock taking, scoping, needs assessment, stakeholder mapping, developing key strategies/ specific strategies both in thematic areas and program areas and improvement of APAARI governance and development. A lot of efforts were made in consultations with stakeholders through online surveys with primary stakeholders, intensive meetings - inception meeting with advisory group and advanced consultation meeting with diverse group of APAARI members and other stakeholders.
- The first draft of the strategic plan was circulated to the participants of the advanced consultation meeting and their comments and further intensive work helped us bringing out a compressive second draft.
- The second draft is presented to the EC in this meeting for its consideration and approval

**1.5 Implementation of CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program**

- Under the MoU between APAARI and ICRISAT, APAARI is implementing CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program. Adopting the selections process suggested by the CRP DC Scholarship Program and agreed with APAARI, six candidates were selected for their Ph.D. research work based on their combined scores and ranking. Out of the six candidates, two are working on sorghum, two on pearl millet and two on finger millet. Their research work is progressing well in their respective universities/institutions. The research progress report of these students along with financial report for the period from 1 October 2015-31 March 2016 had been submitted to CRP DC Program. The progress of research of these students is being well monitored.

## **2. Knowledge Management (Publications)**

### **2.1 Proceedings of the APAARI Executive Committee Meeting (2-2015) 10 December 2015**

- Comprehensive proceedings with key decisions, detailed deliberations, arising actions, and detailed submission and background papers was brought out in close consultation with EC members and others who participated in the meeting.
- Circulated widely to all our members and partners and uploaded on the website. The actions on various aspects are being taken- up as per the EC Proceedings.
- Separate copy of the proceedings is available in the folder.

### **2.2 APAARI Newsletter January – June 2016**

- APAARI Newsletter for the period January-June, 2016 (June 2016 issue) was brought out in July 2016.
- The important features appearing in this issue (Vol. 25, No. 1) for the period January- July 2016, include –editorial on APAARI new strategy, highlights of GCARD 3, strategic plan 2017-22, a forward thinking workshop in western India, news updates from NARS, updates from international centers, introduction to 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 folder.

### **2.3 APAARI Half-Yearly Progress Report for Period January -June 2016**

- The report includes the highlights and recommendations of various meetings organized/attended during the period, namely, GCARD 3, Forward-thinking workshop, Tropical Agriculture Platform - CD (AIS) Inception Workshop, Inception and advanced consultation meetings on strategic plan, information and publication status, membership drive, etc.
- The report was widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders as well as posted on APAARI website and received many positive feedbacks. Copy of the report is available in the folder.

## **2.4 Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in the Asia Pacific – A Framework for Engagement with Key Stakeholders about Agri-Biotechnology – A Paradigm Shift**

- This framework was designed for research agencies and partners to assist in developing strategies for communicating about Agri-Biotechnology. It is based on a workshop on ‘Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in Asia’, held in Chiang Rai, Thailand, from 28-29 September 2015. The workshop was jointly organized by APAARI, the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA), Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) and the Malaysian Biotechnology Information Centre (MABIC), and was supported by the Council of Agriculture Executive, Yuan, R.O.C. The publication has been shared through the APAARI website and hard copies will be distributed in key APAARI-supported meetings.

## **2.5 APAARI Vision 2030: Strengthened Research and Innovations for Sustainable Agricultural Development**

- The development of the APAARI Vision 2030 followed a structured process, review, e-consultations and brainstorming, and received invaluable contributions from the APAARI Executive Committee, members, partners and other stakeholders.
- The document considers APAARI’s core values and articulates the need for new ambitions and new competencies within the Association. It specifies vision, mission and goal statements as principal guiding elements. It further defines thematic thrusts and APAARI’s core functional areas that provide strategic framework for developing medium-term strategic plans and short-term implementation plans as essential building blocks towards realising the vision by 2030.

## **2.5 APAARI Flyer 2016**

- APAARI Flyer was revised to include updated information on membership status, proceedings of conferences/workshops/meetings, success stories, etc. The above publications have been shared with all the member organizations, participants of the respective meetings and other stakeholders. These are also available at <http://www.apaari.org/publications/apaari-flyer-2016.html>.

## **2.6 Development of Proceedings of the High Level Policy Dialogue**

- During the period under reporting, substantial time and efforts were devoted by the APAARI Secretariat in systematically compiling and refining all the relevant materials for developing two volumes of the high level policy dialogue proceedings; Volume I on the proceeding and Volume II on the papers presented at the dialogue. Both these volumes are now at the advanced stage of finalization for printing.

# **3. Information Dissemination**

## **3.1 APAARI Website:** The APAARI website has been assessed as part of its



revamping efforts to become an effective information sharing tool within the APAARI community and beyond. The recommendations made during the assessment have been systematically implemented in terms of re-structuring, re-organization of the content, updating the content, and improving the website layout and features. In addition to being regularly updated with APAARI's news, events and activities, a new feature called 'APAARI Network News' has been added to share news and other resources (e.g. success stories, newsletters, highlights of events) of APAARI members, partners and other key stakeholders.

- 3.2 **APAARI Social Media:** In addition to the APAARI's website, APAARI existing Facebook account has been renamed to APAARI Community to enable fast search by users. Efforts have been made to follow and connect with Facebook accounts of APAARI members and partners. The number of 'likes' have been growing, though the tool needs to be systematically monitored in terms of followers, users and the number of downloads of the content. As of 30 June 2016, APAARI Facebook page had 87 likes and 16 published posts between 1 January and 30 June 2016.
- 3.3 **APAARI Twitter** name has also been changed to enable to find APAARI quickly. Information from events e.g. GCARD 3, as well as articles posted on Facebook, have been promoted through Twitter to raise awareness of what is happening in the agri-food research and innovation systems. As of 30 June 2016, APAARI Twitter page had 19 followers and 27 tweet posts between 1 January and 30 June 2016. APAARI has been following 42 institutions. The Twitter and Facebook statistics given in this report will serve as a baseline for comparison with the next reporting period.
- 3.4 **APAARI Blog** to share short articles from events has been created, though it still needs to be promoted among the members and partners. The upcoming Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-Food Innovation in Taiwan is a good opportunity to launch it.
- 3.5 **APCoAB Website:** APCoAB website ([www.apcoab.org](http://www.apcoab.org)) provides information on APCoAB organization, objectives, activities, and news and events on agricultural biotechnology. It provides access to APCoAB publications comprising success stories, status reports and proceedings of expert consultation and other group meetings. Databases of agricultural biotechnology institutions in Asia-Pacific and biosafety regulations of Asia-Pacific countries are also available at this website.

#### **4. Membership Drive**

- During the period January – June, 2016, seven new members in different categories joined APAARI. These included: Regular Member - National Agriculture and

Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI) from Lao PDR; Associate Members - Kamdhenu University, Gandhinagar, India; Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore; Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar and Affiliate Members - Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar and GODAN, Wallingford, UK.

- Recently, three members upgraded their membership category: The IAC of New Caledonia and the CARP of Sri Lanka moved from Category III (USD 3000) to Category II (USD 6000), and PCAARRD, the Philippines moved from Category II (US\$ 6000) to Category I (US\$10,000).

## **5. Partnership - Contribution to GFAR/CGIAR**

- APAARI helped nominating 15 members from various constituencies in the Asia-Pacific region to participate in the GCARD 3 held in April in South Africa.
- Besides APAARI Executive Secretary, PACAARD (from the Philippines) and NARI (from PNG) participated in the GFAR Assembly meeting where many reform decisions about GFAR reformed constitution and representations were made.
- APAARI Executive Secretary made two presentations at the GCARD 3 – one on agri- research in APR addressing SDGs and enhanced and improved investment in agricultural research – and participated in a panel discussion on regional consultation in the introductory session.

## **6. International/Regional Collaboration**

- During the period under report, APAARI had close collaboration with GFAR, CGIAR Centres, ACIAR, CAPSA, ASEAN and FAO RAP and organized several activities/programs including organization of workshops/ conferences/ training programs with funding support from them. This included the programs on research information systems.

## **7. APAARI Participation in the Meetings Organized by other Fora**

### **Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI**

- Forward Thinking Agricultural Development in Western India at Sardarkrushinagar, Gujarat, India, 8-10 February 2015
- 3rd Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD3) at Johannesburg, South Africa, 5-8 April 2016
- ASEAN Technical Working Group Meeting on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD) in Brunei on 28-29 April 2016.

### **Ms Martina Spisiakova, Knowledge Management Coordinator, APAARI**

- Inception Meeting of the Tropical Agriculture Platform – Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems, in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, 8-9 February 2015
- 3rd Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD3) at Johannesburg, South Africa, 5-8 April 2016

**Dr Bhag Mal, Senior Consultant, APAARI**

- Meeting of the Core Group on Coalition for Attracting and Retaining Youth in Agriculture (CARYA) held at NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi, India, 20 May 2016
- Technical Committee Meetings of 1st International Agro-biodiversity Congress held at NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi; 16 April 2016 and 7 June, 2016

**Dr J.L. Karihaloo, Senior Consultants, APAARI**

- Strategy Workshop: Towards Self-sufficiency of Pulses held at NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi, 7-8 April 2016
- Technical Committee Meetings of 1st International Agro-biodiversity Congress held at NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi; 16 April 2016 and 7 June, 2016.

**8. APAARI Staff Changes***New APAARI Staff*

- Ms Celilu Bitong joined APAARI as Knowledge and Management Officer on 28 April 2016. She is a native of the Philippines and worked as a research and technical staff for the Philippine Statistics Authority and the Department of Trade and Industry. Later, she moved to Thailand and served as a Senior Web Programmer on an automotive media firm, Grand Prix International Public Company Limited prior to joining APAARI. She assists in the implementation of APAARI's Knowledge Management Programme and provides web and IT support. She obtained Bachelor's degree in Applied Statistics from Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

*Outgoing APAARI Staff*

- Dr Vilasini Pillai, APCoAB Coordinator left APAARI on 15 January 2016. She provided a good support to APCoAB program during her short stay of nine and a half months in APAARI. Ms Urairat Rujirek left APAARI on 4 April 2016. She served APAARI for over 18 years as Secretary-cum-Accountant, Administrative Associate and later as Administrative Officer and provided invaluable services in administrative and finance-related activities and a good support in general administration. Ms Khatiya Ounjai left APAARI on 31 May 2016 for higher studies. As a Technical Assistant, she provided good technical help to the APCoAB Coordinator and later to the Knowledge Management Program.

**Annex V**  
**Status of Membership Payment**  
**Contributions by NARS Members (21)**  
**As on 15 August 2016**

S.No	Country	Payment Category							
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
1.	ACIAR – Australia	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
2.	AREEO – Iran	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.			
3.	BAR – Philippines	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.		
4.	BARC – Bangladesh	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
5.	CARP – Sri Lanka	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
6.	COA – Chinese Taipei	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
7.	CoRRB – Bhutan	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
8.	DOA – Thailand	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
9.	IAC – New Caledonia	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
10.	ICAR – India	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.		
11.	JIRCAS – Japan	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
12.	MoA – Fiji	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
13.	MARD-Vietnam/VAAS	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
14.	MARDI – Malaysia	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
15.	MAFFM – Samoa	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
16.	NARC – Nepal	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	**	Rec.
17.	NARI – Papua New Guinea	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
18.	PARC – Pakistan	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
19.	PCAARRD – Philippines	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
20.	RDA – Republic of Korea	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
21.	NAFRI – Lao PDR	III							Rec.

\*\* *Waved off on account of earthquake calamity*

**Status of Contribution by Associate Members (27)**  
**As on 15 August 2016**

S.No	Country				
		2013	2014	2015	2016
1	The World Vegetable Center (AVRDC), Chinese Taipei	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
2	Bioversity International, Rome, Italy	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
3	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Mexico	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
4	International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Syria	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
5	International Crops Research institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
6	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), USA	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
7	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Kenya	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
8	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila, Philippines	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
9	International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
10	PNG University of Technology, Papua New Guinea	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
11	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Bangladesh	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
12	Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI), UK	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
13	The World Fish Center, Malaysia	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
14	Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
15	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), Kenya	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
16	Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture Technology & Sciences (SHIAT), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.

17	Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Indonesia			Rec.	Rec.
18	Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal, India			Rec.	Rec.
19	Junagadh Agricultural University, Gujarat, India			Rec.	
20	International Potato Center (CIP), Peru			Rec.	Rec.
21	International Centre for Bio-saline Agriculture (ICBA), UAE			Rec.	Rec.
22	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal			Rec.	Rec.
23	Crops For the Future (CFF), Malaysia			Rec.	Rec.
24	Assam Agricultural University (AAU), India			Rec.	Rec.
25	Kamdhenu University, Gujarat, India				Rec.
26	Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, India				Rec.
27	Uttarakhan University of Horticulture & Forestry, India				Rec.

APAARI EC Meeting: (1) 2016

## Status of Contribution by Affiliate Members (9)

As on 15 August 2016

S.No.	Country					
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
1	Anand Agricultural University (AAU), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
2	Agriculture Research Institute of Afghanistan (ARIA), Afghanistan		Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
3	Navsari Agricultural University (NAU), Gujarat, India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
4	Universiti Putra Malaysia	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
5	CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Himachal Pradesh, India	Rec.			Rec.	
6	CAPSA-UNESCAP, Indonesia	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
7	University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore, India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.		
8	University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Dharwad, India				Rec.	Rec
9	Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University (SDAU)					Rec.

## Reciprocal Members (11)

(No Fee - Mutually waived)

As on 15 August 2016

#	Organization – Country
1	Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa (AARINENA), Jordan
2	Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development(AFA), The Philippines
3	Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand
4	Asia-Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions, (APAFRI), Malaysia
5	Asia and Pacific Seed Association (APSA), Thailand
6	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC), Bangladesh
7	Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI), Uzbekistan
8	Forum on Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Ghana
9	Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN), United Kingdom
10	Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Thailand
11	Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Fiji

Table 2 :Status of Membership and fees Received as of 15 August 2016				
Membership Category	Number	Fees Received	Total to be Received	Yet to be received
		US\$	US\$	US\$
1. NARS	21	99,000	147,000	48,000
2.Associate	27	110,000	135,000	25,000
3.Affiliate	9	3,000	13,500	10,500
4 Reciprocal	11			
<b>Total</b>	<b>68*</b>	<b>212,000</b>	<b>295,500</b>	<b>83,500</b>
<b>Percent</b>		72%		28%
<b>Total (including arrears)</b>		<b>212,000</b>	<b>335,000</b>	<b>123,000</b>
		<b>63%</b>		

\* Membership number this year increased by 5 over the year 2015.



## Annex VI

<b>Table 1. APAARI Financial Statement - Period 1 January - 15th August 2016 (USD)</b>			
<b>Details</b>	<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Fixed Deposit			986,205.51
Carry over from 2015	110,365.13		
Membership Fee	211,304.60		
IFPRI Project Funding	20,305.06		
FAO TAP Project	9,945.62		
FAO Project Funding	56,770.62		
Transfer from fixed deposit	71,764.00		
SSA Payments		33,867.00	
Staff Salary and allowances		162,855.16	
Travel		13,468.60	
Lodging /DSA		25,704.28	
Communication and Office Supplies		2,638.80	
Publications		3,501.03	
Utilities		11,184.52	
Forward thinking Workshop		3,000.00	
Unspent returned to FAO		9,777.00	
Scholarships		6,900.00	
Delhi Office Expenses		18,943.32	
<b>Total</b>	<b>480,455.03</b>	<b>291,839.71</b>	<b>188,615.32</b>
<b>Bank Balance Details</b>			
• Saving USD	175,030.58		
• APCoAB USD	1570.85		
• Saving THB (Eq. USD)	4449.38		
• Current THB(Eq. USD)	5043.3		
• Delhi Account (Eq. USD)	11,743.70		
<b>Balance in Bank</b>	<b>197,837.81</b>		
Estimated revenue from COA and ACIAR during this year	120,000		
Membership fee expected	83,500		
Estimated Expenses	205,000		
<b>Likely carry over to 2017</b>	<b>196,337.81</b>		



## Annex VII

### APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22

#### Executive Summary

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was established in 1990 with the overall objective of fostering agricultural research and development and contributing to addressing hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and sustainability of agricultural production in the Asia Pacific region (APR). In the past 25 years, APAARI has been promoting and strengthening agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems (AFRIS) <sup>1</sup>through partnership and collaboration, capacity development and advocacy for sustainable agricultural development. APAARI has contributed to addressing agricultural research needs and enhancing food and nutrition security in the APR.

In 2014, the APAARI General Assembly sought to revisit the APAARI Vision 2025, and reprioritize its activities to meet the needs of a changing development context. In response, APAARI developed its ‘Vision 2030’, which outlines the Association’s vision for strengthened research and innovations for sustainable agricultural development beyond 2015. The APAARI Vision 2030 aligns to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and suggests a strategic direction for the future of agri-food research and innovation systems development in the region.

The Vision 2030 provides the basic framework for developing APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022 and future strategies and operational plans of the Association. Whilst the vision outlines the overall goal, mission and vision of APAARI, this Strategic Plan 2017-2022 creates a road map through which APAARI and its partners and stakeholders can collectively contribute to the realization of the vision. This strategic plan provides a resource for decision making, funding allocation and activity prioritization.

The strategies outlined in this Strategic Plan respond to the changing needs of the APR. Whilst the region has experienced rapid economic growth in recent years and consequently made impressive progress against the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), large disparities persist and the most poor continue to be denied their share of the benefits.<sup>2</sup>Eighteen per cent of the APR population (or 772 million people) still live on less than USD 1.25 per day and rising incomes and purchasing power are placing pressure on food supplies, driving an increase in income inequality and raising questions of future sustainability<sup>3</sup>. Many of the poorest people in the region are still small producers, hampered by low productivity and inadequate access to input and output markets. Gender inequality and disengagement of youth in agriculture also persist to hamper rural development efforts. The agri-food system (AFS)<sup>4</sup> remains at the centre of the

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<sup>1</sup>AFRIS comprises of a set of interconnected and interdependent organizations such as NARIs, NAROs, CGIAR, AIRCs, ARIs, Higher Education, Extension, CSOs (NGOs, FOs), the private sector, development organizations, farmers and rural communities, including those involved in agri-food production systems and their associated post-harvest food value chains and service industries.

<sup>2</sup>FAO Regional overview of food insecurity in Asia and the Pacific 2015

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid*

<sup>4</sup>In this context, agri-food systems cover farming of crops and livestock, fish, pastoralism and forestry/agro-forestry, their production systems and their associated post-harvest food value chains and service industries, with a particular focus on the needs of resource-poor smallholder producers.

region's key challenges, making APAARI and this Strategic Plan crucial to realizing many of the newly described SDGs.

The APAARI Strategic Plan was developed following consultation with APAARI stakeholders and relevant agricultural experts. Using the thematic thrusts described in APAARI's Vision 2030 and an analysis of the current development context, 14 more specific TAs

Were described and eventually refined into **four priority TAs**. The implementation focus areas of APAARI identified in Vision 2030 were also refined and updated into **four programs and two cross-cutting areas**. Strengthening APAARI's contribution through improved governance and development of APAARI itself will be the key to transforming AFRIS in the region. Hence, this area is given special attention in the plan.

APAARI intends to contribute collectively with key stakeholders and AFRIS partners through the four TAs and their key strategies outlined below.

Thematic Area	Key Strategies
1. Mobilization, management and use of natural resources for sustainability of agri-food systems	1.1 Land and water resources are managed and used effectively for sustainable productivity and environmental protection
	1.2 Forests, agro-forestry and trees are utilized and integrated for the transformation and development of agri-food systems
	1.3 Agrobiodiversity is effectively managed and utilized for increased agricultural productivity, efficiency and sustainability.
	1.4 Biotechnologies and related regulatory systems are promoted and applied for improved productivity, nutritional quality, and sustainability of agri-food systems
	1.5 Systems of sustainable generation and use of energy, including bio-energy and biomass are designed and adapted to local conditions.
2. Management of risks and uncertainties in the agri-food system	2.1 Policies and strategies for managing (minimizing) price and market risks in agriculture and agri-food systems are developed and adapted.
	2.2 Tools for coping with uncertainties arising from the effects of climate change, natural disasters and man-made catastrophes are developed and improved
	2.3 Systematic processes of and partnerships in preventing and managing the spread of transboundary pests and disease are developed.
3. Inclusive development and integration of value chains targeted at benefiting smallholders	3.1 Small producers, rural communities and women are integrated with other value chain actors so they receive the benefits of integrated markets
	3.2 Innovative best practice for reduced harvest and postharvest loss and wastage is applied and integrated.
	3.3 Smallholder agriculture is integrated into manufacturing and service sectors, especially agro-industries, agri-business and agri-services to ensure employment for rural communities.

4. Analysis, strengthening and formulation of public policy to support the transformation and development of agri-food systems	4.1 Research into policy, socioeconomics and markets is supported to assist with developing and implementing policies and strategies to increase agricultural growth and development.
	4.2 Policies and strategies for accessing and mobilization of land and water resources by smallholder producers and landless rural communities are developed and adopted.

APAARI intends to make a major contribution through the following four programs and key strategies.

Program Area	Key Strategies
1. Knowledge Management	1.1 Agri-food systems made more knowledge intensive to effectively contribute to sustainable agricultural development
	1.2 Agri-food research and innovation systems strengthened through more effective knowledge management
2. Partnership and networking	2.1 Innovative and strategic partnerships and networking strengthened
3. Capacity building	3.1 Institutional arrangements for effective delivery of outcomes from agri-food research and innovation systems strengthened
	3.2 Organizational capacity for effective management and delivery of research and innovations enhanced
	3.3 Technical competency developed
4. Advocacy	4.1 Understanding of the role of agri-food research and innovations in agri-food systems and socio-economic development improved.
	4.2 Investment in agri-food research and innovations improved for development of agri-food systems

In addition, APAARI will consider the cross-cutting areas of foresight and visioning and women and youth in all its projects and programs through the following key strategies.

<b>Women and Youth</b>
Women and youth are engaged in productive and rewarding activities in AFS
Women and youth are appropriately represented in policy and decision making in activities relating to AFS
<b>Foresight and visioning</b>
Developments, trends and changing needs that may have impact on the realization of Vision 2030 are continuously evaluated

Good organizational governance and continual efforts to develop the capacity of APAARI will drive the results sought and described in this Strategic Plan and help fulfil the ambitions set in the APAARI Vision 2030. APAARI will take sole and ultimate responsibility for ensuring its efficacy and will do so by pursuing the following specific strategies:

1. Develop and effectively utilize the human capacity of the APAARI Secretariat
2. Effectively mobilize and utilize APAARI's financial and material resources

3. Develop APAARI Secretariat competency in key programs – Knowledge Management, Partnership and Networking, Capacity Development and Advocacy.
4. Implement a planning, monitoring, evaluation (PM&E) and outcome assessment system at all levels
5. Develop effective leadership and management, incorporating appropriate systems, structure and processes
6. Reform APAARI to deliver on its mission and vision

Key strategies, specific strategies and indicators of success for each of these areas are outlined in the Strategic Plan.

APAARI views the development and implementation of an effective PM&E system as an important part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan. APAARI will develop biennial PM&E frameworks consistent with respective biennial operational plans, having quantitative and qualitative performance indicators on activities, inputs, milestones and outputs. These indicators will follow ‘Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound’ (SMART) criteria with adequate flexibility, including appropriate allowances for changes in resource availability, assumptions and risks. The outcomes from projects and activities within operational plans will be consolidated to assess their contributions to the development outcomes outlined. This process will allow continuous refinement and adjustments to the M&E framework presented.

The APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22 is a starting point for many subsequent actions of the Association in delivering on APAARI Vision 2030. Successful implementation will depend on effective partnership and co-operation between APAARI, agri-food research and innovation organizations, and primary stakeholders as identified in the plan. APAARI core values of vision, excellence, learning and growing, inclusiveness and accountability, will continue to serve its members, partners and other stakeholders, ensuring commitment to the highest level of professionalism to strengthen AFRIS in Asia and the Pacific.

## **Annex VIII**

### **Proposed Changes to Article 10 of the APAARI Constitution**

#### **Letter seeking approval of members**

[Sent on behalf of Rd. Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI;  
raghunath.ghodake@apaari.org]

Dear APAARI Members

Sub: Consent to the Amendment to Article 10 of the APAARI Constitution to have additional two Seats – one for AIRCA and another for Higher Education Sector (Universities) on the

APAARI Executive Committee

You may please recollect that during the 13th General Assembly Meeting (GAM) held on 1st November 2014 in Bangkok, there was a deliberation on the representation of all the relevant sectors on the APAARI Executive Committee. The GAM then decided that the issue of expanding representation to more members/stakeholders be taken up as agenda for consideration in the next Executive Committee meeting(s).

In order to ensure inclusiveness of all stakeholders, the proposal for creation of an additional seat on the APAARI Executive Committee to jointly represent the Association of International Research Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA) and Universities (Higher Education Sector) was discussed and agreed in the Executive Committee meeting held on 12th May 2015 (Decision Number: 10.3/ (1) 2015), subject to the approval of the appropriate amendment to the APAARI Constitution. As requested in my earlier letter of 11th September 2015, this decision was consented by APAARI members.

Subsequently, in view of the large number of universities being members of APAARI, there was a fresh proposal for a separate seat for the Higher Education Sector (Universities) on the Executive Committee. This proposal was considered by the Executive Committee meeting held on 10th December 2015 and a decision was made that a separate seat be created for representation of the Higher Education Sector on the APAARI Executive Committee (Decision Number: 11/ (2) 2015)

Thus, there will now be two additional seats – one for AIRCA members and another for the Higher Education Sector. The Executive Committee also considered that APAARI needs to ensure participation of all APAARI members in its decision making process through amendment of the Article 10 (on the Executive Committee) of the APAARI Constitution

In order to do so, needed amendment to the Constitution (as in attached Annexure 1) is required to be brought before the General Assembly by circulating the proposed amendment among APAARI members by giving 60 days advance notice for sending their response.

Accordingly, you are requested to please review the text of the proposed amendment and send your consent/comments positively by 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2016. In case no response is received by the stipulated date, it will be presumed that you **do agree** with the proposed change in the constitution.

On the basis of your comments/responses an appropriate agenda item and submission will be made to the 14<sup>th</sup> General Assembly meeting to be held in Chinese Taipei in October/November 2016.

Look forward to hearing from you.

**Raghunath Ghodake**

## AMENDMENT TO APAARI CONSTITUTION

Article X : Executive Committee Existing provision	Proposed amendment**
<p>16. The Association shall have a 12 member Executive Committee, composed of : Six members representing NARS - two each from the Pacific, South-East Asia and South-West Asia sub-regions; One <i>ex-officio</i> member - the incumbent Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR); One <i>ex-officio</i> member represented by one of the CGIAR Center Directors General being associate members on rotational basis; Two members from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) - one from regional farmers' associations and one from NGO's associations/communities; One representative of the private sector; and the incumbent Executive Secretary of APAARI as <i>ex-officio</i> member. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and other members shall be elected/ nominated by the General Assembly from among the regular member institutions at the biennial meeting and they shall hold the office for two years and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office. However, the outgoing Chairman will continue as a member for the next term to ensure continuity and needed guidance.</p> <p>The Executive Secretary of APAARI shall be appointed according to Article XII, Paragraph 22. No country NARS members will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee.</p>	<p>16. The Association shall have a <b>14</b> member Executive Committee, composed of : Six members representing NARS - two each from the Pacific, South-East Asia and South-West Asia sub-regions; One <i>ex-officio</i> member - the incumbent Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR); One <i>ex-officio</i> member represented by one of the CGIAR Center Directors General being associate members on rotational basis; Two members from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) - one from regional farmers' associations and one from NGO's associations/communities; One representative of the private sector; <b>One member representing the Association of International Research Centres for Agriculture (AIRCA); One member representing the Higher Education Sector (Universities)</b> ; and the incumbent Executive Secretary of APAARI as <i>ex-officio</i> member. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and other members shall be elected/ nominated by the General Assembly from among the regular member institutions at the biennial meeting and they shall hold the office for two years and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office. However, the outgoing Chairman will continue as a member for the next term to ensure continuity and needed guidance.</p> <p>The Executive Secretary of APAARI shall be appointed according to Article XII, Paragraph 22. No country NARS members will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee.</p>

\*\* Changes are highlighted in **red color**.



## Annex IX

### Agenda 12. APAARI Governance and Development **(For Approval)**



#### Part I. Proposed additional positions/cost implications (USD/ year)

#	Staff name	Designation	Annual cost
1	Dr Raghunath Ghodake	Executive Secretary	91,200
2	Ms. Thansita Thanaphatrujira	Administrative Officer	13,464
3	APCoAB Co-ordinator*	APCoAB Co-ordinator	72,028
4	Ms. Martina Spisiakova	KM Co-ordinator	72,028
5	Ms. Cel Bitong	KM Associate	13,464
6	Mr. Viswanath Shah	Technical Assistant	7,634
7	Dr Bhag Mal	Sr. Advisor Consultant	48,000
8	ASTI Co-ordinator *	ASTI Co-ordinator	40,000
	<b>Sum A1 (USD)</b>		<b>357,818</b>
	<b>Current operational cost (USD)</b>		<b>200,000</b>
	<b>Sum A2 (USD)</b>		<b>557,818</b>
*	<i>Vacant at present</i>		
**	<i>Newly proposed</i>		

### Agenda 12. APAARI Governance and Development **(For Approval)**



#### Part II. Proposed additional positions /cost implications (USD/year)

#	Position	Designation	Annual cost
1	Partnership and Networking**	P&N Co-ordinator	72,028
2	Capacity Development**	CD Co-ordinator	72,028
3	P&N Associate**	P&N Associate	15,264
4	CD Associate**	CD Associate	15,264
5	Accountant **	Accountant	15,264
	<b>Sum B (USD)</b>		<b>174,583</b>
	<b>Total C1 (USD)</b>		<b>532,401</b>
	<b>Increased operational cost (USD)</b>		<b>300,000</b>
	<b>Total C2 (USD)</b>		<b>832,401</b>
	<b>Additional Financial Need (49%)</b>		<b>274,583</b>
*	<i>Vacant at present</i>		
**	<i>Newly proposed</i>		

## **Annex X**

### **Proposed Work Plan of APAARI for September – December 2016**

#### **1. Publications**

- 1.1 APAARI Newsletter (July – December 2016)
- 1.2 APAARI Six-Monthly Progress Report (July – December 2016)
- 1.3 Proceedings of the High Level Policy Dialogue- Two Volumes
- 1.4 Publication of Country Reports and Synthesis Paper presented at the HLPD
- 1.5 APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22
- 1.6. APAARI Calendar 2017
- 1.7 Proceedings of ECM (1/2016)
- 1.8 Proceedings of 14<sup>th</sup> GAM
- 1.9 Draft Proceedings of the Expert Consultation.

#### **2. Major Meetings/Events/Activities**

- 2.1 APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22 circulation, finalization and presentation at the GAM
- 2.2 Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-Food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific.
- 2.3 14<sup>th</sup> APAARI General Assembly Meeting, November 2016
- 2.4 APCoAB SC Meeting, November 2016
- 2.5 APARIS SC Meeting, November 2016
- 2.6 Co-organizing International Bio-diversity Congress in New Delhi
- 2.7 Development of ASTI project

#### **3. Corporate Matters**

- 3.1 Recruitment and placement of APCoAB Coordinator
- 3.2 Recruitment and placement of ASTI Coordinator
- 3.3 Recruitment and placement of Accountant
- 3.4 Redesigning and refining APAARI and APCoAB Websites
- 3.5 Supporting the development of APEON and implementation of its activities.
- 3.6 Planning for mobilizing human resources in support of effective implementation of Strategic Plan 2017-2022

#### **4. Planning, Mobilization and Implementation**

- 4.1 Development of KM Approach and communication Strategy
- 4.2 Social media tool enrichment
- 4.3 Improvement of APARI Blog with materials
- 4.4 Membership Drive; focusing especially on smaller NARS, universities, CSOs (NGO, FOs), and private sector
- 4.5 Developing guidelines for the private sector taking membership of APAARI
- 4.6 Developing Biennial Operational Plan 2017-22, subject to approval of APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22. The operational plan can be presented for approval to ECM in early 2017.
- 4.7 Interim audit and financial statements – January- September 2016
- 4.8 Financial Management and Improved Accounts Keeping

#### **5 Implementation of activities under the APCoAB Program**

- 5.1 APCoAB SC be held in November 2016 in Taichung, Taiwan. It can be held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to discuss and decide on the next 4 years' program activities consistent with the Strategic Plan 2017-22
- 5.2 Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food innovation Meeting be held in Taiwan on 1-3 Nov 2016.

- 5.3 Collaboration and participation of APAARI members in Training Program on Food Safety Management System to be held in Taiwan with the COA and APO on 3-7 Oct. 2016.
- 5.4 Conferences, workshops and meeting/training programs which APAARI is involved in during 2016.
- 5.5 Co-organizing International Agro-biodiversity Congress to be held in New Delhi (6-9 November 2016), a number of APAARI member organizations/stakeholders are likely to participate.
- 5.6 Publications relevant to key events of APAARI and APCoAB
- 5.7 APCoAB Website Improvement and Management