



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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
(1/2015)**

PROCEEDINGS



Bangkok, Thailand

12 May, 2015



ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

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The first meeting of the new APAARI Executive Committee (EC) was held at the Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand on 12 May, 2015 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Suwit Chakiattiyos, Deputy Director-General, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand who officiated in place of Mr. Anan Suwarnarat, Chairman, APAARI and Director General, DOA, Thailand. The meeting was attended by 24 participants including APAARI members and special invitees (Annex I). At the outset, the participants expressed special concern on the tremendous loss to life and property in Nepal, a member country of APAARI, due to an earthquake on 26 April, 2015. The Chair requested the participants to observe one minute silence to pay homage to the people who lost their lives.

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introduction

Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary (ES), APAARI welcomed Dr. Suwit Chakiattiyos for chairing the Executive Committee meeting. He extended a special welcome to Dr. Simon Hearn, former Chairman, APAARI and Dr. Raj Paroda, former Executive Secretary, APAARI and thanked them for their outstanding contributions towards the growth and progress of APAARI. A special mention was made about Dr. Raj Paroda's invaluable and immense contributions that he made over more than 22 years as Executive Secretary of APAARI and brought the Association at a high pedestal. Dr. Ghodake also welcomed all the members and special invitees for their participation in the meeting.

The EC members, special invitees and APAARI Secretariat staff were formally introduced by the Executive Secretary and the participants were apprised about the framed agenda and the relevant documents/papers available for the meeting.

Dr. Ghodake mentioned that this meeting was the first meeting in many respects, first for the Chairman, APAARI, first for the Executive Secretary and also the first meeting for new EC members, some of them having assumed new positions in their parent organizations. He expressed his appreciation to all the present APAARI members, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR),

Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Chinese Taipei Council of Agriculture (COA), Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Canthers, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders for their active role in APAARI meetings.

Agenda Item 2: Opening Remarks by the Chairman

Dr. Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Deputy-Director General of DOA, Thailand, as the officiating Chairman on behalf of Mr Anan Suwannarat, Director-General of DOA, Thailand presented his opening remarks by welcoming and recognizing all the members and invited participants. He highlighted the importance of this pace-setting meeting with a view to consolidating gains and charting out strategies and priorities for APAARI in months and years ahead. This will be especially so with the many changes that have taken place and are happening within and outside of APAARI and the Asia-Pacific region.

Dr. Chaikiattiyos highlighted that the eradication of poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today with a significant proportion of the people suffering from hidden hunger in the Asia-Pacific region. He stressed that poverty alleviation should be a matter of great urgency for all concerned and could be addressed through increased productivity in the agriculture sector. However, the greatest challenge to agriculture productivity is the climate change and how important it is to mitigate and adapt to changing climate for sustained agriculture. As most countries in the Asia-Pacific region are not equipped to address this problem effectively, APAARI can, through its strategic partnerships and alliances, play an important role in providing information, best practices and experiences to the member countries/organizations in climate change adaptation related to agriculture.

The Chair reminded the members and participants that oceans as a source of food should not be overlooked and APAARI together with its strategic partners and collaborators should develop research capacities and look into the transfer of technology to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to agricultural development in the Asia-Pacific countries. He reiterated the importance of science, research, technologies and innovations in the improvement of agriculture and how APAARI needs to gainfully use these opportunities. .

Dr. Chaikiattiyos finally reminded the EC members of the role of APAARI which is to assisting individual member countries and organizations within the Asia-Pacific region to move towards sustainable agriculture through the support of policies, learning and enabling environment. He stressed on the need for APAARI to be creative and innovative in facing the challenging in the years ahead especially in mobilizing financial resources, partnership and program activities. He further urged members to spend quality time deliberating on the redesigning of APAARI's Vision which is so vital for planning and implementing APAARI programs over the next 10-15 years (Opening Remarks in Annex II).

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Agenda by the Executive Committee

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

The name of Mr David Shearer, ACIAR, Australia, was proposed to be the Vice-Chair for the meeting which was unanimously agreed by the members.

The agenda of the meeting was introduced by the Chairman and agenda items were perused by the members. An amendment in the agenda was suggested for the inclusion of discussion on the decisions taken at the recent Fund Council Meeting and APAARI contribution to the rehabilitation of agriculture in Nepal. The agenda (Annex-III) with these modifications was then adopted by the members.

Agenda Item 4: APAARI Progress Report for November 2014-April 2015

The Executive Secretary, APAARI presented a brief report on APAARI activities and the progress made during November 2014 – April 2015. Only the major events of high significance in the last two months of 2014 were highlighted though these were reported in the July-December 2014 progress report.

The report (Annex IV) covered the progress made in the areas such as knowledge management(basically publications), mobilization of human resources and capacity building, membership drive, core planning and redesigning, project planning and organizing resources (especially funding and partnership), collaboration with ACIAR and COA, and partnership with and contribution from GFAR and CGIAR, and participation in meetings organized by other organizations/fora, including the TAP CD (Agricultural Innovation System(AIS) Capacity Development Workshop. The ES also mentioned that APAARI will have a Letter of Agreement with FAO (TAP) to be implementing partner of this new AIS initiative (initially in Bangladesh and Laos and also for promoting this initiative in other developing countries of the AP region.

APAARI Progress Report November 2014-April 2015 was endorsed and its relevant aspects will be included in the Progress Report: January – July 2015.

Agenda Item 5: Membership and Fee Payment Status

The Executive Secretary presented the report on membership and fee payment status(Annex V).He informed that the APAARI Secretariat with advice from Dr. Raj Paroda, Senior Advisor, APAARI, put in special effort and implemented a membership drive and raising of the membership revenue as the basic requirement for sustaining and extending APAARI activities. There has been a considerable progress and further likely developments in terms of increase in the number of members and fees received.

The progress report was endorsed and appreciated by the Executive Committee.

Agenda Item 6: Audit Report and Audited Financial Statement

The Executive Secretary presented the audit report and financial statements for the period 1 January 2014–31 December 2014 carried out in early 2015 (Annex VI).The report was unqualified and satisfactory in all respects; including the way funds received and spent were presented that complied with generally accepted accounting principles. Funds spent in 2014 (US\$ 477,500.65) were less than the funds received (US\$ 529,998.43), amounting to a surplus of US\$

52,497.79 (carried forward to 2015). The expenditure was managed within the budgeted amount of US\$ 560,000.00 for the year 2014.

Clarification and issues were raised on two issues i.e. savings and surplus and the need for activity based budgeting. It was clarified by giving the example of 12th Asian Maize Conference in which NARS participants were supported through GFAR funding as per their Letter of Agreement (LoA) though earlier budgeted for funding by APAARI as the signing of APAARI-GFAR LoA was delayed. Also, some savings from the allocated budget were realised as some National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) leaders were supported by the Conference funds. However, the need for proper terminology and transparent activity budgeting was appreciated and APAARI Secretariat would be improving the necessary accounting process.

Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements as audited by APAARI External Auditor for financial year 2014 were endorsed.

Agenda Item 7: Appointment of External Auditor for the Biennium 2015-2016

The Executive Secretary presented the recommendations of the Interview Panel on the appointment of an external auditor for the biennium 2015-2016. As per the attached recommendation report (Annex VII) of the Interview Panel, the GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd was found to be much superior on the basis of most of the attributes necessary for effective auditing services. The audit fee of this company is THB 30,000 per year.

The GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd was approved as External Auditor for APAARI for the biennium 2015-16.

Agenda Item 8.1: APAARI Work Plan 2015

The detailed Work Plan for 2015 was presented by the Executive Secretary, which included i) publications, ii) major meetings/events to be organized during 2015, iii) corporate matters, iv) partnership with GFAR/CGIAR and other partners, v) planning, mobilization, and implementation of resources and partnerships. The details of activities to be carried out are given in Annex VIII.

The EC approved APAARI's Work Plan 2015 for implementation. The major projects to be undertaken are:

- i) Revisiting APAARI Vision 2025
- ii) High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agriculture Research for Development (AR4D) in Asia-Pacific Region
- iii) Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) towards Outcome and Impact Assessment
- iv) Policy Dialogue on Transforming towards Knowledge Based Agriculture in Southeast Asia
- v) Dialogue on Performance of Bt. Brinjal in Bangladesh and prospects of its wider adoption
- vi) Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-biotechnology in Asia-Pacific

Highlights of the discussion on Work Plan-2015 included i) APAARI's collaboration in Agro-forestry Conference being organized by International Center for Research on Agro-forestry

(ICRAF) and Indian Institute for Agroforestry Research (IIAR), and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), ii) commitment of funding by COA for the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) activities including a training program in October 2015, iii) successful organization of International Training Course of Smart Use of Fertilizers in Chinese Taipei in which APAARI nominated 10 participants, iv) need for involvement of APAARI in Grow Asia Program, v) interest of Asian Farmers Association (AFA) to get involved in CD (AIS) Program, vi) the need for agri-based nutrition, nutri-rich crops and collaborative research and extension in Bangladesh and Africa, viii) establishing linkage with Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). APAARI will make efforts to address these issues raised during the discussion.

Agenda Item 8.2: APAARI Vision 2025

Dr. Mruthyunjaya made a presentation on APAARI Vision 2025, providing the emerging challenges and opportunities for AR4D; refocusing APAARI Vision, Mission, Goal; Results Framework 2016-2025; strategic thrusts, strategic interventions, measuring progress, resource/support mobilization and major steps ahead.

The other important points emerged were: i) involvement of the private sector, ii) role of youth, iii) collaboration and exchange between major NARS-China and India, and iv) focus of vision to support NARS. These will be considered while finalizing the Vision Document.

Major highlights of revisiting APAARI Vision 2025 are:

- i) **Stage One:** on Development of Vision Document containing Vision, Mission and Goal Statements with outline of broad system level outcomes, strategic thrusts and strategic interventions.
- ii) The Vision Document to be developed in close consultation with EC Members and other eminent persons who participated in the EC meeting.
- iii) Draft Vision Document thus developed will go through wider consultation with APAARI members, partners and stakeholders.
- iv) The Executive Secretary of APAARI is tasked to oversee the development.
- v) **Stage Two:** The Second Stage of Strategic Planning on Mid-Term Program Implementation Plan will be undertaken after the acceptance of the revised Vision Document

The proposed activity was endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Item 8.3: High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in AR4D

Dr. Raj Paroda, Senior Advisor, APAARI, made a presentation on “High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in AR4D” giving preamble/ rationale, global efforts for strengthening AR4D and details of policy dialogue including goal, purpose, objectives, expected outcomes, co-organizers and co-sponsors. Part of the presentation was made by Dr. Ghodake giving the budget details and major steps to be taken. The discussion attracted attention on the need for gathering information on country experiences, strategies and regulatory mechanisms for funding, current and future needs, new directions, policies, technologies and community partnerships, improving knowledge access and sharing experiences and innovative approaches. The need was also expressed about the participation of senior level NARS leaders, policy planners and the representatives of donor

organizations. These issues will be appropriately addressed. After a brief discussion, the activity was endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Item 8.4: Capacity Building in Planning, M & E towards Outcomes and Impacts

Mr. David Shearer, ACIAR made a presentation on “Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation towards Measuring Outcomes and Impacts”. He provided the details about the workshop including objectives, expected outcomes, organizers and participants. The activity was endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Item 8.5: Policy Dialogue on Transforming Towards Knowledge Based Southeast Asian Agriculture

Dr. Ajit Maru, GFAR, presented the concept note on “Policy Dialogue on Transforming Towards Knowledge Based Southeast Asian Agriculture” giving the background, strategies and regulatory mechanisms, country experiences, current and future needs, new directions in policies, techniques and community partnerships, innovative approaches to use ICTs and expected outcomes. The activity was endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Item 8.6: Dialogue on Performance of *Bt*. Brinjal in Bangladesh and Prospects of its wider Adoption

Dr Vilasini Pillai, APCoAB Coordinator, presented the concept note on “Dialogue on Performance of *Bt*. Brinjal in Bangladesh and Prospects of its Wider Adoption” giving background, objectives, expected outputs, expected outcomes, co-organizers and participants. During the discussion, it was mentioned that the benefits of *Bt*. Brinjal will be great if there is large scale adoption. Hence, influencing policy makers is very important since scientists are not able to communicate well about the advantages of *Bt*. crops. The activity was endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Item 8.7: Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-biotechnology in Asia

Dr Vilasini Pillai presented the concept note on ‘Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-biotechnology in Asia’ which included the background, objectives, expected outputs, expected outcomes, participants and co-organisers. The activity was endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Items 8.8: CGIAR Research Program (CRP) on Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program

Dr Bhag Mal presented the progress on “CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program” which covered the details on program partners, implementation, scholarship support, crops and areas of research, aims, eligibility, selection criteria, reporting requirement budget and current status, etc. Clarifications were sought on: i) gain to APAARI from such programs, and ii) whether such activity is within APAARI’s mandate. It was clarified that this is a capacity development activity which is one of strategic thrust areas of APAARI and supports NARS towards enhancing their capacities and is very much within APAARI mandate. Moreover, there was a request from

ICRISAT (a member of APAARI), seeking collaboration of APAARI in this program which was accepted as a collaborative activity. The activity was endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Item 9: Income Expenditure Plan 2015-2016

The Executive Secretary presented the Income-Expenditure Plan 2015-2016, which includes sources of revenue and items of expenditure (Annex IX). The points were raised regarding financial planning, improving the ratio of spending on overhead components (establishment cost) and projects/activities, and utilisation and management of reserve (fixed deposit). The points were well taken and APAARI Secretariat will make every effort to gradually improve the ratio of spending on overhead components and project/activities, having seen a substantial progress, being made during 2015. Also, systematic financial plans will be developed for short- to medium-term periods and for optimization of reserves for risk management and for enhancing program/project activities. Although the reserve of \$1.0 million is important for the sustainability of APAARI, some of these funds could be used for enhancing activities for APAARI's output, performance and contributions.

APAARI Income-Expenditure Plan for 2015-16 was approved for implementation.

The highlights are:

- i) Estimated income (US\$ **825,881** and predicted expenditure (US\$ **805,547**) during 2015
- ii) Estimated income (US\$ **724,074**) and predicted expenditure US\$ **795, 838**, with a provision of using US\$ **71,764** from the reserve funds during 2016.

Agenda Item 10.1: Appointment of Private Sector Representative

The Executive Secretary presented the details related to the appointment of private sector representative. After deliberations, the Asia-Pacific Seed Association (APSA), was nominated and endorsed as a representative of the private sector on the APAARI Executive Committee for the biennium 2015-2016.

Agenda 10.2: Expanding Representation on the APAARI EC

The Executive Secretary tabled the agenda on expanding representation on the APAARI Executive Committee. At present, five organizations of the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA) are Associate Members of APAARI - The World Vegetable Centre (AVRDC), Commonwealth Agriculture Bureaux International (CABI), Crops for the Future (CFF), International Centre for Bio-saline Agriculture (ICBA) and International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), while four universities are in the category of Associate Membership and another eight universities are under the category of Affiliate Membership. By considering the suggestions/propositions made and decision taken by the 13th GAM, it was considered appropriate to create an additional seat to jointly represent the AIRCA organizations and the higher education institutions (universities), giving better representation for both the advanced international research organizations and the higher education institutions. There is a need to have an arrangement for these two groups to represent

on a rotational basis, alternating between biennium. It was agreed that the opportunity for representing on the APAARI EC be given first to AIRCA organizations due to their initiative requesting for a seat.

Proposal for an additional seat to jointly represent the Association of International Research Centres for Agriculture (AIRCA) and Universities (Higher Education Sector) on the APAARI Executive Committee was approved, subject to the approval of the appropriate amendment to the APAARI Constitution by the APAARI General Assembly.

Agenda 10.3: Nominations of Members to APCoAB Steering Committee (SC) for the Biennium 2015-2016

Dr. Vilasini Pillai presented the agenda on nominations of members to the APCoAB Steering Committee for the Biennium 2015-2016” and proposed the names of Chair, Vice-Chair and Members for consideration of the EC.

The Executive Committee approved the following composition of APCoAB Steering Committee for the Biennium 2015-16.

#	Position	Designation	Organization	Country
1	Chairman	Chairman, APAARI Executive Committee (DG, Department of Agriculture)	Department of Agriculture	Thailand
2	Vice Chairman	DG, International Cooperation (Funder)	Council of Agriculture(CoA)	Chinese Taipei
3	Member	Executive Director (Expertise in Biotechnology)	PCAARRD	Philippines
4	Member	Executive Chairman (Vice-Chair, APAARI))	BARC	Bangladesh
5	Member	Representative (Funder)	ACIAR	Australia
6	Member	Representative	World Fish Centre	Malaysia
7	Member	Executive Secretary	APAARI	Thailand
8	Secretary	Coordinator	APCoAB	Thailand
	Participant	Biotech Professional	ICRISAT	India

Agenda Item 10.4: Nominations on the Asia- Pacific Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS Steering Committee for the Biennium 2015-2016

Ms. Chanerin Maneechansook, APAARI Program Assistant, presented the agenda on the appointment of APARIS Steering Committee for the Biennium 2015-2016” and proposed the names of Chair, Vice-Chair and Members for consideration of the EC.

The Executive Committee approved the following composition of APARIS Steering Committee for the Biennium 2015-16.

Composition of APARIS Steering Committee: Biennium 2015-16				
#	Title	Designation	Organization	Country
1	Chairman	Chairman, APAARI Executive Committee (DG, Department of Agriculture)	Department of Agriculture	Thailand
2	Vice-Chairman	Member, APAARI Executive Committee	ACIAR	Australia
3	Member	Member, APAARI Executive Committee	GFAR	Italy
4	Member	Member, APAARI Executive Committee	ICRAF	Kenya
5	Member	Representative	FAO-RAP	Thailand
6	Member	Executive Secretary	APAARI	Thailand
7	Secretary	APARIS Coordinator	APAARI	Thailand

Agenda Item 11.1: CGIAR SRF and CRP II round Call – APAARI Engagement

Mr. David Shearer presented the Agenda Item 11.1 “CGIAR Strategy and results Framework (SRF) and CGIAR Research Program (CRP) II round call- APAARI Engagement” giving the purpose, background, discussion focus and the current status. The point was made regarding Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD) 3 and it was clarified that the approved CRPs will begin implementation in 2017 and GCARD 3 might be held in early 2016.

Agenda Item 11.2: Development of Asia-Pacific Extension and Outreach Network (APEON)

Dr. Subash Dasgupta, FAO presented the agenda on the development of Asia-Pacific Extension and Outreach Network (APEON). FAO has agreed to support the Network for 2-3 years, with the new Secretariat of APAEON being established and Governing Council’s meeting will be held soon. FAO will be the Chair, while APAARI will be the Vice-Chair of the Governing Council. The point was raised about the linkage between APAEON and APAARI and it was clarified that APAARI collaborated with FAO in establishing the APAEON and further linkages and contributions would be forthcoming as APAEON progresses.

Agenda Item 11.3: Recent Decisions of the CGIAR Fund Council

Three major decisions made by the CGIAR Fund Council in its recently held meeting on 27-30 April, 2015 in Bogor, Indonesia are: i) Agreement to submit revised SRF to Funders with amendments and caveats, ii) Establishment of CGIAR Systems Organization, and iii) Plan on Resource Mobilization and Innovative Financing. The EC considered with concern that participation of developing countries from the South and their partnerships in the CG programs have been marginalised in the establishment of new CGIAR Systems Organization and these needs to be carefully followed as the new establishment progresses further in terms of its implementation.

Agenda Item 11.4: APAARI Contribution to Nepal's Rehabilitation

There was discussion about the current situation and the need for disaster management especially in the area of agriculture in Nepal, being a member country of APAARI. It was resolved that APAARI would explore the possibilities of supporting the recovery and assisting in rehabilitation of agriculture, in particular agricultural research and innovation systems, that has been adversely affected in Nepal because of the recent earthquakes in the country.

Agenda Item 12: Chairman's concluding Remarks

Dr. Suwit Chaikiattiyos chairing the EC meeting acknowledged the active participation of the EC Members contributing to the success and outcomes of the meeting. He appreciated the role of participants and sincerely thanked them for active participation. He also stressed on the need for implementing the work plan 2015. Mr David Shearer chairing the last session of the meeting on behalf of Chairman, in his concluding remarks, expressed satisfaction about the deliberations, outcomes and good decisions taken in the Executive Committee meeting. He stressed on the need for implementing the agreed activities and thanked the APAARI members and participants for their active participation in the meeting.

Agenda Item 13: Vote of Thanks

Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI extended vote of thanks. He mentioned that the EC meeting was very fruitful and covered thoroughly the proposed agenda items within planned time. There was a good discussion and several important decisions were taken. There is a clear road map now for developing the APAARI Vision document. The approved work plan will have to be implemented for which additional funding resources are to be mobilized. He appreciated the cooperation and support extended by the EC members and participants and expressed hope to receive continued cooperation and support. Finally, he thanked the Chair, Vice-Chair, members, special invitees and APAARI Secretariat staff for their presence, active participation and significant contributions for making the meeting a great success.

ANNEX I.

List of Participants

No.	Name	Organization/ Country
Executive Committee Members		
1	Dr. Suwit Chaikiattiyos	Deputy Director General Department of Agriculture 50 Phaholyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900 Thailand Email: suwitdoa@yahoo.com
2	Mr. David Shearer	General Manager Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) PO Box 1571 Canberra ACT 2617 Australia Email: david.shearer@aciarc.gov.au
3	Ms. Maca Tulakekpa	Deputy Secretary (Corporate Services & Planning) Ministry of Agriculture Level 3, Robinson Complex Old Wing, Grantham Road, Private Mail Bag Raiwaqa, Suva Republic of Fiji Email: maca.tulakekpa@pmoffice.gov.fj
4	Dr. Reynaldo Eborá	Executive Director Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Paseo de Valmayor, Economic Garden, Bgy. Timugan, Los Baños, Laguna The Philippines Email: r.eborá@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph
5	Dr. Arachchi Ariyaratne	Secretary/ Director Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy 114/9, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07 Sri Lanka Email: arariya@hotmail.com
6	Dr. Ajit Maru	Senior Program Officer GFAR, FAO Headquarters, Vialledelle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy Email: ajit.maru@fao.org
7	Dr. Javed Rizvi	Regional Director South Asia Programme, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), 1 st Floor, C Block, NASC Complex, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012, India Email: j.rizvi@cgiar.org

8	Ms. Esther Penunia	Secretary General Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), room 206, partnership center, 59 c. Salvadorst., Loyola Heights, Quezon City, 1108 The Philippines Email: estherpenunia@gmail.com
9	Dr. Md. Abdul Mazid	Associate Director, Agriculture, BRAC International, BRAC, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 Bangladesh Email: ma.mazid@brac.net
10	Dr. Raghunath Ghodake	Executive Secretary 4 th Floor, FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road, Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100 Thailand Email: raghunath.ghodake760@gmail.com Raghunath.ghodake@apaari.o
Special Invitees		
11	Dr. Simon Hearn	Dr Simon Hearn Agricultural Consultant Canberra, Australia Email: Simon.Hearn@aci.gov.au
12	Dr. Raj Paroda	Senior Advisor Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences Avenue II, IARI, New Delhi 110 012, India Email: raj.paroda@gmail.com
13	Dr. Mruthyunjaya	A-701, Vasundhara Apartments Sector-6, Plot 16, Dwarka New Delhi 110075, India Email: Mruthyunjaya1947@gmail.com
14	Dr. Subash Dasgupta	Senior Plant Production Officer FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific 39 Phra Athit Road, Bangkok 10200 Thailand Email: Subash.Dasgupta@fao.org
15	Dr. Junne-Jih Chen	Director General Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Council of Agriculture (COA), Executive Yuan, Taiwan, ROC Email: jjchen@tari.gov.tw
16	Dr. Tom Burns	Director 7 th Floor, Institute of Food Research and Product Development, Kasetsart University, Chatuchak Bangkok 10900, Thailand Email: tom.burns@apsaseed.org

17	Dr. Dyno Keatinge	Director General The World Vegetable Center (AVRDC) P.O. Box 42, Shanhua, Tainan 74199, Taiwan Email: dyno.keating@worldveg.org
18	Dr. Fenton D. Beed	Regional Director The World Vegetable Center (AVRDC) East and Southeast Asia, 4 th Floor, Research & Development Bldg Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Bangkok 10903, Thailand Email: fenton.beed@worldveg.org
DoA and APAARI Colleagues		
19	Ms. Jintawee Thaingam	Director of International Agricultural Affairs Group Department of Agriculture 50 Phaholyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand Email: jintawee@hotmail.com
20	Dr. Margaret C. Yoovatana	Senior Policy and Plan Specialist Planning and Technical Division Department of Agriculture 50 Phaholyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand Email: luckymegy@yahoo.com
21	Dr. Bhag Mal	Senior Consultant, APAARI C/o TAAS, IARI Campus Pusa, New Delhi India Email: b.mal@apaari.org
22	Dr. Vilasini Pillai	APCoAB Coordinator 4th Floor, FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road, Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100 Email: vilasini.pillai@apaari.org
23	Ms. Chanerin Maneechansuk	Program Assistant 4th Floor, FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road, Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100 Email: chanerin@apaari.org
24	Ms. Urairat Rujirek	Administrative Officer 4th Floor, FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road, Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100 Email: urairat@apaari.org

ANNEX II.

Chairman's Opening Remarks **Dr. Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Officiating Chairman**

- 1 Good morning Ladies and Gentleman; I, on behalf of Mr. Anna Suvannarat, Director General, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand as well as APAARI Chair, welcome all of you to APAARI's first Executive Committee meeting for 2015. I would like to recognize the participation of the esteemed members of the Executive Committee which includes the representatives of the five National Agricultural Research Systems (Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Australia, Thailand, and Fiji), Global Forum on Agriculture Research (GFAR), and International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), AFA representing Farmer Organizations (FOs), and BRAC representing NGOs. Also, present are the representatives of FAO-RAP, Asia and Pacific Seed Association (APSA), Former Chairman of APAARI, former Executive Secretary of APAARI, representatives of Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC), Council of Agriculture (COA), Chinese Taipei, Dr Mruthyunjaya, Lead Resource Person, current Executive Secretary and Secretariat staff of APAARI and my colleagues from DOA. I look forward to your invaluable contributions to this very crucial pace setting meeting that will help reshape APAARI through new plans, operational activities and exploring opportunities and challenges.
- 2 Eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. Of course in doing so, we have to look at various manifestations of poverty such as hunger, malnutrition, under-nutrition, especially among children and women and overall health of communities. The number of people suffering from hidden hunger (deficiency in micro-nutrients) is approximately 2.0 billion with a significant proportion residing in the Asia-Pacific region. Malnutrition remains the underlying cause of death for at least 3.1 million children a year.
- 3 Greater attention to agricultural research for development (AR4D) is necessary to achieve the new set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that include *inter alia* attaining food security, improving nutrition, promoting sustainability and restoration of agricultural systems, combating ill effects of climate change, etc.
- 4 The Asia-Pacific region is agriculturally very dynamic, feeding nearly two-third of the world's population from only two-fifth of the global arable land. It has made great strides in reducing poverty and hunger over the past four decades though the problems persist, especially in South Asia. Strong agricultural growth based on improved seeds and growth in yields (the Green Revolution) played a vital role in this process by raising rural incomes and increasing food availability, which kept food prices low.
- 5 Ladies and Gentlemen! We are at the cross roads in terms of moving into the Post 2015 Agenda of working towards SDGs and sustainable agricultural development. There is a need to further mainstream sustainable agriculture development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their inter-linkages.

- 6 Partnerships have been a cornerstone of strategies, policies and programmes adopted to achieve the MDGs. Global and regional partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region have a great potential to achieve the SDGs and APAARI's unique and key role as a regional forum becomes apparent where through its strategic alliances, coordination, networking facilitation, capacity development and collaboration, poverty reduction can be achieved through increased productivity in the agriculture sector. We need to be committed to doing our part to freeing humanity from poverty and hunger as a matter of urgency.
- 7 By 2030, the region has to ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters, and that progressively improve land and soil quality. These also help in addressing food and nutrition security for all
- 8 To enhance agricultural production capacity in developing countries, in particular in the Asia- Pacific region, there is a need to increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, agricultural research and extension services, technology development, innovations and plant and livestock gene banks.
- 9 A great challenge to agriculture productivity is climate change for which we must not only mitigate the impact of climate change on agriculture, but also enable agriculture to adapt to the impact that climate change is creating on farming, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture.
- 10 In spite of various efforts by national governments to address climate change issues, most Asia- Pacific countries are not adequately equipped, in terms of capacity, to address adaptation, mitigation and effects or challenges brought about by climate change. APAARI can through its strategic partners provide valuable information on the on-going initiatives, practices and experiences in climate change adaptation related to agriculture in the Asia- Pacific countries.
- 11 Ladies and Gentlemen! We should not overlook the oceans as a great source of food. Thus, APAARI's role with its strategic partners, collaborators and funding agencies is to increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacities and transfer marine technology for the improvement of ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the agricultural development in the developing countries of the region.
- 12 Esteemed participants, I would like to draw your attention to a 2010 OECD report which indicated that sustained increase in agricultural productivity in modern times is typically driven by investments in agricultural research, development, extension and education than by any other factor.
- 13 Sustainable agriculture needs science and innovation as it underpins the responses to all the challenges the agriculture sector is facing, requiring us to find ways to grow more food in ways that are less resource intensive, while still satisfying the demands of an expanding global population and guarantee a truly sustainable future for the Asia- Pacific region.

- 14 APAARI realizes that in order to truly move towards sustainable agriculture, we need to acknowledge that even though science underpins solutions, that science will not develop without the support of policy, education, and society. The individual countries in the Asia- Pacific region have their respective roles to play and APAARI is willing to assist them within its mandate;
- 15 It is also important that agriculture must not be seen as a development program but as a business, and agricultural research must take this business perspective so that policy makers will change and develop policies to take technologies to scale for farmers; APAARI acknowledges that we must take a whole value chain approach, and invest in new product development to add value to crops.
- 16 APAARI's role in the years to come will be faced with these challenges and not carry on business as usual but we need to be creative and innovative, thinking out of the box. Like all other agencies and organizations in the region, APAARI will face the resource crunch if not already. While mobilizing financial resources, we must also look at innovative ways and strategic partnerships in doing our business. The recent reorganization of CGIAR towards better governance has serious implications where the partnership activities/ contribution by NARS and regional network such as ours will be marginalized and that will affect generation of international public goods in terms of technologies and innovations of our interest.
- 17 I would like to urge you to spend some quality time deliberating on this very important issue as it will help APAARI redesign its vision. Our agenda today is quite intensive and pragmatic covering many dimensions ranging from reports, work program activities, income and expenditure plan, nominations of people in key committees, and planning various project activities/events, redesigning vision, etc. These will set the pace for this biennium and will continue to help APAARI play its continued dynamic role in this region.
- 18 With these words, I would like to conclude and wish the very best for a good and successful deliberation at this Executive Committee meeting.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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ANNEX III.



ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (1/2015)

Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand
12 May 2015(8.30 – 15.30hrs)

AGENDA

#	Time	Item	Facilitation
1	08.30-08.40	Welcome and Introduction	Dr. Raghunath Ghodake Executive Secretary
2	08.40-08.55	Opening Remarks by Chairman	Mr. Anan Suwannarat (Officiated by Dr. Suwit Chakiattiyos)
3	08.55-09.00	Approval of Agenda by the EC	Executive Secretary
4	09.00-09.30	APAARI Progress Report November 2014- April 2015	Executive Secretary
5	09.30-09.40	Membership and Fee Payment Status (Until 30 April 2015)	Executive Secretary
6	09.40-09.50	Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements– 2014	Executive Secretary
7	09.50-10.00	Appointment of External Auditor for Biennium 2015-16	Executive Secretary
	10.00-10.30	Tea/Coffee Break& Group Photograph	
8	10.30-12.30	Work Plan 2015	
	10.30-10.45	8.1. Overall Presentation on Work Plan 2015	Executive Secretary
	10.45- 11.15	8.2. Revisiting APAARI Vision 2025	Dr.Mruthyunjaya
	11.15-11.40	8.3. High Level Policy Dialogue on ARI4D Investment	Dr. Raj Paroda, Senior Advisor
	11.40 -11.50	8.4 Capacity Building in Planning, M&E towards Outcomes and Impacts	Mr. David Shearer
	11.50-12.00	8.5 Policy Dialogue on Transforming Towards Knowledge Based Agriculture in SE Asia	Dr. AjitMaru
	12.00-12.10	8.6 Dialogue on Performance of Bt. Brinjal in Bangladesh and Prospects of its Wider Adoption	Dr. Vilasini Pillai

	12.10-12.20	8.7 Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-biotechnology in Asia	Dr. Vilasini Pillai
	12.20-12.30	8.8 CRP DC Scholarship Program	Dr. Bhag Mal
#	Time	Item	Facilitation
9	12.30-13.00	Income Expenditure Plan 2015 -16	Executive Secretary
	13.00-14.00	Lunch	
10	14.00-14.40	Composition of Committees	
	14.00-14.15	10.1. Appointment of Private Sector Representative on APAARI Executive Committee	Executive Secretary
	14.15-14.30	10.2. Expanding Representation on APAARI Executive Committee	Executive Secretary
	14.30-14.40	10.3. APCoAB Steering Committee	Dr. Vilasini Pillai
	14.40-14.50	10.4. APARIS Steering Committee	Ms.Chanerin Maneechansook
11	14.50-15.10	Other Matters	
	14.50-15.00	11.1 CGIAR SRF and CRP II round call - APAARI Engagement	Mr. David Shearer
	15.00-15.10	11.2 APAEON Update	Dr. Subash Dasgupta
	Untimed	11.3 Recent Decisions of the CGIAR Fund Council	Executive Secretary
	Untimed	11.4 Exploring Assistance in Rehabilitation of Agriculture, Nepal	Dr. Ajit Maru
12	15.10-15.25	Concluding Remarks	Chairman
13	15.25-15.30	Vote of Thanks	Executive Secretary
		End of the Meeting	

ANNEX IV.

Progress Report: November 2014 - April 2015

0. Events During 2014

0.1 International Conference on Avian Influenza Prevention and Control, Taipei, 18-19 November 2014

- Organized at Animal Health Research Institute, New Taipei City under APAARI-COA collaborative project on biotechnology.
- Attended by experts from Japan, Russia, India, Korea, the Philippines, and Chinese Taipei, who were supported by COA and APCoAB/APAARI.
- Based on the presentations and discussion, the status of Avian Influenza control in the region was updated and recommendations made for its control through “stamping out” and intensive surveillance.

0.2 APAARI Participation in the Launch of APAEON – FAO-RAP, 17 December 2014

- FAO-RAP launched the newly established Asia-Pacific Agricultural Extension and Outreach Network (APAEON) at its Regional Office in Bangkok on 17th December, 2014.
- The joint Launch involved FAO, APAARI and CAPSA. The network is designed to share the agricultural information, and knowledge among the Asia-Pacific governments and stakeholders.
- Drs Simon Hearn, Raj Paroda and Raghunath Ghodake participated in the launch meeting.
- As part of further progress, Dr Raghunath Ghodake was invited to be the Vice-Chair of APAEON. The ADGFAO RAP will be the Chair and other members are being decided.
- The APAEON is currently designing its website, to which APAARI contributed.

0.3 Signing of MOU between APAARI and DOA, Thailand

- Dr Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary of APAARI and Mr. Anan Suwannarat, Director General, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Thailand signed the MoU on 19th December at APAARI Office.
- The MoU provides a framework for cooperation between APAARI and DoA in developing mutually beneficial processes of collaboration and increasing knowledge base to achieve their overall program and goals.
- The signed MoU is available and referred to at the EC Meeting.

1. Knowledge Management (Publications)

1.1 Proceedings of the 12th Asian Maize Conference and Expert Consultation on Maize for Food, Feed, Nutrition and Environmental Security

- Reports the proceedings of 12th Asian Maize Conference and Expert Consultation organized in collocation with CIMMYT, FAO RAP and DOA, Thailand at Bangkok on 30 Oct. – 1 Nov. 2014,
- Includes summary of Keynote Lectures, Contributory Papers, Country Reports, Panel Discussions, Working Group Discussions, Speeches of Dignitaries, and the major recommendations.

- Widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders as well as posted on APAARI website
- 1.2 Recommendation Flyer of 12th Asian Maize Conference and Expert Consultation**
- Includes the preamble, perspective and major recommendations
 - Creating awareness among policy makers, administrators and donors
 - Widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders as well as posted on website
- 1.3 Biosafety Regulations for GM Crops in Asia-Pacific'**
- A rewritten, updated and enlarged version of the previous APCoAB publication, 'Biosafety Regulations of Asia-Pacific Countries'.
 - Gives details of the regulatory instruments comprising laws/acts/decrees/regulations/ rules related to biosafety of GM crops existing in 48 countries of Asia and the Pacific.
 - Also includes chapters on Risk Assessment Frameworks, Trade-Related Issues in GM Crops and the Way Forward.
- 1.4 Proceedings of Expert Consultation on Assuring Food Safety in Asia-Pacific - Proceedings and Recommendations'**
- Reports the proceedings of the meeting held at and in collaboration with Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Science (JIRCAS), Tsukuba, Japan on 4-5 August 2014.
 - Includes summary of presentations on Keynote Lectures, Country Reports, Details of Discussions on Key Issues and Recommendations.
- 1.5 Progress on Success Stories**
- A Success Story on 'Durian in Thailand' written by Dr. Songpol Somsri, Head, Research Program, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand is under the process of review and editing.
 - This is likely to be published by June, 2015 and will be distributed to APAARI members and other stakeholders and will also be posted on APAARI website.
 - Another Success Story on Mangosteen is being prepared by Dr. Songpol Somsri, Head, Research Program, DOA, Thailand.
- 1.6 Proceedings of the 13th General Assembly Meeting (GAM)**
- Reports the proceedings of 13th General Assembly Meeting (GAM) held at Bangkok on 1 November, 2014
 - Includes the composition of the new Executive Committee.
 - Widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders and also posted on website
- 1.7 APAARI Constitution**
- Fifth Edition of APAARI Constitution published
 - Constitution was revised to incorporate amendments for the inclusion of one member from the private sector on the Executive Committee as decided by the 13th GAM.
 - Widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders and also posted on APAARI website and link provided.
- 1.8 APAARI Newsletter July – December 2014**
- APAARI Newsletter for the period July-December, 2014 published
 - Widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders and posted on website

1.9 Revised APAARI Flyer (Fresh Edition in 2015)

- APAARI Flyer revised and published
- Flyer revised to include updated information on membership status, proceedings of conferences/workshops/meetings, success stories, etc.
- Widely circulated to APAARI members and stakeholders and posted on website and links provided.

2. Mobilization of Human Resource and Capacity Building

2.1 Recruitment of APCoAB Coordinator

- The post fell vacant after the then Coordinator, Dr. J. L. Karihaloo requested to be relieved on completion of his term on 31 January 2015. The advertisement for recruitment of Coordinator, APCoAB was sent to all APAARI member organizations, CG centres and other relevant national and international organizations/partners.
- Three applications were received and all met the prescribed requirements. Two of the three applicants invited for the interview held at the APAARI Office, Bangkok on 22 January 2015 attended.
- Based on the candidates' qualification, R&D and extension experience and overall performance during the discussion, the Selection Committee was unanimous in recommending Dr. Vilasini Pillai, Principal Research Scientist, Policy and Research Management Program, Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), Malaysia for the position of Coordinator, APCoAB.
- Dr. Vilasini Pillai joined on 30th April 2015.

2.2 Reorganization of Delhi Office

- ICRISAT was requested for continuation of office space for use by APAARI.
- Continuation of Office space has been agreed up to 31 December 2015 due to courtesy of ICRISAT but with the condition that the situation will be reviewed again before any further continuation (copy of letter enclosed).
- Dr. Bhag Mal, Sr. Consultant APAARI will work from this office. Dr. J.L. Karihaloo who will now be helping APCoAB Program as Senior Consultant will also operate from this office as and when required.
- The services of Mr. Vishwanath Kumar Sah, Office Secretary were extended for six months to support APAARI work.
- The APCoAB account with ICRISAT, Patancheru will be continued under the same name to take care of the APAARI activities to be undertaken from Delhi office.

2.3 Update on CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program

- APAARI has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ICRISAT to collaborate in CGIAR Research Program (CRP) on Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program. This will contribute to the human resource capacity development in the region. Details of this program are separately presented to the EC meeting today.

2.4 Organizing Human Resources – SSAs/TORs and Agreements

- Key consultancy and advisory resources identified and appropriate SSA (Special Service Agreements) and ToRs developed for Drs Raj Paroda, Bhag Mal, J.L.

Karihaloo, Sudhir Kochhar, and Mruthyunjaya, and employment agreements executed for Dr Vilasini and Vishwanath Sah.

2.5 New APAARI Executive Committee

- As approved by the 13th GAM held on 1st November, the members of newly constituted Executive Committee were identified by name and positions and they were officially informed. Many of these members are new not only to APAARI but also to their parent organizations, these include EC of Bangladesh, ED of PCAARRD, Secretary/Director of CARP, and Permanent Secretary of Department of Agriculture, Fiji. This took considerable time and efforts.

3. Membership Drive

- Collective efforts by APAARI Secretariat with advice from Dr Raj Paroda, were undertaken in not only formally writing to all current and potential members of APAARI but also personally contacting these and many others. We also used our well-wishers and stakeholders at large to seek their support. Focus was given on smaller NARS, universities, advance research organizations/CG Centres. That helped in enhancing the membership to 61 from that of 55 in 2014. Details are in a separate agenda item on Membership and Fee Payment Status.

4. Core Planning and Redeveloping

4.1 Redesigning Work Plan 2015

- Broad outlined work plan for 2015-16 as presented to and approved by the 13th GAM was further reviewed and refined in terms of specific activities, actions and resource requirements. The specific categorised activities include publications, major workshops/events, corporate matters, partner activities, planning and resource mobilization, further planning for 2016. Details are presented in a separate agenda item in this meeting.

4.2 Reviewing and redevelopment of Income and Expenditure Plan 2015-16

- Corresponding to detailed planning of the work program for 2015 and by considering available and planned resources in terms of human talent and finances, the broad income expenditure plan 2015 - 2016 (as approved by the 13th GAM) was re-examined, reviewed and redesigned. Such estimated figures for 2015 and further predicted figures for 2016 are presented to this meeting through a separate agenda – Income-Expenditure Plan 2015-16 for its approval.

5. Project Planning and Organizing Funding Support

This has been the major planning and resource mobilising activity over the past 2 months and this has been accomplished with a considerable success. Considerable support was received from our partners. The following are the major projects/activities/events planned for implementation during 2015.

5.1 High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agricultural Research and Innovations in Asia-Pacific Region

5.2 Reviewing and redesigning APAARI Vision 2025

- 5.3 Capacity Development/ Training on Monitoring and Evaluation Towards Measuring Outcomes and Impacts
- 5.4 Policy Dialogue on Transforming Towards Knowledge Based South East Asian Agriculture
- 5.5 Dialogue on Performance of Bt. Brinjal in Bangladesh and Prospects of its Wider Adoption
- 5.6 Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-biotechnology in Asia

The concept notes covering details of actions, expected outcomes and costs, and arising implications, etc, for each of these projects are presented separately under the Agenda Work Plan 2015 at today's meeting.

6. Collaboration with COA & ACIAR

6.1 Performance Reports to COA

- APAARI and Council of Agriculture (COA), Chinese Taipei, initiated a three-year collaborative project in January 2008 to support APAARI biotechnology program, the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB).
- After a review in 2011, the project was extended for three more years, and in 2014, the project was again extended for three years (2014-16) with COA funding commitment of US\$ 50,000 per year.
- A report on the activities carried out during 2014 was submitted to COA in March 2015. Copies are separately available.

6.2 Performance Report to ACIAR

- The Australian Centre of International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) has been providing funding support to APARIS and APCoAB, two important APAARI programs
- During 2014-15, APAARI received US\$ 67,000, of which US\$ 15,000 for APCoAB and US\$ 32,000 for APARIS and remaining US\$ 20,000 for APAARI publications and training activities.
- A report on the activities carried out during 2014-15 is in the process of drafting and will be submitted to ACIAR in the month of June 2015.

7. Partnership - Contribution to CGIAR/GFAR activities

- 7.1 Contribution to the GFAR Constituent Assembly Formation, nominating 15 members from various constituencies in the Asia-Pacific region. Final decision from GFAR is pending. Details are given in a separate sheet for the information of EC members... Our member on GCARD Organizing Committee is Ms Esther Penunia.
- 7.2 Intensive Commentary /Contributions to CGIAR SRF – 2016-2030 – February Draft. Through in depth review of the draft SRF, comprehensive comments were compiled under the chairmanship of Dr Raj Paroda and these were sent to CGIAR on 28th February 2015. Copies are available in the members' folders.
- 7.3 Dr Raghunath Ghodake participated in the webinar organized by CGIAR on Partnership Concerns and Issues in CGIAR SRF. Our contribution was on capacity development of partners, targeting partner programmes for support and promotion, and partner involvement in planning and evaluations.

- 7.4 On the basis some contributions received from APAARI members, APAARI provided response to a structured questionnaire from GFAR and provide additional comments on the governance structure of CGIAR. These were later on collated by GFAR and were sent to CGIAR. Copies of our contribution and collated response by GFAR are available in members' folders.

8. Participation in Meetings Organized by Other Organizations

8.1. International Training Course on Smart Use of Fertilizers to Improve Crop Production and Soil Conservation

- The Food and Fertilizer Training Centre (FFTC) in collaboration with Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), Council of Agriculture (COA), Chinese Taipei and Taichung District Agricultural Research and Extension Station (TDARES) are jointly organizing the “International Training Course on Smart Use of Fertilizers to Improve Crop Production and Soil Conservation” at Changhua County, Taichung, Taiwan on 11-15 May, 2015. This training course aims to introduce and teach the participants from developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region the concept, theory, and application of judicious use of fertilizers through the smart ways. The five-day training program will include keynote presentations, laboratory practices and on-site field studies. APAARI nominated ten participants, namely, 1) Mr Baktear Hossain (Bangladesh), 2) Ms. Tshering Pem (Bhutan), 3) Mr. Joseph V. Smith (Fiji), 4) Dr V.B. Patel and 5) Dr Vikram Singh (India), 6) Mr Bandhu Raj Baral (Nepal), 7) Mr Liaqat Ali (Pakistan), 8) Mr Obert Lou (Papua New Guinea), 9) Dr Phatchayaphon Meunchang (Thailand), and 10) Ms. Dalesa Oniel (Vanuatu) are attending this course.

8.2 Policy Dialogue on the Role of Technology Transfer in Agriculture for Sustainable development Outcomes organized by CAPSA

The Dialogue was attended by Dr Raghunath Ghodake and he moderated a panel discussion on Technology Transfer, Green Revolution and Sustainable Development, especially looking past, present and emerging scenarios. The policy dialogue considering green revolution in 1970s and 80s through technologies in enhancing productivity, looked at positive and negative effects on smallholders and marginal rural populations, and looked at lessons learnt and charted the way forward through post 2015 agenda in terms of better technologies, better technology transfer processes, targeting areas and segments of societies, appropriate policies so as to not only to reduce /alleviate poverty and assure food and nutrition security (for removing hunger/ malnutrition) but also to manage and control loss and degradation of resources and environment.

8.3 TAP CD (AIS) Expert Group Workshop

- APAARI is one of partners of Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) and a member of its Global Task Force and implementing partner in the Asia-Pacific Region. Based on the recommendations of TAP Steering Committee and TAP Global Task Force, an Expert Group was created to develop the Common Framework on Capacity Development (CD) for Agricultural Innovation System (AIS). A Workshop on CD Expert Group was held at Montpellier, France on 19-

20, March, 2015 to develop the common framework on capacity development. The Workshop provided an opportunity to TAP partners to share their on-going and planned activities and provided their inputs as to how this could be linked to Framework. The discussion was organized around three main themes: (i) Elements of the Framework, (ii) Needs Assessment, and (iii) Monitoring and Evaluation. The draft of the Framework is likely to be available by June which will be circulated to the wider expert group, Tap Global Task Force and TAP Steering Committee for feedback and endorsement. The validation of the Framework in pilot countries (Bangladesh and Laos in Asia region) is planned to begin in September, 2015. APAARI will have a Letter of Agreement with FAO (TAP) to be implementing partner of this new initiative (developing Capacity in Agricultural Innovations System (AIS)) initially in these two countries and also for promoting this initiative in other developing countries of the AP region.

8.4 CRP DC Phase II Planning

The CRP jointly implemented by ICRISAT and ICARDA on Dryland cereals organized a consultation workshop on 18-19 March in Addis Ababa on Phase II Planning. Dr Raghunath Ghodake participated as resource person and representing APAARI, as APAARI is involved in the implementation of CRP DC Scholarship program in Asia. The meeting looked at the program's accomplishments as against expected outcomes, major constraints (especially funding and partnership issues) and decided to have wider consultations with partners and stakeholders, especially deciding on aggregation of some relevant CRPs for phase II planning and also to look at arising implications from the redesigned SRF (which was yet to be approved). The capacity issue was also targeted and their current efforts of having MSc and PhD scholars and research fellow was considered to be very appropriate and could be reviewed for further strengthening under the Phase II Planning.

8.5 13th CG Fund Council Meeting in Bogor Indonesia

The 13th CG Fund Council was held on 28-29 April in Bogor, Indonesia. Dr Ghodake participated on behalf of the Non- (DEC) countries of the Pacific as requested by the Minister for Agriculture, Fiji Government. This was due to non-availability of a representation of the Pacific region. The meeting was very crucial as it had deliberated on a number of key important matters such as SRF, CRP Phase II calls, CGIAR Governance, Resource Mobilization Strategy, and Gene banks.

The major decisions having implications to NARS and partnership are:

- SRF is approved in principle with a need to have key companion papers covering details of SLOs and IDOs, medium term targets, ISPC's expanded role and responsibility (prioritization and mapping targets)
- CGIAR Systems Organization (in place of the present Fund Council, Consortium, and other arrangements) was agreed with provision of CGIAR Systems Council and a CGIAR System Office.

ANNEX V.

Status of Membership and Contributions
Status of Contributions by NARS Members
As on 30 April 2015

61 Total Members

#	Country	Payment Category	Years					
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
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.	
5	CARP – Sri Lanka	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
6	COA – Chinese Taipei	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
7	CoRRB – Bhutan	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
8	DOA – Thailand	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
9	IAC – New Caledonia	III	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.
12	MoA – Fiji	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
13	MARD - Vietnam	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
14	MARDI - Malaysia	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
15	MAFFM – Samoa	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
16	NARC – Nepal	III	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.	
19	PCAARRD- the Philippines	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
20	RDA – Republic of Korea	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.

20 Members

Status of Contribution by Associate Members

(As on 30 April 2015)

#	Country	Years					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1	Bioversity International , Rome, Italy	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
2	Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA)						
3	CABI South Asia, India				Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
4	Crops For the Future (CFF), Malaysia						Rec.
5	Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA), India		Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
6	International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Syria	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
7	International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA), Dubai						Rec.
8	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal						Rec.
9	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF)	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
10	International Crops Research institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
11	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), USA	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
12	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Kenya	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
13	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Mexico	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
14	International Potato Center (CIP)						Rec.
15	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila, the Philippines	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
16	International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
17	PNG University of Technology, Papua New Guinea	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
18	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Bangladesh	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
19	Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture Technology & Sciences (SHIAT), India				Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
20	The World Fish Center, Malaysia	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
21	The World Vegetable Center (AVRDC), Chinese Taipei	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.

21 Members

Status of Contribution by Affiliate Members

(As on 30 April 2015)

#	Country	Years					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1	Anand Agricultural University (AAU), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
2	Agriculture Research Institute of Afghanistan (ARIA), Afghanistan				Rec.	Rec.	
3	Birsa Agriculture University (BAU), India	Rec.	Rec.				
4	Central Agricultural University (CAU), Impala India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
5	Navsari Agricultural University – NAU, Gujarat, India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
6	University Putra Malaysia	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
7	CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Himachal Pradesh, India		Rec.	Rec.			
8	CAPSA-UNESCAP, Indonesia			Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
9	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India			Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
10	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, India						Rec.

10 Members

Reciprocal Members

(As on 30 April 2015)

#	Country
1	Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East & North Africa (AARINENA), Jordan
2	Asia Pacific Association of Forest Research Institutions (APAFRI), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
3	Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand
4	The Asia & Pacific Seed Association (APSA), Thailand
5	Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI), Uzbekistan
6	Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Thailand
7	Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Fiji
8	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Ghana
9	Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), Philippines
10	Bangladesh Rural & Advancement Committee (BRAC), Bangladesh

10 Members

Status of APAARI Membership and Fees Received as on 30th April 2015

(Summary)

Membership Category	Number of Members	Fee Received	Total to be Received	Yet to be received
		US\$	US\$	US\$
1. NARS	20	70,000	137,000	67,000
2. Associate	21	80,000	100,000	20,000
3. Affiliate	10	7,500	15,000	7,500
4 Reciprocal	10			
Total	61	157,500	252,000	94,500
Likely Developments				
1. Upgrade by 4 affiliate members				14,000
2. Upgrade by 2 NARS members				8,000
3. One new member joining (CIFOR)				5,000
Total additional revenue			27000	27,000
Grad Total			279,000	121,500
Membership fee received in 2014	233,485			
Likely additional during 2015	45,515			

ANNEX VI.

**Scanned Copy of Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements for the Year
Ending on 31st December 2014 (Separately Available)**

ANNEX VII.

Signed Report/ Recommendation of the Interview Panel on the Interview and Selection of an Auditing Firm as the APAARI External Auditor for the Biennium 2015-16 (Separately Available)

ANNEX VIII.

Proposed Work Plan of APAARI During 2015

I Publications

- 1.1 APAARI Newsletter (January – June 2015)
- 1.2 APAARI on CD 2015
- 1.3 Success Story on Durian
- 1.4 Success Storey on Mangosteen
- 1.5 Mobilizing Success Stories (circular sent)
- 1.6 APAARI Six Monthly Progress Report (January – June 2015)
- 1.7 Compilation/publication of reports/proceedings arising from Major Events/Corporate Meetings
- 1.8 APAARI Digest Flash
- 1.9 APAARI Vision Document

II. Major Meetings/Events

- 2.1 APAARI Vision 2025
- 2.2 High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in ARI4D
- 2.3 M&E towards Outcome and Impact Assessment
- 2.4 Policy Dialogue on Transforming Towards Knowledge Based Agriculture in SE Asia
- 2.5 Dialogue on Performance of Bt. Brinjal in Bangladesh and prospects of its wider adoption
- 2.6 Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-biotechnology in Asia
- 2.7 Training Activity with COA (TBI)

III. Corporate Matters

- 3.1 APAARI EC Meeting (2)/2015
- 3.2 APCoAB Steering Committee Meeting
- 3.3 APARIS Steering Committee Meeting
- 3.4 Redesigning APAARI and APCoAB Websites
- 3.5 Continue improving and implementing APAARI Communication/knowledge sharing activities
- 3.6 Supporting the development of APAEON

IV. GCARD /CGIAR and Other Partners

- 4.1 GCARD 3 Regional Consultation
- 4.2 Participation in GFAR Constituent Assembly (likely to be held in Bangkok and hosted by APAARI)
- 4.3 Facilitation and participation by APAARI in the CRP II Phase
- 4.4 Participation in TAP CDAIS (Capacity Development on Agricultural Innovation Systems) Exercise – Bangladesh and Laos
- 4.5 Implementation of CRP DC Scholarship program
- 4.6 Participation by APAARI in any other relevant events as organized by others.

V. Planning, Mobilization and Implementation of Resources and Partnerships

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

- 5.3 Partnership/Collaboration with others (at national, regional and global levels) such as with the SAARC, ASEAN, ADB and CIRDAP (Centre for Integrated Rural Development in the Asia-Pacific)
- 5.4 Mobilization of funding support from sponsors, for planned major events.
- 5.5 Management/Logistical support through LoAs, etc (GFAR, FAO and any others)
- 5.6 Re-strengthening of APARIS as Core Role of APAARI in knowledge /Innovation for Development
- 5.7 Developing Work Plan, Major Events and Detailed Budget for 2016.
- 5.8 Mobilization of additional human talent – especially APARIS Co-ordinator
- 5.9 Mobilization of medium to long –term financial support to APAARI Corporate functions, ADB and others.
- 5.10 Financial Management and Improved Accounts Keeping
- 5.11 Interim Audit 2015 in September 2015

ANNEX IX.

Income-Expenditure Plan 2015-2016

Table 1. Summary Income Expenditure Plan 2015-16 (US\$)					
		2015		2016	
#	Broad Items	13th GAM Approved	Estimated	13th GAM Approved	Projected
0	Carryover expenditure		21,585		-
I	Publications	30,000	22,000	35,000	24,200
II	Secretariat Support	300,000	246,088	320,000	330,409
III	Consultancy /Travel/SSA, etc.	70,000	82,000	80,000	47,500
IV	Training/Projects/ APARIS Program /Network Support	70,000	417,660	80,000	375,894
V	Expert Consultations/General Assembly/Executive Committee	110,000	16,213	120,000	17,835
	Total Expenditure	580,000	805,547	635,000	795,838
	Higher than approved by GAM Absolute amount (Per cent higher)		225, 547 (38.89)		160, 838 (25.33)
1	Total Income		825,881		724,074
2	Surplus/ Deficit		20,334		(-71,764)
	Likely options for managing deficit in 2016	Amount US\$	Comment		
1	Using funds from fixed deposit by an amount	71,764	Investment in short term in activities and that can help attract further financial resources		
2	Reducing expenses on activities by an amount	71,764	Negative implications for activities		
3	Reducing expenses by not recruiting APARIS Coordinator	71,000	Negative implications for productivity as no adequate HR /expertise for implementation		
4	Mixed action by reducing i) expenses on activities and ii) using savings or some combinations of these two	i) 20,000	Can help sustain activities		
		ii) 51,000	Maintain fixed deposit at US\$ 1.00 million.		
5	Some combinations under option 4 above.				

Table 2.Detailed Summary Income Plan : 2015-2016 - APAARI (US\$)			
#	Category/Item	2015 (Estimated)	2016 (Projected)
O	Savings Carried Forward from 2014	118,961	20,334
0.1	APAARI Account	74,475	
0.2	APCoAB Account	44,485	
I	APAARI Membership Fees	279,000	277,200
1.1	Members (NARS)	137,000	150,700
1.2	Associate Member	100,000	110,000
1.3	Affiliate Members	15,000	16,500
1.4	Additional Membership Revenue	27,000	
II	Major Funding Support	117,000	119,010
2.1	ACIAR (for APARIS, APCoAB, Training and Publications)	67,000	69,010
2.2	COA (for APCoAB)	50,000	50,000
III	Funding Support for Major Activities	298,520	298,520
3.1	High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in ARI4D	139,020	
3.2	APAARI Vision 2025	10,000	
3.3	M&E towards Outcome/Impact Assessment	35,000	
3.4	Policy Dialogue towards Knowledge Based Agri in SE Asia	17,500	
3.5	Dialogue on Performance of Bt. Brinjal in Bangladesh	2,000	
3.6	TAP Project on AIS Capacity Development	20,000	
3.7	CRP DC Scholarship Program	75,000	75000
IV	Other Income /Losses	12,400	9,010
4.1	Profit / Loss Bank Transfers	(900)	(990)
4.2	Additional income from various minor sources	13,300	0,000
	Total Income	825,881	724,074

Table 3. Detailed Summary Expenditure Plan 2015-16 – APAARI (US\$)					
		2015		2016	
#	Broad /Specific Items	13th GAM Approved	Estimated	13th GAM Approved	Projected
O	Carryover expenditure		21,585		0
0.1	APAARI General		6,100		
0.2	APCoAB		15,485		
I	Publications	30,000	22,000	35,000	24,200
1.1	APAARI General		15,000		16,500
1.2	APCoAB		7,000		7,700
II	Secretariat Support				
(a)	APAARI General	300,000	246,088	320,000	330,409
2.1	Staff Salary	210,000	128,172	230,000	200,589
2.2	Office Stationary and postage	50,000	20,000	40,000	20,000
2.3	Miscellaneous	40,000	25,000	50,000	15,000
(b)	APCoAB				
2.4	Staff Salary		57,917		79,820
2.5	Office Stationary and postage		10,000		10,000
2.6	Miscellaneous		5,000		5,000
III	Consultancy /Travel/SSA, etc.	70,000	82,000	80,000	47,500
(a)	APAARI General				
3.1	Consultancy		27,000		30,000
3.2	SSA		40,000		4,000
3.3	SSA Pending		3500		
(b)	APCoAB				
3.4	Consultancy		9,500		9,500
3.5	SSA		2000		4000
3.6	Travel				
IV	Training/Projects/ APARIS Program /Network Support	70,000	417,660	80,000	375,894
(a)	APAARI General				
4.1	High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in ARI4D		179,020		
4.2	APAARI Vision 2025		20,000		
4.3	M&E towards Outcome/Impact Assessment		55,000		
4.4	Policy Dialogue towards Knowledge Based Agri. in SE Asia		35,000		
4.5	TAP Project on AIS Capacity Development		10,000		
(b)	APCoAB				

4.6	Dialogue on Performance of Bt.Brinjal in Bangladesh		18,760		
4.7	Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-biotechnology		26,880		
4.8	Training Activity with CoA (TBI)		10,000		
4.9	CRP DC Scholarship Program		63,000		63,000
V	Expert Consultations/General Assembly/Executive Committee	110,000	16,213	120,000	17,835
5.1	Executive Committee Meetings		16,213		17,835 ⁱ
	Total Expenditure	580,000	805,547	635,000	795,838

ⁱ Expenses for the General Assembly Meeting will be covered by major event planned during 2016.

Table 4. Income and Expenditure Plan 2015-16 - APCoAB				
Items	Estimated		Projected	
	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
		2015	2016	2016
Income	109,485		65,000	
2014 Year End Balance	44,485			
CoA Support	50,000		50,000	
ACIAR Contribution	15000		15000	
Any Other Revenue				
Expenditure				
Operational Expenses From January - March 2015		15,485		
Salary and Allowances Sub-Total		57,917		79,820
Salary and Allowances (Coordinator for 9 months)		54,021		72,028
Salary and Allowances (Technical Assistant for 6 Months during 2015 and full period 2016)		3,896		7,792
Sub Total		11,500		13,500
Consultancy Dr Karihaloo		9,500		9,500
Other SSAs, if any		2,000		4,000
Publications		7,000		7,700
Stationary /Miscellaneous -Sub-Total		15,000		15,000
Office Stationary and postage		10,000		10,000
Miscellaneous		5,000		5,000
Major Events Sub-Total		55,640		50,076
Meeting on Bt. Brinjal		18,760		
Communication Strategies for Biotechnology		26,880		
Training Activity with CoA (TBI)		10,000		
Total	109,485	162,542	65,000	166,096
APAARI Contribution		53,057		101,096