ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
12 March 2012, NASC Complex, New Delhi
(14:00 – 16:00 hrs)

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Welcome : Dr. Raj Paroda
2. Chairman’s Address : Dr. S. Ayyappan
3. Approval of the Minutes : Dr. S. Ayyappan
4. Brief Report on Activities : Dr. Raj Paroda
5. Membership Status : Dr. Raj Paroda
6. Audited Accounts and Budget : Ms. Urairat Rujirek
7. Status of Fund Investment : Ms. Urairat Rujirek
8. Work Plan 2012 : Dr. Raj Paroda
9. Report of Sub-Committee on Recruitment of the Executive Secretary :
10. Any Other Matter : Members
11. Chairman’s Concluding Remarks : Dr. S. Ayyappan
12. Vote of Thanks : Dr. Raj Paroda
AGENDA NOTES

1. Welcome

Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, will welcome the Chairman, members and the special invitees.

2. Chairman’s Address

Dr. S. Ayyappan, Chairman, APAARI will deliver his opening address and highlight key achievements of APAARI and his vision of the APAARI’s role in meeting the AR4D challenges.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held at TARI, Taichung on 26 October 2011 were circulated to all members. As no comments were received, the minutes enclosed at Annexure I may please be considered as approved.

4. Brief Report on Activities

Dr. Raj Paroda will present a brief report on the progress made since the last Executive Committee meeting. He will provide details of the activities undertaken with respect to decisions of Executive Committee, work plan including publications, and LOA with international organizations.

A brief report on activities undertaken during the second half of 2011 is attached at Annexure II.

5. Membership Status

The Executive Secretary will apprise the committee regarding current APAARI membership status in different categories (Regular, Associate, Affiliate and Reciprocal members) and efforts being made to increase membership.

A statement of current membership status is given at Annexure III.

6. Audited Accounts and Budget

Ms. Urairat Rujirek will present the Audited Accounts for the period January – December 2011 and the statement of Assets and Liabilities. The same alongwith Bank Statement
and Auditors’s Report will be reviewed by the Executive Committee for approval.

APAARI Budget for 2012 was approved by the Executive Committee in its meeting held on 26 October 2011. The Committee may consider any revision, as required.

7. Status of Fund Investment

As per the recommendations of the Committee comprising of Dr. Robert Zeigler, Dr. Raghunath Ghodake and Mr. Raju Barwale, an amount of US $ 500,000 was invested through ICRISAT in India for taking the benefit of higher interest rate. The same has been reinvested through ICRISAT for another year (upto February, 2013). The Executive Secretary will present the current status of investments made in Fixed Deposits and seek the guidance of the Committee members regarding future investments.

8. Work Plan 2012

Work Plan for the year 2012 was presented and approved by the Executive Committee in its meeting on 26 October 2011 (Annexure IV). The up-dated Work Plan will be presented for discussion and suggestions of members. The Work Plan will cover prioritized activities such as: (i) Publications, (ii) Meetings/Expert Consultations/Symposia etc., (iii) APARIS activities, (iv) APCoAB activities, and (v) Initiatives concerning Inter-regional Cooperation.

The members will also be briefed about GCARD 2, Global Conference on Women in Agriculture and Expert Consultation on Transboundary Diseases to be held during 2012. Members may like to offer their suggestions on proposed APAARI activities.

9. Report of Sub-Committee on Recruitment of Executive Secretary

As per decision taken in the Executive Committee meeting held in April 2011 in New Delhi, the Sub-Committee consisting of Dr. S. Ayyappan, Chairman, Dr. Abd Shukor Abd Rahman, former Chairman and Dr. Simon Hearn, Member has finalized the ToRs for the position of Executive Secretary, APAARI. Same are attached at Annexure V. Dr. Ayyappan will apprise the members regarding future course of action proposed.

10. Any Other Matter

Any additional item if any, will be discussed with the permission of the Chair.

11. Chairman’s Concluding Remarks

The Chairman will give his closing remarks.

12. Vote of Thanks

The Executive Secretary will propose a vote of thanks.

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Annexure I

ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
26 October, 2011
TARI, Taichung, Chinese Taipei

PROCEEDINGS

The second meeting of APAARI Executive Committee in 2011 was held at Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung under the chairmanship of Mr. Mason Smith, Vice Chair, APAARI since the Chairman, Dr. S. Ayyappan could not attend due to some important official engagements. The meeting was attended by 32 persons, including almost all Executive Committee members, special invitees and observers (Annexure I).

Mr. Smith welcomed the participants and moved the agenda for adoption (Annexure II). The agenda was adopted unanimously following which the Chair requested the Secretariat to inform the House about the reasons on absence of members, if any. Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI conveyed the regrets sent by Dr. Ayyappan and Dr. Mark Holderness for their absence from the meeting. Dr. Holderness was, however, available for video conferencing during the meeting to elaborate on GCARD and GFAR related developments.

At the request of the Chair, the participants introduced themselves briefly.

Agenda Item 1: Welcome Address

At the outset, Dr. Raj Paroda thanked Mr. Mason Smith for agreeing to chair the meeting at a short notice. He offered special thanks to Dr. Su-San Chang for hosting the Executive Committee meeting as well as Expert Consultation meeting being held on 27-28 October 2011. Dr. Paroda requested Dr. Chang to convey APAARI’s gratitude to the Honorable Minister for the excellent support rendered by Council of Agriculture (COA) in organizing these meetings as also supporting other joint APAARI-COA activities.

Dr. Paroda thanked the immediate past Chairman Dr. Abd. Shukor Abd Rahman for his support and guidance and Dr. Simon Hearn, Member, Executive Committee and Chairman, APARIS Steering Committee for continued funding support by ACIAR. Dr. Paroda expressed his appreciation of CG centres, which are always well represented by their leaders and senior scientists in APAARI meetings. He also welcomed Dr. Collin
Chartres, Dr. Thomas Lumpkin and Dr. Dyno Keating and the other APAARI members, special invitees and representatives of other regional organizations who found time to participation in the meeting. He recalled the contributions of Dr. Faylon and Dr. Raghunath Ghodake in strengthening APAARI and congratulated Dr. Faylon for assuming the charge of the newly constituted Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARD). Finally, Dr. Paroda conveyed his appreciation to all staff members of COA and TARI for the excellent arrangements and hospitality.

Agenda Item 2: Chairman’s Address

Mr. Mason Smith welcomed the members of Executive Committee, other APAARI members and special invitees attending the meeting. He recalled the importance of agriculture in the Asia-Pacific region and the challenges posed on account of reducing productivity, increasing poverty and under-nourishment prevailing in the region. APAARI has been playing a significant role in addressing these issues by strengthening collaboration among NARS and other stakeholders for AR4D through policy advocacy, building AR4D institutions, inter-regional partnerships and bridging knowledge gaps with support from GFAR, CGIAR and other donors.

Mr. Smith expressed pleasure at the large number of activities conducted by APAARI during the period under report, comprising organization of expert consultation and network meetings, training programs and publication of joint declarations, success stories and status report. With an additional funding support from GFAR, a number of additional activities in the area of AR4D advocacy, building institutions, inter-regional partnerships and bridging knowledge gaps are being carried out in collaboration with NARS, CG Centers and other stakeholders.

The Chairman noted with satisfaction that APAARI programs are being expanded and vigorously pursued and strong inter-regional partnerships are being established making it a very coherent and dynamic AR4D Platform in the Asia-Pacific region. It is all the more gratifying that with expanding programs, the financial position is quite sound with an investment of US$ one million in the fixed deposits, that too largely through membership contributions. There is now a need to implement GCARD Road Map in the region for which effective partnership with GFAR, FAO and CG Centres will be necessary. The Chair appreciated the excellent support extended by ACIAR, COA, GFAR, FAO and CG Centres for implementing a very relevant and impressive work plan to achieve APAARI mandate and goals.

Finally, Mr. Smith extended an invitation to the members to attend the ICM meeting to be held in Fiji during November 2012. On behalf of Dr. Ayyappan, he also extended an invitation to all the members to attend the proposed General Assembly of APAARI and Expert Consultation on Transboundary Diseases scheduled to be held in Delhi in October 2012.
A set of APAARI publications was released by the Chairman and handed over to Dr. Su-San Chang.

**Agenda Item 3: Approval of Minutes**

The Chairman proposed the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in New Delhi on 14 February 2011 for adoption. It was informed that the proceedings were circulated to all the participants from whom no comments were received by the Secretariat. Two typos on page 2, Investment of “US$ 500,000” to replace “US$ 50,000”; “Mr. Mason Smith” to replace “Dr. Mason Smith”, were pointed out for corrections. Further, to an enquiry on the status of NAARAP, the Executive Secretary informed that this organization as well as IFAP have both been dissolved by their respective Executive Bodies and hence they no more exist. Hence, there was a need to discuss on CSO and farmer representation in the Executive Committee.

**Agenda Item 4: Action Taken Report**

Dr. Paroda presented the action taken report on the recommendations of the previous Executive Committee Meeting (Annexure III) and the progress made during the period under report. The highlights of his powerpoint presentation are:

1. APAARI Executive Committee meeting was held in New Delhi on 14 February 2011 in which the following important decisions were taken:
   a. Audited accounts of 2010 were approved.
   b. Budget and Work Plan for 2011 were approved.
   c. Endorsement for an investment in fixed deposits for US $ 500,000 through ICRISAT.
   d. Process for recruitment of Executive Secretary on regular basis was formulated and a subcommittee appointed.
   e. It was decided to hold an expert consultation of Biotechnology, Biosafety and Biosecurity in October 2011 in Chinese Taipei.
   f. Next GAM and Symposium on Transboundary Diseases will be hosted by ICAR in October, 2012 in New Delhi.

2. APCoAB Steering Committee meeting was held on 14 February 2011 in New Delhi
3. APARIS Steering Committee meeting was held on 24 September 2011 in Bangkok
4. The following four training programs/group meetings/workshops were held during the current year:
   a. Training workshop on “Coherence in Information Management” held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in May 2011.
   b. Workshop on “ICM in South East Asia” held in Bangkok in September 2011.
   c. Training workshop on “Rapid Bioassay for Pesticide Residues on Fruits
and Vegetables” held in Chinese Taipei in July 2011.
d. “Stakeholders’ Interface on GM Food Crops” held in New Delhi, India in May 2011.

5. APAARI and APCoAB websites have been redesigned, updated and made more user friendly.

6. APAARI Newsletter has been redesigned and June issue published in time, distributed and posted on website.

7. Following publications have been brought out during 2011:
   c) Proceedings of the Eleventh General Assembly Meeting of APAARI.
   d) The Suwon Agrobiodiversity Framework; The Way Forward for Managing Agrobiodiversity for Sustainable Agriculture in the Asia-Pacific Region.
   e) Success Stories on ICT/ICM in AR4D in Asia and the Pacific Region.
   f) International Symposium on Sustainable Agriculture Development and Use of Agrobiodiversity in the Asia-Pacific Region-Proceedings.
   g) Strengthening of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture: Conservation and Utilization in the Pacific – A Status Report.
   h) Proceedings of Stakeholders’ Interface on GM Food Crops.
   j) Micropropagation for Production of Quality Banana Planting Material in Asia-Pacific.

8. APAARI on CD 2011 and new APAARI and APCoAB flyers have also been released.

Agenda Item 5: Membership Status

The members were pleased to note that two new members have joined APAARI during the current year, namely, CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur (Himachal Pradesh), India and University of Nottingham, Malaysia Campus, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In addition, Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA), has upgraded its membership to become an Associate Member. The total number of APAARI members now stands at 56 (Regular members 20, Associate members 17, Affiliate members 11, Reciprocal members 8) (Annexure IV). Efforts are continuing to increase membership by inviting other countries not yet member of APAARI.

Regarding payment of membership fee, it was informed that most members have paid
the fee regularly (Annexure V). Vietnam and ICRAF have committed to pay their pending dues. Reminders are being issued to them regularly.

**Agenda Item 6: GCARD Road Map Implementation**

On behalf of Dr. Mark Holderness, Dr Paroda made a presentation on GFAR and GCARD program for transforming AR4D. He provided the background to GCARD process with APAARI as one of the important stakeholders in its plan to build collective action towards large scale development in agriculture particularly aimed at small and resource poor farmers. This was followed by video conferencing with Dr. Mark Holderness who further elaborated on the role of regional organizations and their participation in GCARD. The GFAR Mid-Term Plan 2011-2014 was circulated and the members were requested to give specific suggestions on proposed participatory activities.

**Agenda Item 7: Work Plan and Budget for 2012**

Members were apprised that, in principle, the Work Plan and Budget for the biennium 2011-2012 were approved in the General Assembly meeting held in Suwon, Republic of Korea in October 2010. The revised Work Plan and Budget (Annexure VI) for 2012 were presented by the Executive Secretary. These cover mainly the prioritized activities such as: (i) Publications, (ii) Meetings/Expert Consultations/Symposia etc., (iii) APARIS activities, (iv) APCoAB activities, and (v) Initiatives concerning Inter-regional Cooperation. In addition, activities are proposed under LoA with GFAR initiated for effective implementation of GCARD Road Map. The Work Plan and Budget were approved unanimously.

Regarding the status of fund investment, the committee was informed that as per the recommendation of the Committee comprising Dr. Robert Zeigler, Dr. Raghunath Ghodake and Mr. Raju Barwale, an amount of US$ 500,000 was invested through ICRISAT in India for taking the benefit of higher interest rate. The value of this investment on maturity date (2/2/2012) will be US$ 520,164 after premium payment to Bank and ICRISAT’s charge of 10% on return. Hence, a total of US$ 20,164 will be the earning after one year of investment i.e. on 2 February, 2012 with approximately 4.05% interest gained. This will be much higher than what is being earned presently for the rest of the amount with Siam Commercial Bank, Bangkok.

The Executive Secretary presented the Audited Accounts for the period January - December 2010 and January – September 2011 (Annexure VII) for information of members and scrutiny. The same along with certificate of Auditor and Bank Statements were scrutinized and approved unanimously. The Executive Committee members appreciated better management of accounts and noticed that all expenses were within approved budget provisions.

**Agenda Item 8: Any Other Matter**
The Executive Secretary informed that a sub-committee consisting of Chair, Vice-Chair and Executive Secretary was authorized to review and take appropriate decisions on Secretarial matters. He requested a separate meeting of the committee for salary and other staff matters, which was later held to discuss review of salary/honorarium.

Dr. Paroda also informed about the status of recruiting a full time Executive Secretary. The sub-committee comprising of Dr S. Ayyappan, Dr. Abd Shukor Abd Rahman and Dr. Simon Hearn are reviewing the ToRs and proposed salary structure and service conditions. The Committee may finalize these issues in the next Executive Committee meeting scheduled to be held in March 2012. An announcement for the position will be made soon after that meeting.

**Discussions and Recommendations**

I. Impact Assessment of investment in AR4D
   a) Dr. Simon Hearn emphasized the need for policy advocacy to enhance national investments in agricultural R&D. He also suggested to have a slot in GCARD 2012 for a well researched presentation on impact assessment and returns on investment in agricultural research. The impacts should be evaluated in terms of enhanced production, poverty alleviation and nutritional enhancement.
   b) Dr. Ghodake while reemphasizing this issue, apprised about the success of policy advocacy efforts in PNG.
   c) Dr. Thomas Lumpkin suggested APAARI along with GFAR to approach Ministry of Agriculture, Mexico for a slot in G20 meeting to be held in Mexico for championing investments in agricultural R&D.
   d) Dr. Khalilur Rahman, Dr Tashi Samdup, Dr. Abdul Halim, Dr. Leocadio Sebastian and Dr. Dinesh Pariyar agreed with the need for impact assessment and suggested the involvement of national partners in the evaluation process and development of common evaluation templates.
   e) Dr. Paroda sought guidance of the members in organizing and funding a high level meeting with policy makers to promote investments in AR4D.
   f) It was resolved that:
      i) The national partners would address the need for policy dialogue on AR4D within their systems.
      ii) APAARI will spearhead the development of methodology for impact assessment and evaluation, organize training of trainers and seek a slot at GCARD2 to present a case on impact of agricultural research for development in AP region.
      iii) The national partners will request APAARI to spearhead the execution of the impact assessment activity.

II. Dr. Dinesh Pariyar suggested to bring out success stories on livestock and meat production, processing and export.
III. Dr. Colin Chartres emphasized upon the need for APAARI’s attention to NRM issues, especially water and micro irrigation, and produce documents on ground water and land management issues in collaboration with NARS and IWMI.

IV. Dr. Khalilur Rahman appreciated the organization of meeting on women in agriculture. He suggested the meeting to cover the role of women in agricultural research as well as in agricultural development.

V. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal suggested organization of expert consultation on management of alien invasive species and establishments of plant clinics in the Asia-Pacific region. On behalf of CABI, Dr. Khetarpal offered to co-organize an expert consultation on this subject as and when planned.

VI. Dr. Paroda informed about the follow up on Suwon Declaration and requested ACIAR to support project on crops for the future especially for the Pacific being developed under APAARI umbrella.

VII. The need for APAARI to make its presence felt as a coherent and visible regional organization at the international fora was expressed by Dr. Dyno Keatinge.

VIII. A number of suggestions were made regarding representation of farmer Organizations, CSOs and private sector in the APAARI Executive Committee. These included: inviting them to specific events, establish legitimacy for membership; to examine if they can become Affiliate Members, and the number of such representatives be less than three and rotated annually. In view of its importance and complexity, it was decided to defer the issue for further discussion and consideration by the Executive Committee.

IX. Members were requested to give their input to the GCARD Medium Term Plan within the stipulated deadline (15 November, 2011) and with specific suggestions for action and NARS participation.

Agenda Item 9: Chairman’s Concluding Remarks

In his concluding remarks, the Chairman summarized the major discussion points and decisions taken in the meeting. He reiterated the need to implement the decisions expeditiously by the member organizations and APAARI secretariat. He also suggested to examine the issue of APAARI’s legal status. On behalf of APAARI, he thanked Dr. Su-San Chang for hosting this meeting.

Agenda Item 10: Vote of Thanks

The Executive Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.
PROGRESS REPORT ON APAARI ACTIVITIES
(July – December, 2011)

APAARI organized several activities on AR4D policy, genetic resources conservation, biotechnology and ICT/ICM in collaboration with its partners and through various networks during July-December, 2011. A brief account of the achievements made during the period under report is presented below:

A. MEETINGS AND EXPERT CONSULTATIONS

1. APAARI Executive Committee Meeting
   The second meeting of APAARI Executive Committee for 2011 was held at Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung, Chinese Taipei on 26 October 2011 under the chairmanship of Mr. Mason Smith, Vice Chair, APAARI since the Chairman, Dr. S. Ayyappan could not attend due to some important official engagements. The meeting was attended by 32 persons, including almost all Executive Committee members, special invitees and observers. The progress of work was reviewed and discussion held on the work plan for 2012. The following important recommendations had emerged:

   - Mr. Mason Smith in his Chairman’s address noted with satisfaction that APAARI programs are being expanded and vigorously pursued and strong inter-regional partnerships are being established making it a very coherent and dynamic AR4D platform in the Asia-Pacific region.
   
   - Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI presented the action taken report on the recommendations of the previous Executive Committee meeting and the progress made during the period under report. He also made a presentation on GFAR and GCARD Road Map, in which APAARI is one of the important stakeholders. This was followed by video conferencing with Dr. Mark Holderness, Executive Secretary, GFAR who elaborated further on the role of regional organizations and their participation in GCARD.
   
   - Audited accounts for the period January-December 2010 and January-September 2011, and work plan for 2012 were approved unanimously.

   - It was suggested that APAARI may conduct impact assessment of investment in AR4D involving the following steps:
     - The national partners will address the need for policy dialogue on AR4D within their respective systems.
     - APAARI will spearhead the development of methodology for research investment, impact assessment and evaluation, organize training of trainers and seek a slot at
GCARD 2 to present a case on agricultural research investments for development in Asia-Pacific region.
- The national partners will request APAARI to spearhead the execution of the impact assessment activity.

- Other suggestions included, publication of success stories on various themes, including those on livestock and meat production, and water and micro-irrigation, expert consultation on management of alien invasive species in collaboration with ICAR and CABI, and developing modalities for involving CSOs, farmers’ organizations and private sector in APAARI Executive Committee.

2. Tenth Meeting of the APARIS Steering Committee

The tenth meeting of the APARIS Steering Committee was held on 29 September, 2011 at the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok under the chairmanship of Dr. Simon Hearn, Chairman, APARIS and Principal Adviser, Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). Six members of the Committee and one special invitee attended the meeting. The following important points emerged:

- Dr. Raj Paroda in his welcome address appreciated the support by ACIAR, GFAR and FAO to APAARI and its patronage for the APARIS Program.
- Dr. Simon Hearn, Chairman welcomed all the members of the APARIS Steering Committee and appreciated their contributions in taking forward the APARIS activities to strengthen agricultural information and knowledge sharing in the region. He pointed that the role of APARIS is crucial in improving the regional coherence in information and knowledge sharing to address regional issues such as climate change, water management and multi-national and inter-regional research collaborations.
- Dr. Ajit Maru, Co-Chair, APARIS Steering Committee expressed satisfaction on completion of Status Report on ICT/ICM in AR4D and conduct of three ICM workshops in three sub-regions, viz., South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific besides information and knowledge exchange programs as part of GCARD Roadmap in the region. Dr. Malcolm Hazelman, Senior Extension, Education and Communications Officer, FAO RAP expressed his appreciation of the progress made in APARIS activities in collaboration with FAO and assured support of FAO in future programs.
- Since the term of the current Steering Committee will end by 2011, a new Steering Committee for the term 2012-2013 was constituted as follows:

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<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Dr Simon Hearn, Principal Adviser, ACIAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Chair</td>
<td>Dr Ajit Maru, Senior Knowledge Manager, GFAR Secretariat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members</td>
<td>Dr Malcolm Hazelman, Senior Extension, Education and Communications Officer, FAO RAP</td>
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<td>Dr Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI</td>
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<td>Dr Jonathan Shaw, Director, AIT Extension, AIT</td>
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<td>Member from Thailand</td>
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<td>Member Secretary</td>
<td>Dr S. Attaluri, APARIS Coordinator</td>
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The Committee appreciated the progress made in different programs and approved both the minutes of the Ninth meeting of the APARIS Steering Committee and the Action Taken Report. The APARIS Work Plan for 2012 along with budget was also approved.

3. Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology, Biosafety and Biosecurity

An expert consultation was held in collaboration with Council of Agricultural Research (COA), Chinese Taipei and Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) on 27-28 October 2011 at TARI, Taichung.

It was attended by 73 participants from 22 countries representing Asia, Australia, Pacific, Africa and North America. The participants included international experts and leaders from APAARI member NARS and CG Centers, representatives of industry, civil society organizations and farmer groups, and local participants from government agencies, farmer cooperatives and private sector. The program comprised presentation of status reports on biotechnology, biosafety and biosecurity R&D in Asia-Pacific countries, followed by regional status reports (Africa, Asia and the Pacific), expert lectures on advances in biotechnology and biosecurity for food security, and group discussions.

The expert consultation recognized that agricultural biosecurity is essential for food security, food safety, protection of human health and biodiversity, and market access. Promoting adoption of biotechnological tools, facilitating biosafety systems and developing integrated legislative framework and capacity to address diverse agricultural biosecurity threats were recommended during group discussions. Recommendations on: i) Promoting Biotechnology for Food Security, ii) Facilitating Biosafety Adoption and, iii) Building Biosecurity Systems were made in the meeting.

4. Regional Dialogue on Conservation Agriculture

A Regional Dialogue on Conservation Agriculture was jointly organized by APAARI, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on 1-2 November, 2011 at the National Agricultural Science Center (NASC), Pusa, New Delhi, India. The dialogue focused on Conservation Agricultural Research for Development (CAR4D) through innovations for greater impacts on small-holder farmers in the region and 66 participants including the policy makers, R&D managers, researchers, private sector representatives, NGOs, CGIAR institutions, CSOs and farmers attended.

The dialogue was structured in four Technical Sessions: i) Status of Conservation Agriculture; ii) Initiatives of CG Centers on CA in South Asia; iii) Break-out group discussions on a) out-scaling for impact, b) partnerships for regional cooperation, and c) capacity building; and iv) research and development needs on CA in South Asia. The proceedings with salient action points and recommendation that emerged as a result of this important regional dialogue are in the process of editing. These are planned to be published and circulated widely for use by the stakeholders.

5. Regional Workshop for Implementation of Suwon Agrobiodiversity Framework
As a follow-up on the Suwon Agrobiodiversity Framework for Asia-Pacific region, APAARI and Bioversity International jointly organized a regional workshop on 4-6 November 2011 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The workshop was supported by GFAR, FAO and ADB. A total of 44 representatives and experts from various NARS, non-government organizations and international organizations participated in the workshop.

Discussions held in three working groups resulted in identification of important areas to be addressed and for developing concept notes. Priority areas included germplasm utilization, crop wild relatives, enhancing the use of underutilized species, increased availability to agrobiodiversity and understanding and managing changes in diversity. Out of these areas identified, three were selected for developing concept notes. i) acquisitions and accessing of crop wild relatives and accessing novel alleles for enhanced use, ii) enhancing use of underutilized species for improved livelihoods and diversified diets, and iii) increase availability and accessibility to the rich agrobiodiversity for conservation and improvement of livelihoods of farmers in the Asia-Pacific region. With the financial support extended by FAO, the consultants are being hired to develop the concept notes and project proposals for submission to appropriate donors for funding.

6. Workshop on Information and Communications Management for Agricultural Innovation in Southeast Asia

A three-day workshop on “Information and Communications Management for Agricultural Innovation in Southeast Asia” was organized jointly by APAARI, FAO, GFAR and Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) on 27-29 September, 2011 at AIT Campus, Bangkok. A total of 44 participants attended the workshop which included 18 senior information and communication managers of national agricultural research systems, information experts from CG Centers and a representative of CACAARI besides resource persons/participants from APAARI, ACIAR, GFAR, FAO RAP, AIT and Kasetsart University. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, FAO RAP in a function chaired by Dr Simon Hearn, Chairman, APARIS and Principal Adviser, ACIAR.

- The program was organized under seven Technical Sessions, viz. i) New Dimensions in ICM for Agricultural Innovations, ii) ICM for Innovation through the Consortium Research Projects and Regional Fora, iii) Opening Agricultural Research Information to All, iv) Identifying and Bridging Gaps in ICM for Agricultural Innovation, v) CIARD, vi) The Way Forward and vii) Plenary Session. APAARI, ACIAR, GFAR, CG Centers, CACAARI shared their experiences. The country presentations revealed that there has been significant progress in the use and application of ICT/ICM for AR4D at the national level.

7. Session on “Openness in Agricultural Information and Knowledge Sharing”

International Conference on Innovative Approaches for Agricultural Knowledge Management: Global Extension Approaches

A special session on “Openness in Agricultural Information and Knowledge Sharing” was held on 10 November, 2011 at NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi, India in the
“International Conference on Innovative Approaches for Agricultural Knowledge Management: Global Extension Approaches” jointly organized by IISE, ICAR, FAO, TAAS, MSEE, NAAS, Alcorn State University, Iowa State University and other partners on 9-12 November, 2011. Over 400 participants from the fields of agricultural research, extension, information and communication technology attended the conference.

Dr Raj Paroda who chaired the inaugural session welcomed the participants and emphasized on the need for ‘openness’ in sharing agricultural information and knowledge at all levels for improving adoption of agricultural innovations in the changing context of agriculture becoming more market-linked and knowledge intensive. The session was focused on the core issue of “Openness” of agricultural information and knowledge in the context of the emerging paradigm of agricultural innovation which should mean that a large part of relevant and useful information generated by and through the public sector investment, should be available and also accessible as a public good with equity to all its users. The technical sessions were organized in three groups, under themes, i) Technical Issues to Usher Openness, ii) Institutional Issues to Usher Openness, and iii) Community Issues to Usher Openness in concurrent sessions. A total of 12 papers were presented by experts followed by discussions. The conveners of each group shared the outcome in the plenary session chaired by Dr S. Ayyappan, Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR.

The session participants affirmed the need to empower farmers through ICT-enabled services, develop capacities in ICTs, create and update content, validate information, provide incentives for open initiatives, use end-user ICT tools and devices, increase investment etc. Dr Raj Paroda in his remarks reiterated that openness in information and knowledge sharing should empower resource poor smallholder farmers with better knowledge to link them to markets to improve their incomes and livelihoods.

The following recommendations emerged and presented in the plenary session:

**Technology Issues**
- Encouraging access and use of information through ICTs at farmers level
- Convergence of media and information from agriculture and other areas
- Strengthening collaboration among all actors in ICT/ICM
- Validation of need-based information and its periodic updation
- Capacity development for the efficient use of ICTs and information
- Strengthening of KVKs, Rural Communities and Farmers’ Organisations at local level

**Institutional Issues**
- Increased and targeted investment in ICT/ICM in agriculture
- New Institutional arrangements – change in work processes
- Developing policies, strategies, rules, norms, regulations
- Recognition, rewarding and awarding systems
- Building institutional capacity

**Community Issues**
- Creation of community-based organizations: Farmers’ Clubs etc.
• Involving community in assessment of information use
• Convergence of information related to agriculture and non-agriculture issues
• Capacity building of community on use of ICT tools and information.

8. Workshop on “Moving Beyond Strategy to Improve Information and Knowledge Management for Agricultural Development in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories”

The four-day workshop was organized jointly by APAARI, FAO, GFAR, ACIAR and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) at Nadi, Fiji Islands on 21-24 November, 2011. It was attended by 35 experts in the field of agricultural research, extension, information and communication technologies which included 16 senior officers from Cooks Island, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sol Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu besides resource persons from APAARI, ACIAR, GFAR, FAO, SPC and CTA. The workshop objectives included promotion of: new Information and Knowledge Management (IKM) for making efficient and effective use of information resources by the Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs); greater involvement and participation of organizations and institutions in CIARD and CIARD RING initiatives; openness in agricultural information and knowledge sharing and use of Web 2.0 and Social Media for agricultural information management in the region.

The workshop was organized into six technical sessions: i) New Dimensions in ICM for Agricultural Development in the Pacific Islands and Territories, ii) Information and Knowledge Management for AR4D in the Pacific Region – Country Experiences, iii) CIARD, iv) Identifying and Bridging Gaps in Knowledge Management for Agricultural Development in the Pacific, v) New Approaches to Agricultural Information Dissemination and vi) The Way Forward. The following recommendations emerged as a result of in-depth group discussions:

Capital
• Advocacy for investment – increased, improved and targeted; success stories, etc., public-private-community partnerships
• Developing innovative business models, cost sharing, partnerships with government departments, creation of consortium
• Support from micro-finance and self-help groups.

Content
• Using low cost camera; smart phones; participatory GIS, community information repositories
• Developing communication strategy and its implementation by institutions
• Integrating traditional knowledge, policies for IPR issues, and creation of local contents in local language.

Connectivity
• Enhancing investment in infrastructure to establish better connectivity
• Improving connectivity through CD/DVDs/ flash drives, mobile, Community e-centers, multi-modal delivery to reach the community
- Encouraging use of off-line delivery medium, Community centers, Mixed media at the community level.

**Collaboration**
- Enhancing the use of emerging media – Web 2.0 / Social Media to facilitate collaboration; use of collaborative tools – participatory video, community centers, community GIS
- Networking with internal and external ICT initiatives
- Involving NGOs and existing networks- women groups, church groups, youth groups, teachers /schools etc., in ICT initiatives.

**Capacity**
- Capacity building at different levels in organizations through sensitization, awareness, training / workshops and success stories to improve the use and application of ICT/ICM in agriculture
- Initiating distance learning programs, e-learning to educate on ICT/ICM
- Raising awareness at community level through training, field visit, cultural events and documentation.

**Community Participation**
- Involving establishments like local Councils, NGOs, church groups, women groups, youth groups, schools etc.
- Involving priests, teachers, students, chiefs, extension officers, farmer leaders
- Advocacy to increase awareness on the benefits and use of ICT/IKM.

**Culture of Organization**
- Introduction of reward system and accountability in organizations
- Bringing change in institutional work processes, procedures, rules and regulations, norms
- Raising awareness on the role and importance of community in ICT/IKM initiatives.

9. **International Symposium on Genetics and Reproductive Management for Animal Production**
APCoAB in collaboration with COA organized the symposium at Livestock Research Institute, Tainan, Chinese Taipei on 21-24 November 2011. It was attended by 33 participants from eight countries, five of whom, from Vietnam, Iran and Philippines, were sponsored by APCoAB. The program comprised presentations on i) genetics and reproductive management of cattle, deer, poultry, pigs and rabbit; ii) quarantine systems of different countries; and iii) advances in the use of farm animals for biomedical research. APCoAB Coordinator made a presentation on “Role of biotechnology in improving agricultural productivity and poverty alleviation in the Asia-Pacific region”. During the field trip organized on 24 November, the participants visited The Goat Milk Cooperative and a country chicken production and packaging center.

**B. TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS**

1. **Training Workshop on Rapid Bioassay for Pesticide Residues (RBPR) on Fruits and Vegetables for Market Inspection and Farm Education**
The training workshop was organized in collaboration with COA at Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung on 27 June - 1 July, 2011. Six trainees from Malaysia, Vietnam, India, Sri Lanka and Philippines were sponsored by APCoAB, of whom four attended.

The program comprised lectures and laboratory demonstrations on qualitative and quantitative RBPR analysis of insecticide residues. Visits to farmer cooperatives and vegetable markets provided first hand experience of the RBPR technology at the field level. The participants also visited the museum of Miaoli District Agricultural Research and Extension Station where they had a glimpse of the history and development of agriculture in the country.

2. International Training Course on In Vitro and Cryopreservation Techniques for Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources: Current Methods and Techniques
APCoAB collaborated with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Bioversity International in organizing this training course at National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi on 14-26 November, 2011. Out of a total of 12 trainees from eight countries, three trainees from Iran, Chinese Taipei and Sri Lanka were sponsored by APCoAB.

The 13 day training program opened with introductory lectures on management of plant genetic resources (PGR), and details of national and international organizations involved in PGR collection and conservation. Lectures on principles and methods of in vitro conservation and cryopreservation, genetic stability testing and trans-boundary movement of vegetative germplasm were delivered by national and international experts. A significant portion of the training period was devoted to hands-on laboratory training on biotechnological techniques of conservation and molecular characterization of germplasm. The trainees were also provided opportunity to present their ongoing research programs and seek suggestions of experts on specific technical issues.

C. PUBLICATIONS:
1. Stakeholders’ Interface on GM Food Crops: Recommendations
This publication reports the proceedings and recommendations of the “Stakeholders’ Interface on GM Food Crops” organized jointly by APCoAB and Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) with the support of ICAR, on 19 May 2011 at New Delhi, India. It stresses on the need for: use of GM technologies for quality and good nutrition; mission-mode approach to adopt appropriate GM technologies by strengthening public research system and enabling environment for private sector investments; developing protocols and IPR regimes for better partnerships; need for a national mission on GM food crops; clearance of Biotechnology Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) Bill; transparent biosafety regulatory system for safe application of biotechnology; post-release monitoring mechanism; use of effective communication tools and extension to raise right awareness on GM technologies; capacity building in the areas of biosafety, regulatory systems, IPR issues etc., and focus on agribusiness and agri-biotechnology in the 12th Five Year Plan. The publication is available at: www.apaari.org; www.apcoab.org
2. Information and Communication Technologies / Management in Agricultural Research for Development in the Asia-Pacific Region: A Status Report
This report assesses the status of use and application of ICT/ICM in AR4D and innovation systems in 19 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. It provides detailed assessment of key indicators to know the status of ICT/ICM in agricultural research and innovation systems at national level under concepts, viz., ICT infrastructure; information systems; policy and strategies; contents; ICT applications; information and communication services and information channels besides coverage of APARIS initiatives at the regional level and trends in agricultural information / knowledge exchange at global level. The report stresses need for mainstreaming ICT/ICM in AR4D at different levels; increased political commitment; increased, improved and targeted investment; capacity development; improving governance; and enabling greater sharing of data, information and knowledge at all levels. The report is available at: www.apaari.org

This publication embodies six Sections. Section 1 contains the status and scope, current marketing systems and their limitations, and sustainable energy farming and social acceptance. Section 2 described pre-project activities, stakeholders and their perspectives, empowerment programs, planting and planting material. Section 3 contains the details the launching of Rural Biofuel Growers Association and information on establishment of biofuel processing unit, feed stock procurement, processing and value addition and marketing. Section 4 deals with direct and indirect benefits from the implementation of the model. Sections 5 and 6 describe the success of the model and future prospects, respectively.

4. Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology, Biosafety and Biosecurity - Proceedings and Recommendations
This publication reports the proceedings of expert consultation meeting held by APAARI in collaboration with Council of Agriculture, Chinese Taipei at Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung on 27-28 October 2011.

5. Linking Farmer to Market: A Successful Story of Lettuce Export from Taiwan by Min-Chi Hsu, Yu-Shih Hseih, Ming-Yao Chiang, and SAN-Tai Wang, Taichung,
The manuscript has been received and is being edited.

6. Jackfruit Improvement in the Asia-Pacific: A Status report by Dr. A.S. Sidhu
Manuscript is under editing.

7. APAARI Newsletter (bi-annual)
APAARI Newsletter December 2011 has been published and circulated widely. It is also posted on APAARI website.
D. STRENGTHENING INTER-REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

1. Collaboration with FAO RAP
APAARI established collaboration with FAO RAP through a Letter of Agreement (LoA) to organize the workshops: i) Workshop on Information and Communications Management for Agricultural Innovation in Southeast Asia was organized jointly by APAARI, FAO, GFAR and Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) on 27-29 September, 2011 at AIT Campus, Bangkok, and ii) Moving Beyond Strategy to Improve Information and Knowledge Management for Agricultural Development in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories was organized jointly by APAARI, FAO, GFAR, ACIAR and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) at Nadi, Fiji Islands on 21-24 November, 2011.

2. Collaboration with ASTI/IFPRI
APAARI established collaboration with ASTI/IFPRI to undertake a survey on Agricultural Investment and Capacity in 8 Southeast Asian countries, viz., Cambodia, Laos PDR, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand. During the period under report, APAARI signed agreements with collaborators in Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. The data from these three countries were collected and shared with ASTI/IFPRI for further analysis and reporting. Further, a “Workshop on Agricultural R&D in the Asia-Pacific region: The need to monitor investments, capacities, and institutional changes” will be organized on 16-17 February, 2012 at Bangkok for the representatives of national partner organizations, regional organizations and other stakeholders.

3. Collaboration with International Society of Extension Education (ISEE) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
APAARI, in collaboration with GFAR, organized a special session on “Openness in Agricultural Information and Knowledge Sharing” on 10 November, 2011 at NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi, India in the “International Conference on Innovative Approaches for Agricultural Knowledge Management: Global Extension Approaches” jointly organized by IISE, ICAR, FAO, TAAS, MSEE, NAAS, Alcorn State University, Iowa State University and other partners on 9-12 November, 2011. More than 400 participants from the fields of agricultural research, extension, information and communication technologies attended the conference.

4. Collaboration with Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
APAARI established collaboration with the SPC, Fiji and organized a joint workshop on “Moving Beyond Strategy to Improve Information and Knowledge Management for Agricultural Development in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories” in collaboration with APAARI, FAO, GFAR, ACIAR and Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) at Nadi, Fiji Islands on 21-24 November, 2011.

5. GFAR-APAARI Collaboration
To implement GCARD Road Map in Asia-Pacific region, APAARI implemented several activities under the LOA with GFAR in four broad areas, namely, agricultural research
for development, building AR4D institutions, inter-regional partnerships, and bridging knowledge gaps.

APAARI supported the participation of stakeholders in the following important meetings/conferences:

1. Participation of 3 scientists and one farmer from India and one scientist from Pakistan in the Global Conference on Conservation Agriculture held at Brisbane, Australia on 26-29 September, 2011.
2. Participation of 3 scientists from India, Bangkok and Philippines in Asian Maize Conference held at Nanning, Guangxi, China on 7-9 November, 2011.
3. Participation of an NGO representative from INHERE, India in Regional Dialogue on Conservation Agriculture, Held at New Delhi, India on 1-2 November, 2011.
4. Participation of national partners was supported by APAARI for the Regional Workshop on Suwon Framework held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 4-6 November, 2011.

E. PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL AND OTHER FORA ACTIVITIES:

1. **Meeting of Regional Forum on Strengthening Rural Advisory Services in Asia-Pacific Islands**

Dr. Bhag Mal, Consultant represented APAARI in a meeting of the Regional Forum on Strengthening Rural Advisory Services in Asia-Pacific Islands (APIRAS) held at SEARCA, UPLB College, Laguna, Philippines on 14-15 September, 2011. The program of the meeting was structured in to presentations and group discussions. The two specific presentations relating to rural advisory services provided necessary background to the participants. This was followed by group discussions and the recommendations of groups were presented, discussed and agreed. The major output of the meeting was the agreement of partners for the establishment of the Regional Forum on Strengthening Rural Advisory Services in Asia-Pacific Island Countries.

The participants were given an opportunity to speak on behalf of their respective organizations and regional fora. Dr Bhag Mal highlighted the achievements and strategic thrusts of APPARI and also the possible areas of collaboration such as policy advocacy, training and capacity building, technology transfer and information dissemination, etc. He further mentioned about APAARI’s support through collaboration with the newly established regional forum, APIRAS for effective dissemination of technologies and information to the farmers in the Asia-Pacific region.
2. DOCNet Workshop
A Workshop on “Development Opportunity Crops Network for the Promotion of Agrobiodiversity” was organized at FAO, Rome on 10 -11 January, 2012. Dr. Bhag Mal, Consultant represented APAARI in this workshop which was attended by 23 participants form different organizations.

The following major recommendations/points emerged as a result of intensive discussions i) strategy paper involving case studies need to be published, ii) brochure highlighting the vision, mission, objectives and strategies etc. need to be brought out on priority, iii) the case of establishment of DOCNet need to be presented in major events taking place in 2012 such as GCWA in March 2012 in India; GCARD II Meeting in Uruguay in October, 2012; and World Food Prize meeting, iv) efforts need to be made to get FAO involved for carrying forward the agenda under “Save and Grow’ Strategy. v) Peer reviewed papers and book chapters on specific topics relating to DOCNet species need to be published, vi) DOCNet website needs to be in place as soon as possible. The information management systems need to be strengthened and efforts need to be made to get DOCNet database included in FAO database, vii) DOCNet should look beyond crops and should focus on crop production systems in diverse agro-ecological regions, viii) Concerted efforts need to be made for policy advocacy and public awareness at different levels, ix) Country reports on use of underutilized crops should be developed, and x) the statements of participating organizations/institutions as well as other organizations for their support and willingness to join the DOCNet/Alliance need to be obtained.

F. WEB-BASED INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

1. APAARI Web Space
Under this activity, a communication strategy was developed through a consultative process involving all the experts and the ICM managers of NARS in the region. The APAARI website domain and webhosting services were renewed in July 2011. Services such RSS and social media tools were started to disseminate information efficiently.

In order to strengthen APARIS web space under implementation of the communication strategy, inputs from GFAR was taken on the APAARI website architecture to introduce platforms for ARD stakeholders to share, interact and participate in dialogue process on critical issues in ARD and GCARD process. It was found that AgriDrupal, a customized content management system for agricultural information is suitable for providing access to information and learning materials to enable all stakeholders to exchange information efficiently. It was felt necessary to develop capacity of APAARI staff on use and application of AgriDrupal by GFAR at a suitable time in 2012.

2. Database Platforms
Contact Database of Agricultural Institutions was completed and installed on APAARI website. The contact database is available at: http://www.apaari.org/ard-database/. The design of databases on ARD Experts and ARD Projects was completed and it was demonstrated in the Tenth Meeting of APARIS Steering Committee held on 29
September, 2011. The feedback and suggestions are being incorporated in the final design. Database platforms will be ready by February 2012.

G. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

- **ASTI-APAARI Workshop on Agricultural R&D in the Asia-Pacific region:**
  1. The need to Monitor Investments, Capacities, and Institutional Changes, February 16-17, 2012, Bangkok, Thailand.

  2. A Global Conference on Women in Agriculture will be organized by APAARI and ICAR with support from GFAR on 13-15 March, 2012 at NASC, Complex, Pusa, New Delhi, India. This is a high profile conference being co-sponsored by FAO, IDRC, USAID, ADB, ACIAR, BMGF, and TAAS. The goal of this conference is Empowering Women for Inclusive Growth in Agriculture. The objectives are i) to discuss and deliberate the prevailing and emerging gender issues in agriculture and food systems and the lessons learned for future sustainable development, ii) to take stock of evidence on experiences in enhancing role of women in agriculture, iii) to understand the mechanisms and approaches adopted by the international organizations, regional fora, countries, and civil society for empowering women and addressing gender issues in agriculture, and iv) to collate lessons on strategies for strengthening gender research in agriculture to make technology generation and dissemination, agricultural planning and policy making gender sensitive and disseminate them through an edited book and develop a Framework for Action. About 300 participants including 100 from abroad are expected to attend.

  3. Regional Workshop on Prioritizing Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies for Agriculture in South and Southeast Asia will be organized jointly by APAARI and CCAFS at Bangkok, Thailand on 11-12 April, 2012.

  4. Regional Consultation on Improving Wheat Productivity in Asia is planned to be organized jointly by APAARI and FAO RAP, Bangkok on 26-27 April, 2012. CIMMYT and ICARDA will also be collaborating with this important Initiative.

  5. Three Policy Dialogues for Prioritization of Demand Driven Agricultural Research for Development in South Asia will be organized in collaboration with IFPRI in Bangladesh, India and Nepal in May/June, 2012. The outputs of these dialogues will help in developing regional strategy for AR4D which will be presented in GCARD meeting scheduled to be held in Uruguay in October, 2012.

  6. A Global Consultation on Agrobiodiversity in collaboration with Bioversity International and ICAR will be held in September/October, 2012, at New Delhi, India.
### APAARI WORK PLAN FOR 2012

<table>
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<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1. Publications</strong></td>
<td>- APAARI Newsletter (June and December, 2012) and APAARI on CD-2012&lt;br&gt;Publication of success stories:&lt;br&gt;  • Biofuel Growers Market Association: A Success Story&lt;br&gt;  • Success Story on Jackfruit Improvement in the Asia-Pacific.&lt;br&gt;  • Success Story on Linking Farmers to Market&lt;br&gt;  • Success story on bamboo genetic resources and improvement in South and Southeast Asia.&lt;br&gt;  • Success Story on Protected Cultivation of Apple in Korea&lt;br&gt;  • Proceedings of the Regional Dialogue on Conservation Agriculture&lt;br&gt;  • Proceedings of Regional Workshop for Implementation of Suwon Agrobiodiversity Framework&lt;br&gt;  • Proceedings of International Conference on Women in Agriculture</td>
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<td><strong>2. Meetings/ Expert Consultations/ Symposia</strong></td>
<td>- APAARI Executive Committee Meeting (12 March 2012)&lt;br&gt; - APAARI General Assembly, New Delhi, India (October, 2012)&lt;br&gt; - Expert consultations on selected themes:&lt;br&gt;   (i) Regional Consultation on Improving Wheat Productivity in Asia at Bangkok on 26-27 April, 2012&lt;br&gt;   (ii) Regional Workshop on Climate Smart Agriculture in Asia: Research and Development Priorities at Bangkok on 11-12 April, 2012&lt;br&gt; - Policy Level Dialogue on R &amp; D prioritization in 3 countries in South Asia (Bangladesh, Nepal, India) in collaboration with IFPRI, GFAR and ADB&lt;br&gt; - Facilitation for Global Conference on Women in Agriculture scheduled to be held at New Delhi on 13-15 March, 2012</td>
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<td><strong>3. APARIS Related Activities</strong></td>
<td>- Success Stories on Agricultural Information and Learning Systems in the Asia-Pacific Region&lt;br&gt; - Publication of ICT Status Report &amp; Its distribution&lt;br&gt; - Regional Workshop on ICM for Agricultural Development in the Asia-Pacific Region (To be co-organized with FAO, GFAR and other international organizations).&lt;br&gt; - Implementation of APAARI Communication Strategy, maintenance of APARIS web space and databases&lt;br&gt; - APAARI on CD-2012&lt;br&gt; - APAARI Newsletter: bi-annual (2 issues)&lt;br&gt; - Success Stories on Innovations in Agricultural Research and Extension Systems</td>
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| Establishment of linkages with Global, regional and sub-regional fora enabling their partnerships in the APAARI activities  
| APARIS Steering Committee Meeting  
|  
| APCoAB Steering Committee Meeting (12 March 2012)  
| Expert consultation on Transboundary Plant and Animal Diseases in collaboration with ICAR (October 2012)  
| Policy Dialogue on GM Food Crops in Philippines  
| Two training programs on biotechnology related subjects in Chinese Taipei  
| Publication of Proceedings of Expert Consultation on Biotechnology, Biosafety and Biosecurity  
| Publication of Date Palm Micropropagation  
|  
| INCANA- an inter-regional network on cotton  
| Participation of AARINENA, CACAARI and FARA representatives in APAARI meetings  
| APAARI participation in the meetings of networks / fora such as CAPSA, APIRAS, DOCNet, etc.  
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# Status of Membership Payment

## Contribution by APAARI Members

### As on 13 February 2012

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</table>
## Budget & Work Plan for 2011-2012
(Amount in US Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Publication (Newsletter, Technical Reports, etc.)</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>APAARI Secretariat Support</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(i) Staff Salary</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>180,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(ii) Office Stationary and Postage</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(iii) Miscellaneous Items</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Consultancy/Travel/DSA, etc.</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Training/Selected Research Projects/APAARI Programs and Network Support</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Expert Consultations/General Assembly and Executive Committee Meetings</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>90,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>460,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>515,000</strong></td>
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</table>
# APAARI WORK PLAN FOR 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Publications</td>
<td>• APAARI Newsletter (June and December, 2012) and APAARI on CD-2012 &lt;br&gt;Publication of success stories: &lt;br&gt;  - Success Story on Protected Cultivation of Apple in Korea &lt;br&gt;  - Success Story on Jackfruit Improvement in the Asia-Pacific. &lt;br&gt;  - Success Story on Linking Farmers to Market &lt;br&gt;  - Success story on bamboo genetic resources and improvement in South and Southeast Asia. &lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;• Proceedings of the Regional Dialogue on Conservation Agriculture &lt;br&gt;• Proceedings of Expert Consultation on Biotechnology, Biosafety and Biosecurity &lt;br&gt;• Proceedings of International Conference on Women in Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Meetings/ Expert Consultations/ Symposia</td>
<td>• APAARI Executive Committee Meeting (April, 2012) &lt;br&gt;• APAARI General Assembly, New Delhi, India (October, 2012) &lt;br&gt;• Expert consultations on selected themes: &lt;br&gt;(i) Expert Consultation on Trans-boundary Plant and Animal Diseases &lt;br&gt;(ii) Regional Dialogue on Wheat Production Strategy &lt;br&gt;• Policy Level Dialogue on R &amp; D prioritization in 2-3 countries in collaboration with IFPRI, GFAR and ADB &lt;br&gt;• Facilitation for Global Conference on Women in Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. APARIS Related Activities</td>
<td>• Success Stories on Agricultural Information and Learning Systems in the Asia-Pacific Region &lt;br&gt;• Collaboration with regional / sub-regional Fora, ARD Networks and partnerships with other regional initiatives such as SAARC, SEARCA, SPC, etc. &lt;br&gt;• Facilitating CIARD initiative in the Asia-Pacific in partnership with GFAR and FAO. &lt;br&gt;• APARIS Steering Committee Meeting &lt;br&gt;• Assessment of regional investments and capacity building in collaboration with ASTI/IFPRI &lt;br&gt;• ICM for knowledge sharing</td>
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<td>4. APCoAB Related Activities</td>
<td>• APCoAB Steering Committee Meeting &lt;br&gt;• Policy Dialogue on GM Food Crops – Philippines &lt;br&gt;• 2-3 Training Programs on: biotechnology related subject &lt;br&gt;• Expert consultation on some selected theme s relating to biotechnology</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Inter-regional Cooperation</td>
<td>Strengthening cooperation in the following: &lt;br&gt;• INCANA- an inter-regional network on cotton &lt;br&gt;• Participation of AARINENA, CACAARI and FARA representatives in APAARI meetings &lt;br&gt;• APAARI participation in the meetings of networks in other regions</td>
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APAARI Executive Secretary

Terms of Reference

The Executive Secretary will serve for an initial period of two years, renewable for another term in line with APAARI’s rules and regulations, and based on an assessment by the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary will be responsible for the efficient functioning of APAARI Secretariat based in FAO Regional Office, Bangkok and for the implementation of work plan, as approved by the General Assembly for each biennium.

In addition, he/she will:

- Reports to the Chairperson of APAARI and the members of Executive Committee all matters concerning the Program of Work and Budget;
- Reports matters concerning member institution as well as host institution;
- Acts as Secretary to all APAARI Committees;

In general, the tasks to be performed will include:

a) Management and supervision of the Secretariat and of the staff that is posted to it, in order to assure that it effectively carries out all the functions described;

b) Preparation and monitoring of a 2-year rolling work plan and corresponding budget;

c) Implementation of the annual Program of Work, as approved by the General Assembly/Executive Committee;

d) Management, reporting and accountability of the budgets allocated to the APAARI Secretariat;

e) Assisting the member NARS in strengthening their AR4D activities;

f) Organization and support to all APAARI General Assembly/Executive Committee meetings;

g) Organization of the Expert Consultations and Technical Meetings;

h) Supervision of all GFAR publications: APAARI Newsletter, Success Stories, Brochures, Proceedings of Expert Consultations/Meetings etc.;

i) Raising of funds for the operation of the Association

j) Any other task assigned by the APAARI Executive Committee or its Chairperson.

k) Represent APAARI and its constituent organisations as required at global, regional and national level research for development deliberations and meetings

In order to carry out above functions, the Executive Secretary will have the support of a small team of professional staff posted at its Secretariat.