



Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 24 April 2010, NASC Complex, New Delhi, India (10:00 – 13:00 hrs)

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Welcome Remarks : Dr. Raj Paroda
2. Chairman's Address : Dr. Abd Shukor Abd Rahman
3. Progress Report – An Update : Dr. Raj Paroda
4. Membership and Payment Status : Dr. Raj Paroda
5. Audited Accounts for the Year 2009, and an updated Statement of Assets & Liabilities : Mr. P.K. Saha
6. Resource Generation Possibilities : Members
7. Annual Program of Work (including planning for 11th GAM and Expert Consultation on Agrobiodiversity) : Members
8. Discussion on Budget for 2010 : Mr. P.K. Saha
9. Outcome and Implications of GCARD 2010 : Dr. Mark Holderness
10. Any Other Matter : Members
11. Chairman's Concluding Remarks : Dr. Abd Shukor Abd Rahman



Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
24 April 2010, NASC Complex, New Delhi, India
(10:00 – 13:00 hrs)

AGENDA NOTES

1. Welcome Remarks

Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, will welcome the members of the Executive Committee and the special invitees. He will also provide information on the reasons for which some members could not be present.

2. Chairman's Address

Dr. Abd Shukor Abd Rahman, Chairman, APAARI will deliver his opening address and emphasize on issues relating to current agricultural growth in Asia and the Pacific region and the role of APAARI in the context of new challenges before AR4D.

3. Progress Report– An Update

The Executive Secretary will brief the members on progress since last meeting held in Taichung, Chinese Taipei on 26 October, 2009. He will also highlight the progress relating to recent APAARI publications, meetings organized/attended, new membership, signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Letter of Agreement (LoA) with international institutions/organizations.

(A brief report on recent APAARI activities will be circulated to the members prior to the meeting)

4. Membership and Payment Status

The Executive Secretary will provide an up-dated status of APAARI members in the categories of NARS, Associate, Affiliate and Reciprocal memberships.

It is indeed encouraging that some of the NARS, Agricultural Universities and Institutes have recently joined APAARI as its affiliated members. APAARI Secretariat is making continuous efforts to enroll more new members.

The payment of membership fee, except a few, has by and large been regular. Almost all the associate members, particularly CGIAR institutes, have paid their membership fee on the increased rate of US\$ 5,000/year, since 2009. Details of membership payment are provided in Annexure I.

5. Audited Accounts for 2009 and updated Assets and Liabilities

The audited accounts statement for the year 2009 is provided in Annexure II. The statement for the period January-March, 2010 together with an up-dated statement of Assets and Liabilities, will be presented during the meeting for review and approval by the Executive Committee.

6. Resource Generation/Fund Investment Possibilities

To meet the increased expectations and program activities particularly in line with prioritized global issues related with agriculture e.g. climate change, biotechnology, ICT, LFM, biofuel, etc., APAARI would need additional resources in the next five years.

It is, therefore, critical to ensure generation of resources. During the last meeting, a suggestion was made to explore through IRRI more secured ways of investing the Corpus Fund of one million dollars. For this, Director Finance, IRRI has been requested to offer some suggestions which will be presented by Mr. P.K. Saha during the meeting. Accordingly, Executive Committee may like to discuss and advise on best possible options for future investments.

7. Annual Program of Work

Executive Committee members would be briefed on the progress so far made and the activities proposed in accordance with the approved Work Plan for 2010 (Annexure III) and seek suggestions for possible changes/modifications, as considered necessary.

8. Update on next AGM and Expert Consultation

Members will be briefed on progress relating to proposed Symposium on “Sustainable Agricultural Development and Agrobiodiversity in the Asia-Pacific Region” which is an activity related to the declaration of the year 2010 as an “Year of Biodiversity”. The letters of commitments made by both RDA and Bioversity International, the Concept Note with tentative program of the symposium are attached as Annexure IV for kind perusal and suggestions by the members. The CORRA meeting will be held on 11-12 October, whereas 11th APAARI General Assembly Meeting will be held on

12th October (afternoon) followed by the Symposium on 13-15 October including a field trip on 15 October, 2010 afternoon.

9. Discussion on Budget for 2010

The members may like to review the approved Budget for 2010 by the 10th General Assembly in its meeting held during October 2008, and further endorsed by the Executive Committee meetings held on 26 October, 2009. The committee may consider re-allocation for required changes/new programs, if any, keeping in view that overall expenditure remains within the total annual allocation.

10. Outcome and Implications of GCARD 2010

On behalf of APAARI, Dr. Raj Paroda made a presentation in GCARD on the outcome of initiatives taken by APAARI concerning “Reorienting Agricultural Research for Development in Asia-Pacific: The Way Ahead”, which was well received. Dr. Mark Holderness, Executive Secretary, GFAR will brief the Committee on the outcome and implications of GCARD 2010, held in Montpellier, France from 28-31 March, 2010. He would also advise on the follow-up action needed on the recommendations emerging out of the conference.

Members may also like to discuss ways in which a suitable follow up action on ‘Bangkok Declaration’ could be initiated. Please see the Declaration at Annexure V.

11. Review and Endorsement of GRiSP- A Mega Program

In the last meeting, Dr. Robert Zeigler, Director General, IRRI had presented a brief outline of proposed Mega Program on Rice. We have recently received the revised draft proposal named GRiSP for APAARI endorsement (see Annexure VI). This document has been circulated to all members for their comments. Dr. Zeigler will present brief highlights of the proposal and its current status. Executive Committee members may review the proposal and consider its endorsement by APAARI.

12. Support to Networks/Partners

APAARI had been extending need based catalytic support to some of the Networks in the past. For 2010, we have the following three specific requests for consideration:

1.	INCANA	An inter-regional network on cotton- supported by AARINENA, APAARI, ICARDA, CACAARI and AREEO. Request for holding its 4 th Steering Committee meeting in India is being proposed this year for which AREEO will soon approach ICAR. Also a nominal contribution of APAARI is anticipated for this network.	USD 5,000
----	--------	--	--------------

2.	NAARAP	The NGO Association for Agricultural Research in Asia-Pacific, formed in 2008, needs some initial support for its activities (Letter from Fr. Francis Lucas is attached).	USD 5,000
3.	Asian Livestock Knowledge Network by ILRI	ILRI proposes to organize a livestock knowledge network in Asia for which they would require some initial support. A concept note provided by ILRI is attached for discussion during the meeting.	USD 5,000

13. Any Other Matter

Any additional item, as necessary, will be discussed with the permission of the Chair.

14. Chairman's Concluding Remarks

The Chairman will give his closing remarks and the Executive Secretary will propose a vote of thanks.
