



ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

15TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING (GAM)
Taipei, Taiwan

21 December 2018

PROCEEDINGS



Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)
FAO Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road
Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100
Thailand

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DRAFT

Introduction

The 15th General Assembly Meeting (GAM) of APAARI was hosted by the Council of Agriculture (COA) and held at Activity Centre, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan on 21st December 2018. The meeting was held soon after the Executive Committee Meeting (2/2018) of APAARI held at the same venue and also attended by a number of General Assembly (GA) members as observers. The Tentative Programme for discussion in the GAM is provided in Annexure I and the Annotated Agenda notes in Annexure II. The meeting was attended by GA members including Executive Committee (EC) members or their representatives, special invitee, observers and staff of the APAARI Secretariat (List of participants are given at the end in Annexure XII).

Due to the last moment absence of Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI, EC and also of Dr Sergie Bang, Vice Chair, APAARI, EC owing to unavoidable reasons, Mr Vincent Lin, Deputy Director General of International Affairs, Council of Agriculture, Taiwan was nominated to serve as the Acting Chairman of the GAM.

At the outset Dr Ravi Khetarpal, the Executive Secretary (ES) welcomed Mr Vincent Lin, the Acting Chairman and all the APAARI members present in the 15th GAM. He profusely thanked Mr Vincent Lin to accept the Chairmanship of GAM and briefly highlighted the importance of GAM in APAARI governance and is held once in every two years. He then informed the Acting Chairman and the house that in the programme slated for GAM, Agenda 8 on Amendments to APAARI Constitution and Agenda 12 on Formation of the Executive Committee for the Biennium 2019- 2020 have to be brought forward for discussion on priority as some of the members have travel plans to leave the venue after the forenoon session. The Acting Chairman agreed to this as these two agendas required greater involvement of all the members.

In order to keep the continuity and convenience for reference, decisions after discussions are provided under each Agenda item in sequence as listed in the Tentative Programme. The minutes of the meeting are detailed below.

Agenda 1 Welcome Address by the Chairman, APAARI

Mr Vincent Lin, the Acting Chairman welcomed the General Assembly (GA) members and their representatives, special invitee, guests and the APAARI staff. He highlighted the pre-recorded video message sent by Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI Executive Committee (EC) addressed to both ECM and GAM, and which was presented during ECM meeting. Dr Zafar in his message welcomed the august gathering and highlighted the achievements of APAARI for the past two years. He congratulated the ES and appreciated the whole APAARI team for putting an end to ad-hoc arrangements by having systems in place. Important points covered by Dr Zafar in his recorded message included fruitfulness of his visit to Iran accompanied by the ES, and visit of the ES to China for some strategic discussions; his satisfaction over considerable funding secured by APAARI e.g. through Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI), Standard and Trade Development Facility of World Trade Organization (STDF/WTO) projects; encouraged the APAARI team to put vigorous efforts for securing more funding from donor agencies. He also highlighted his concern about developments regarding Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) stand to dissociate from the regional associations in terms of extending support services to them and wished that new EC will develop a mechanism to resolve the issue and seek a legal status of APAARI. He also highlighted the need for constitutional amendments as relevant to the current role of APAARI as per its Strategic Plan. He expressed his gratefulness to APAARI team and donors – Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Council of Agriculture (COA) and others and informed the house that PARC membership for 2019 is already approved. Dr Zafar also expressed his confidence that he was leaving a vibrant APAARI in a very good shape. He also expressed the opinion that though there are still many more challenges but the ES and the new EC would be able to overcome these and take APAARI to the new heights.

The Acting Chairman Mr Vincent Lin highlighted the role of all the members for making the GAM more productive. He then requested the ES to make presentations on listed Agenda items.

Agenda 2 Approval of Agenda by the GA

The ES presented the GAM Agenda Items (Annexure I and II) for approval.

The proposed agenda was unanimously approved.

Since Agenda 8 and Agenda 12 were to be taken up on priority for discussion, the Acting Chairman requested the ES to make presentation on the Agenda 8, Proposed Constitutional Amendments followed by Agenda 12, Formation of the Executive Committee for the biennium 2019-20.

The details of deliberations are reported under the respective Agenda numbers below.

Agenda 3 APAARI Progress Report for the Biennium 2017-18

The ES presented the Progress Report in brief. The detailed reports for the biennium 2017-2018 are provided in periodical Progress Reports submitted to EC (November 2016 to June 2017; July to October 2017; November 2017 to April 2018 and May to November 2018) as Annexure III A, B, C and D, respectively.

In view of the time limitation, presentations by individual APAARI staff could not be done. However, the ES touched upon the major achievements.

The ES highlighted in brief a large number of activities undertaken by APAARI during the biennium 2017-18, where most of the activities were taken up during 2018. He mentioned about the Executive Committee Meetings held, new members enrolled, knowledge management (including social media) and capacity building activities that were taken up for members, Expert Consultations, Regional Conferences and Workshops that were organized and co-organized with members, strategic visits made in certain countries for enhancing partnerships, important meetings attended by APAARI staff on thematic areas of APAARI, publications specially of APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22, Proceedings and Recommendations of APAARI events, Success Stories, News Letters, Capability Statement, Flyers etc that were taken up, strategies developed for stakeholder engagement, resource mobilization, knowledge management and membership, new projects developed and secured to work for members more actively new recruitments made for strengthening APAARI Secretariat, a software based financial system initiated and since 2018 consolidated revenue budget is classified into direct and indirect costs, department budgets and project budgets are now being prepared. He also mentioned about the exercise of constitutional amendments being taken up and briefed on the initiation of a Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning Plan for APAARI. He also highlighted the renaming of APCoAB as Asia Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources to broaden its scope and to make it more aligned with the APAARI Strategic Plan. He appreciated the APAARI staff and also certain Consultants for their dedicated commitments to strive hard for members and acknowledged the role of EC to support in all respects in making the progress. He requested the GAM to refer to Annexure III to see details of the progress made.

The Acting Chairman requested the General Assembly to consider the Progress Report for approval.

The GA appreciated the progress made and approved the Progress Report for the biennium 2017 and 2018 unanimously.

Agenda 4 Approval of ECM Proceedings January 2017 to November 2018

The ES presented briefly the highlights of three ECM Proceedings (1/2017 held on 14 July 2017; ECM 2/2017 held on 12 November 2017; ECM 1/2018 held on 28 May 2018 and ECM 2/2018 held on 21 December 2018) since the 14th GAM which was held on 3 November 2016. He mentioned that the proceedings of these meetings (except of ECM 2/2018) were provided to GA members as Annexure IV A, B and C for their perusal and approval. The proceedings of ECM 2/2018 was not provided earlier as the meeting was held just prior to the GAM on the same day and is annexed in the proceedings (Annexure IV B).

The ES briefly mentioned that ECM proceedings of 2017 reveal as how meticulously and strategically the suggestions and ideas on APAARI administrative and financial management, work plans including new project ideas and the need felt for constitutional amendments were taken forward during 2018 within the Strategic Plan framework (2017-2022) of APAARI. The EC proceedings thus are the indicators of all out growth in strengthening and functioning of APAARI Secretariat and its active involvement with members. The ES also thanked the EC members in providing useful guidance and support from time to time.

GA unanimously approved Proceedings of ECM 1/2017, 2/2017 and 1/2018) as given in Annexure IV A, B and C. (The proceedings of ECM 2/2018 also given in Annexure IV D has been sent to members for comments).

Agenda 5 Membership and Fee Payment Status

The ES presented the details of Membership and Fee Payment Status (Annexure V) which was also presented in the ECM 2/2018, discussed and the recommendations emerged.

The ES highlighted that APAARI Secretariat not only actively communicated with all current and potential members of APAARI but also personally contacted whenever possible with a special focus on NARS, higher education institutions, and advanced research institutions/AIRCA/CG Centers. Support of APAARI well-wishers and stakeholders was also sought. The ES apprised the house that at present, APAARI has 21 members under the NARS category; 28 members under the associate category (number increased by 1 from that of 27 in 2016); 13 under the affiliate category (4 additions); and 15 under the reciprocal membership category (4 additions). Thus, the total membership now stood at 78 (as on 30 November, 2018), an increase of 8 members over the year 2016.

Recently, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan; and Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (Jammu) India, joined as Affiliate Members and Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) Human Life Advancement Foundation (HLAF) & Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) as Reciprocal Members. There has been a good progress in receiving the membership fee to the extent of 80 per cent (USD 324,500) out of total receivable USD 405,000 including some arrears) for the year 2018. Full details of Membership and Fee Payment Received as on 30th November 2018 are provided in Annexure V.

Discussions on the Agenda

It was mentioned that ACIAR paid membership fee for 2018, which has not been reflected in the status presented. Besides, it was rightly pointed out that Associate membership status was not updated for 2018. Provision to deal with non-paying members with long pending dues may be incorporated in the constitution. There was also a suggestion on highlighting benefits extended to its members by APAARI. APAARI needed to further explore routing of membership fee of Iran through ICARDA.

Key Discussants: Dr. Arabinda Kumar Padhee, Dr Ashok Kumar Sarial, Dr. Brigitta Jane Faafiti, Dr. Kamal Malla Bujarbaruah, Dr. Marco Wopereis and Ms. Mellissa Wood

The ES responded that anomaly in the document on membership fees paid by ACIAR will be duly verified. Regarding the Associate membership fee payment status, the ES pointed out that it was an error and will be corrected. Membership fee of Iran (AREEO) through ICARDA was explored and pursued actively by drafting a tripartite MoU among APAARI, AREEO and ICARDA, but that could not be materialized. In addition to non-tangible benefits of knowledge and technology transfer benefits of APAARI to member countries were briefly explained in terms of expenditure made on regularly participating members which often exceeds the fee paid in addition to non-tangible benefits of knowledge and technology transfer. APAARI agenda is demand driven and accordingly members' needs are captured to prepare the work plan. APAARI has started conducting Webinars and Skype meetings. Recently a webinar platform was also purchased. Suggestion for enhancing use of virtual platforms was appreciated and Secretariat will take due note of this for implementing the same whenever feasible. Provisions of dealing with the members with outstanding arrears of last few years will be discussed in the GAM considering the reasons for nonpayment including the reasons such as natural calamities. The ES also thanked the members for their comments and assured that all of these will be suitably addressed.

GAM appreciated the progress made in enhancing the membership base and also collection of membership fee up to the extent of 87% from the members.

Recommendations

- APAARI Secretariat shall verify the records and the updated status of membership fee received be circulated to all the members
- APAARI should develop a mechanism to ensure that as far as possible, all the members are benefitted appropriately as far as possible.

The above recommendations were the same as of ECM (2/2018) and approved by the GA members.

Agenda 6 Financial Statements and Audit Reports for the year 2017 and Interim Audit Report from 1st January to 30th October 2018

The ES presented the highlights of the budget and the interim audit reports for the year 2017 and interim audit report for the period from 1st January to 30th October 2018.

Scanned copies of the audit report and financial statements for 2017, and the interim audit report and financial statements for 2017-2018 are given in Annexure VI.

APAARI External Auditor – the GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd, audited the APAARI financial statements for the year 2017 and also carried out an interim audit from 1st January to 30th October 2018. The carried forward/rollover funds from 2016 were USD157,129/-. The deficit of USD 66,345.19 of 2017 based on accrual method was adjusted and a balance USD 90,783.81 was carried forward/rollover to 2018. The method of accounting has been changed from cash to accrual basis. Since 2018, USD is introduced as functional currency in replacement to THB used earlier. The aforesaid introduced changes have aided in effective financial oversight, reporting, proper disclosure and control. As per audited accounts from Jan-Oct 2018 the total revenue earned is USD 796,168 (USD 394,931 for the period May-Oct 2018) with the reforecast marginally exceeding USD 1 Million for 2018. The significant reasons for revenue expansion in 2018 was attributed to the timely realization of membership subscription, additional memberships and addition of a new revenue income stream from projects. A project of about USD 372,000 was awarded by IFPRI (funded by ACIAR) in December 2017 with revenue overflowing into 2018. The revenue inflow from Jan-April 2018 was USD 401,237 as compared to USD 394,931 during the period May-Oct 2018. Thus due to the timing of inflows there was a higher gross revenue during Jan-April and total costs lower with high residual net contribution.

APAARI secured USD 34,454 as project preparation grant, from WTO – STDF and this will commence in December 2018 and is to be completed by mid-2019. As a Knowledge Consortia Partner of Mega Seed Park (MSP) Project to be executed in Andhra Pradesh, India to be initiated in 2019, APAARI was assured an amount of USD 250,000, for a period of two years. In comparison to 2018, a significantly higher estimated total revenue of USD 1.5 million is expected in 2019. ES also mentioned that among the few project proposals submitted, a high value proposal (> USD 6 million) on various components of APAARI activities has been submitted to ICDF of Taiwan through COA and a discussion on the same has been called for by the donor.

ES highlighted that up to 2017 consolidated annual revenue budgets were prepared. Since 2018 consolidated revenue budget is classified into direct and indirect costs, department budgets and project budgets are now being prepared. In addition, two reforecasts (Budget RF1 and Budget RF2) are being prepared as more relevant information and outcomes would become available during the year.

The ES also proposed for the approval of USD100,000 from the Fixed Deposit account towards expenses in the early 2019 and for payment of the expenses made in later part of 2018. This was largely to meet the expenses of deficit in budget in 2018, legal expenses, payment to vendors (mainly for ECM and GAM of 2018), consultancy charges and staff salary for 2 months. He also mentioned that this was approved by the EC (2/2018) keeping in the increasing activities and growth of APAARI that has taken place recently.

The ES thanked the EC members for their guidance and constructive criticism, which helped APAARI in not only improving the financial resources but also in transparent management.

The Acting Chairman invited comments/ suggestions from the members.

Discussion on the Agenda

Discussion centered around the need for simplistic budget presentation, recruitment of a Finance staff for APAARI, and the need for withdrawal of funds from Fixed Deposits.

Key Discussant: Dr. Marco Wopereis

Suggestions/comments received from the member was:

- Budget presentation should be simplified for ease of understanding, The Table on Gross Project Contribution is hard to understand and cannot tell the full story.
- Budget for 2019 appears to be high as there are certain optimistic speculations.
- There is a huge improvement in overall budget management and it was emphasized that it is right time now to recruit a Finance Manager/ Coordinator for APAARI.

The ES thanked the GA members for their guidance and constructive criticism, which helped APAARI in not only improving the financial resources but also in transparent management. He assured that budget management, and presentations will be further improved once a trained finance staff is recruited.

The GA endorsed and approved the audit report and the Financial Statements for the year 2017 and the Interim Audit Report from 1st January to 30th October 2018 and Financial Statements for the year 2018.

Recommendations

- A Finance Manager/ Coordinator may be appointed on priority keeping in view the growing activities and budget of APAARI.
- APAARI Secretariat request for withdrawal of USD 100,000 from the Fixed Deposits of APAARI to meet expenses made in late 2018 and early 2019 was approved.

Agenda 7 Administrative Matters

The ES apprised the GA on the new appointments during the past two years which included ES, APCOAB Coordinator, ASTI Coordinator/ Economist, Knowledge Management Coordinator, Intern, Research Assistant, Project/Administrative Assistant and part time Consultants (as per need).

He also apprised that FAO-RAP informed on its recent policy on discontinuing the support services being provided to APAARI (and also to other FAO-led Associations). FAO had approached APAARI in October, 2018 regarding its new policy on Support to Associations established under the Auspices of FAO RAP whereby it is going to discontinue its services for APAARI too. APAARI does not have the legal status in Thailand. A meeting was held by ES with Senior Admin Officer of FAO, followed by a meeting with Dy Representative FAO RAP Mr Jong-Jin Kim who further highlighted the need for completely detaching FAO from APAARI which was created way back in 1990 by FAO who drafted its first constitution also. The highlights of the meeting have been incorporated in the Annexure VII. ES highlighted to FAO-RAP that APAARI is a membership-based organization and the important decisions are taken collectively by APAARI EC and GA meetings. APAARI is discussing the matter internally and has initiated the process of looking for options with Thailand Government and others and will get views of members during these EC and GA meetings. He also mentioned that FAO will continue providing the services for the interim period but insisted that APAARI may seek the legal status as soon as possible.

He further mentioned that the matter was discussed in detail in the ECM (2/2018) which was held just prior to GAM, and the EC expressed that independent legal status for APAARI has lot of implications, Pros and cons should be carefully weighed prior to considering of joining hands with any international agency or institute and there is a need to review donor status, staff, independent management policies etc. It was also highlighted that MOU between APAARI and DOA, Thailand is under process. DOA will be pleased to have collaboration with APAARI and will take up the matter with the Government of Thailand. FAO may be approached for negotiation for continuing legal status of APAARI

Key Discussant: Ms Melissa Wood, Marco Wopereis, Jintawee

GAM noted and approved the various administrative matters related to the recruitments Regarding legal status of APAARI it was opined that as recommended by EC efforts should be made to have a legal consultant and to approach the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture in Thailand for the same on priority.

Agenda 8. Amendments to APAARI Constitution

The ES briefly presented the background of the proposed Amendments to the Constitution and the tasks undertaken as per the guidance of the ECM (1/2018) held on 28th May 2018. He highlighted that the

current constitution has not been able to keep pace with the changing role of APAARI in the existing and emerging context of agri-food systems and the need for strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region.

The ES mentioned that Ex ES of APAARI, Dr Raghunath Ghodake, who is helping the Secretariat to look into the constitutional amendments, made a presentation at the above ECM. The EC then agreed to progress on the Constitutional Amendments through an EC Sub-Committee, constituted by the Chairman of the EC. The Sub-Committee deliberated on various provisions of the existing Constitution and made appropriate changes/modifications to the Constitution. These amendments were sent to all members of the General Assembly for their comments and suggestions, on the basis of which an advanced version/clean copy was prepared and provided to the 15th GAM.

- The ES highlighted the proposed amendments to the Constitution (Seventh Edition), as given in Annexure VIII B. The amended version has 17 Articles and 45 paragraphs, covering various topics as indexed in the contents page.
- Amendments were proposed in the Preamble and almost all the existing Articles except in Article XVII on Dissolution. Annex 1 provided the Sixth Edition of the Constitution for reference, and Annexure VIII B gave a statement of corrections and modifications for refinements to amendments. The background for amendments and salient areas of amendments were presented by the ES and were discussed by the members in the GAM.
- During the GAM, few comments/suggestions were received from the members, who objectively discussed each amendment and provided their valuable contributions/suggestions towards further refinements of the amendments.

Key discussants were Mr. Albert Wen, Dr. Arabinda Padhee, Dr Gerry Jayawardena, Dr. Kamal Bujarbaruah, Dr Kuldeep Singh, Dr. Marco Wopereis, Dr. Mellissa Wood, Dr Narendra Shah, Dr Reynaldo Ebor, Dr Tooraj Valinassab, Dr Brigitta Faafiti and Mr Vincent Lin.

Recommendations/Suggestions

The recommendations /suggestions for modifications / refinements under various Articles made by the 15th General Assembly Meeting are given below.

Preamble

- The Preamble be reviewed and changed in the light of the Strategic Plan of APAARI brought out in 2017. The Secretariat was asked to word it appropriately and to keep it brief and ensure that the text is vetted for its conformity with the legal language and presentation.

- It was suggested that a provision through a separate Article be made to provide definitions (interpretations) of terms, abbreviations and acronyms for ease of reference and understanding.

Article I: Name and Character

- After due discussions members suggested that APAARI name should continue as it is without any change. It was also suggested that logo may be re-designed/ modified, and APAARI's expanded title may be avoided on cover and front pages.
- Revised logo may be presented to the next ECM for approval, but the current logo should continue till APAARI gets its legal status in order to avoid administrative complications, while applying for legal status.

Article II: Seat

- The provision to have sub-regional offices may be kept in the Constitution. The process, justification and financial viability need to be considered by the EC. The EC is authorized to approve such sub-regional office(s) after due consideration and it may refer this to the GA, for approval, if needed.

Article III: Objectives

- It was suggested that a specific objective (number 3) from the previous edition be retained and that is "To assist in the assessment and prioritization of agricultural research and development needs".
- Some objectives may be clubbed to reduce the number of objectives.

Article IV: Functions

- Language to be refined and that is to delete "some or all," and "deliver on" and "research" and also seek help from a legal expert on language and presentation.

Article V: Membership

- It was suggested that the use of term "Concerning about development" be deleted as it implies that any organization beyond APR concerning about development can be admitted as APAARI Member.
- Clear definition of each sub-category (A, B and C) under the Category I needs to be provided, preferably on the basis of GDP levels.
- Agriculture universities or universities working in the field of agriculture may be kept in as a sub-category in Category II.

- Two sub-categories under Category II, one for research institutions and two for education institutions, may be considered. Similarly Category III may have two sub-categories, one for agricultural universities and another for accommodating NGOs /Farmer/ Women/ Youth organizations. Farmer organizations/ Communities/ Cooperatives, etc.
- It was also proposed to consider discontinuation of the Reciprocal Membership category.
- Admission of new members should be approved by the EC and not by the Chairman of the EC alone. Provision may be kept to approve new membership through virtual meeting of the EC, based on the need.
- Affiliate members should not have voting right at GA meetins and should not be part of the EC.

Article VI: Membership Subscriptions

- Fee structure may be reviewed in view of function and category.
- Reworded statement be “If any member organization fails to pay its membership subscription consecutively for three years, APAARI Executive Committee may decide on its (that member’s) discontinuation.”

Article VII: Other Sources of Funds

- The currently included funding sources be retained and these may be included under the suggested Definition clause (new clause).

Article VIII: General Assembly

- While agreeing with the proposal it was mentioned that the Category numbers be changed under this Article as suggested under Article V.

Article IX: Duties of the General Assembly

- Annual budget/ accounts approval can’t be done by the General Assembly as it meets only once in two years. Delete annual budget/ accounts and retain only biennial budget and accounts for approval of the GAM.
- The word ‘corporate’ may be deleted as APAARI is a not for profit organization.

Article X: Executive Committee

- APAARI host country, if not elected on the EC, it may be added as Ex Officio member.
- Outgoing Chair to be *Ex Officio* member, while retaining each sub-region with two member countries in the EC.

- Affiliate members including FOs/NGOs/Women/Youth organizations may be invited to the ECM as observers, without voting rights.
- Donor members should not have voting right in the EC.
- A member representing the Private sector may have voting right in the EC.

Article XI: Duties of the Executive Committee

- The ES reports to the GA and not the EC reports to the GA.
- Word “design and develop” should be replaced by “review and approve”.
- A legal expert may need to review the changes in wording and language.

Article XII: Executive Secretary and Secretariat

- The employment tenure of Executive Secretary needs to be of 3 years.
- Performance of the Executive Secretary will need to be reviewed in the 3rd year by the EC, and if agreed one more term of 3 years can be granted by the EC. This should be suitably included in the concerned para.
- The management standards as proposed may be developed by the Secretariat and approved by the EC.

Article XIII: Duties of Officers

- This Article was retained as proposed.

Article XIV: Rules and Regulations

- This Article remains as proposed.

Article XV: Quorum

- This Article can remain as proposed.

Article XVI: Amendment

- This Article and items under it, are suggested to be retained as they are.

Article XVII: Dissolution

- This Article on Dissolution may remain unchanged.

Resolution by the GAM (as Presented by the Acting Chairman of the GAM)

- The proposed constitutional amendments were approved in principle by the General Assembly.

- Based on the recommendations made and suggestions received and with the help of a legal consultant, the necessary modifications/refinements be made by the APAARI Secretariat, and such refined version be circulated to all GA members for their comments/suggestions, and the final version be submitted to the EC for its further considerations and approval.
- The whole process may preferably be completed within 2 months. The EC approval may be obtained electronically or through Skype or during the next EC meeting, as may be feasible.
- The General Assembly authorized the EC to grant final approval of the constitutional amendments as per the process stated above.
- The acting Chairman also re-emphasized that the enrolling of new member needs to be done by the EC.

Agenda 9: Development of Key Strategies

A brief on Stakeholder Engagement, Knowledge Management and Communication, Resource Mobilization and Membership Strategies is given below. Details are provided in Annexure IX A, B, C and D respectively. Of all the strategies developed, the Membership Strategy could not be discussed either in ECM (2/2018) or in GAM.

Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Stakeholder engagement strategy determines and assesses key stakeholders within agri-food research & innovation system. It defines stakeholders concerns and issues. Strategy is needed to understand stakeholders' needs and priority operational areas. It targets and prioritizes APAARI stakeholders for future membership and partnership (projects, resource mobilization, capacity development, webinars, events). This strategy helps in identification of gaps within membership and recommend strategies for (re)engagement by assessing stakeholders' level of commitment and interest in APAARI. It is a living document and needs continuous updating. Interest in APAARI's collective action is assessed based on their feedback in the stakeholder survey, website research, past/current relations with APAARI. In case of members it is based on the regularity of membership fees, communication on withdrawal from APAARI and participation in APAARI activities. Influence over AFRIS is assessed based on organizations' outreach (national/international), funding from their governments or international donors (ref. APAARI country papers on investment), and university ranking (national/international).

Martina Spisiakova assembled and mapped details (data and information) for more than 470 primary stakeholders of APAARI. The following are the key considerations that are arising from this strategy.

1. The mapping uses a two-way grid, that is i) level of positive influence by stakeholders over AFRIS, and ii) levels of interest of these stakeholders in APAARI operations and performance. This approach is found to be appropriate for managing the APAARI membership.
2. The mapping further looks at likely contributions and role of these stakeholders in APAARI and also their expectations from APAARI. These details can be used for assessing the potential of these stakeholders in becoming APAARI members and /or becoming partners with APAARI for participating in joint and collective activities.
3. From the current exercise of stakeholder mapping, about 25 stakeholders are found to have medium to high potential in becoming APAARI members. This needs to be reconfirmed by using detailed data and information for these stakeholders.
4. Assessment of needs, priorities, strengths and resources of stakeholders would also be good basis to determine the extent of benefits expected by the members and what could be potentially offered/delivered by APAARI.
5. The above exercise needs to be refined and specified for various constituencies and categories of stakeholders from the view point of APAARI membership and partnership considerations.

Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy

The two strategic objectives of the APAARI Knowledge Management (KM) Programme as per Strategic Plan 2017-2022 are (i) make agri-food systems (AFS) more knowledge intensive to effectively contribute to sustainable agricultural development; and (ii) strengthen AFRIS through more effective knowledge management. The KM Strategy aligns with the broad strategies of the Strategic Plan to provide a plan of action (processes) for sharing knowledge and experience, facilitating learning, disseminating research outputs, and providing guidance of members on agricultural research and science. It complements resource mobilization and stakeholder engagement strategies defining knowledge-sharing approaches with key stakeholders. The framework of KM and Communication Strategy is detailed. SWOT Analysis is done and performance framework will be based on MERL. This strategy will be finalised based on the study in the first quarter of 2019.

Resource Mobilisation Strategy

APAARI needs Resource Mobilisation Strategy to: guide the Association in securing new and additional resources; make better use of, and maximize existing resources; support APAARI's sustainability (institutional, financial, programmatic); fulfill responsibilities towards members; and enable APAARI to

implement its Work Plans. The framework of the strategy has already been developed considering APAARI's stakeholders, present status of APAARI donors and members, current situation of APAARI, its sustainability, governance and development, annual targets, approach to donors, review of resource mobilization, list of key donors and their priorities, APAARI Capability Statement and types of resources/revenue.

Successful resource mobilization requires a lot of time and takes a lot of work. It must be integrated in activities of all APAARI staff as a team effort. Understanding the needs of different donors is the rationale for stakeholder mapping. Evidence-based results will be required through MERL and KM Strategy implementation. The full strategy based on the developed Framework will be developed in the second quarter of 2019 to help build APAARI reputation and organizational credibility in alignment with the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2020. While focusing on mobilizing funds, the strategy will also provide focus on improving management processes that involve identifying people, who share the same values as APAARI and taking the steps to manage those relationships. Part of the strategy will be a specific section on engagement with the European Union (EU) – the world's largest donor.

A)Membership Strategy

APAARI is currently in the process of enhancing its management, development and governance through various ways and means. Some of these are mobilization of resources (financial, human and others), amendments of the APAARI constitution, developing stakeholder engagement strategy, and managing and expanding APAARI membership. Important and unique strength of APAARI is its membership base right since its establishment in 1990. As a multi-stakeholder organization, APAARI membership base needs expanding in terms of number of members and also diversity in membership from various stakeholder constituencies. As a multi-stakeholder organization, APAARI membership base needs expanding in terms of number of members and also diversity in membership from various stakeholder constituencies. In expanding membership, the Association should have a membership strategy with systematic approaches, methods and procedures. Therefore, the APAARI Secretariat, with the help of Senior Adviser Dr Raghunath Ghodake undertook this exercise of developing an advanced documentation of APAARI.

The documentation presents an overall APAARI Membership Strategy, encompassing key strategic considerations and basic guiding principles involved in management and mobilization of the APAARI membership. The main areas covered are: Background - APAARI establishment and importance of its membership in growth/ performance of APAARI, (14 members in 1991 to 78 in 2018). Key attributes of APAARI membership, such as a) role and contribution of APAARI members; b) benefits to APAARI members; c) incentives/encouragements to APAARI members/stakeholders; and d) knowledge-sharing as basic support to members/ stakeholders. It also covers the need and scope for expanding APAARI membership and for making it effective in APAARI performance; Specificities of managing membership:

Regulations/processes, Use of stakeholder engagement strategy, Restructuring of membership categorization and subscription levels and Strategic mobilization by targeting the country core membership and by focusing on the primary stakeholders of APAARI.

The data and information assessed and presented; considerations accounted for; and guiding principles and rationalization used, are seen to be an excellent basis for the Association to design and apply key practicing strategies (ways and processes) for effective management and mobilization of APAARI membership, thereby enhancing the performance of the Association. The designing of practicing strategies can be in a systematic, interactive, and progressive manner and such strategies can be reflected through a management standard on APAARI membership. The members of the GA are requested to consider and peruse the documentation on the APAARI Membership Strategy and to provide its advise, guidance and endorsement as specifically urged in this submission.

Details of Stakeholder Mapping Strategy; Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy and Resource Mobilisation and Membership Strategy were provided to all the GA members as Annexures to this Agenda in the notes provided (Annex 11). The ES briefly presented significant points on the strategies. Efforts made on making EU as strategic partner was appreciated. Martina Spisiakova made a brief presentation (through skype) on Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. The presentation was well received. APAARI will be a strategic partner of EU. The Acting Chairman suggested that GA members, if they have any comment or responses on Key Strategies, they are requested to send to APAARI secretariat for consideration. Specific strategy followed by European Commission can be detailed to the members on request.

Key Discussant: Dr. Marco Wopereis

GA approved the Key Strategies on stakeholder engagement, knowledge management and communication and resource mobilization which were developed by APAARI Secretariat and were approved by EC also. Regarding Membership Strategy it was proposed by the Chair to circulate among members and discuss in the ECM (1/2019).

Agenda 10: Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning

APAARI contracted Strategic Engagement and Evaluation for Development (SEE4D Pty Ltd) on 28 July 2018 to develop the MERL Plan. SEE4D was represented by Dr Joanne Roberts (Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant) and Mr Ted Rowley (Senior Strategic Management Consultant). An Impact Pathway and Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (IPMERL) Plan and a Toolkit for the IPMERL Plan has since been developed and submitted to APAARI at the end of November 2018 (Annexure X). Important recommendations from the consultants were:

- The Impact Pathway as highlighted in the IPMERL Plan, be used as the structure for reporting annually and quarterly for APAARI and projects;
- Alignment of APAARI outcomes and investment priorities for APAARI be based on an annual participatory Impact Pathway Analysis review by the staff, executive and assembly;
- APAARI staff undertake an annual review of the APAARI Impact Pathway to align income earning opportunities and APAARI activities planned to the 5-year outcomes of the Impact Pathway;
- Completed Stakeholder analysis be used to build an engagement and communications plan;
- APAARI Secretariat to have a set of investment/opportunity decision making criteria documented in their corporate approach to provide a rationale for decisions made to participate, or not, in an opportunity and APAARI to have a position documented in their corporate approach to decision making that complexity be considered.

Dr. Joanne Roberts made a brief presentation on MERL execution plan for APAARI. She also organised a small electronic game on knowledge about APAARI in which two participants (Dr. Arabinda Kumar Padhee and Dr Rishi Kumar Tyagi) who excelled were appreciated for their knowledge on APAARI. MERL study with APAARI staff and secretariat and its implementation plan presented by Dr Joanne was well received. Important recommendations from the consultancy firm are use of IPMERL Plan impact pathway as structure for reporting; participatory Impact Pathway Analysis as basis for investment priorities and income; stakeholder analysis as basis for their engagement and communication plan; decision making criteria documented and APAARI to have position documented to decision making.

GA appreciated the Consultancy efforts and approved the MERL execution plan.

Agenda 11: Work Plan for the Biennium 2019-20

The ES briefly presented APAARI indicative Work Plan for the biennium 2019-2020 prepared in line with APAARI's Strategic Plan 2017-2022.

The Work Plan 2019-20 included activities to be undertaken under various thematic areas, programs and projects of APAARI and the actions to be taken towards strengthening strategic partnerships. This included websites updates, webinars on thematic needs, publications (Newsletters, APAARI Network Highlights), success stories, strategy for Mega Seed Park, strategy for the Asia-Pacific Knowledge Hub on SPC Capacity, expert consultations on new genome manipulation techniques and bio-secure and bio-safe APR, development and maintenance of online tools, data collection, ASTI survey management systems, ASTI data validation, data analysis of agricultural R&D in the region, development of event proceedings, training manuals, ASTI country publications, analytical work of agricultural innovation systems, workshop on vegetable seed technologies, enhancing small farmer income and livelihoods and integration of innovative learning and knowledge sharing under KM. Under the head of Capacity Development, KM and biotechnology capacities of member institutions, value chain in vegetable crops and on leadership and

management will be taken up. Development of new membership and partnerships and strengthening existing partnerships; policy influence pathways and to develop outreach plans, ASTI evidence in agricultural policy and online campaigns under policy advocacy are other priorities. Regarding women and youth, implementation plan of Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture (MAYA), building capacity and strengthening and engagement of women and youth in APAARI supported meetings and trainings were planned. As part of APAARI governance work plan include securing legal status of APAARI, implementation of MERL conducting ECMs and GAM as required under the Constitution, organising APCoAB Steering Committee meeting, new recruitment plan, implementation of resource mobilization strategy, integration of key strategies and implementation of management reforms. In view of expanded scope of APCoAB, two workshops/trainings and four publications, in addition to already approved activities have been planned for 2019 and 2020, subject to the availability of resources.

The details of work plan is provided in Annexure XI following the structure of APAARI's key programmes and projects (including APCoAB, ASTI) - Knowledge Management, Partnership and Networking, Capacity Development, Advocacy, Women and Youth, and APAARI Governance and Development.

The Acting Chairman invited the members to comment upon the Work Plan 2019-20 developed by APAARI Secretariat.

Discussions on the Agenda

- In future a questionnaire may be circulated to all the members prior to finalizing the Work Plan, sensitizing the members and to consider their needs particularly in the areas of Capacity Development and Innovation.
- India (ICAR) has well developed infrastructure, expertise, to impart the trainings and organize workshops etc. and will be happy to organize events of APAARI.
- Participation and knowledge sharing through consultative workshops, conferences etc. organized by APAARI in the last one year have been a very satisfying experience.
- APAARI may also plan to facilitate student and scientist exchange to enhance members participation.
- Access to World Bank funds to link CGIAR Centers or through Agricultural Universities (e.g. National Agricultural Higher Education Project - NAHEP) may be explored to work in the area of agricultural education. New partnerships with the university sector is need of the hour.
- Impact of NARS funded objectives be studied rather than CGIAR funded activities. An out of box approach is needed to serve NARS.

- APAARI may consider steps to attract investors with ‘Agriculture’ as a platform and also consider contributing not only towards MAYA but also towards ARYA (Attracting Rural Youth to Agriculture) projects in India.

The ES while responding to comments and suggestions highlighted that all members are requested to consider the APAARI communications in detail and also may visit APAARI website frequently to take advantage of technical participation and knowledge sharing. APAARI is generally requesting all members to give their suggestions as what APAARI can support the mandated activities of members in limited resources and how it should be moving by including the same in work plan. Certain members are already providing their suggestions and requirements which are duly factored in. However, APAARI will make more efforts to pursue the members to provide inputs and refine the work plan for their benefit based on availability of funds.

The offer from India will be positively considered by the EC for conducting APAARI training workshops/events etc. The proposals of student exchange and access to World Bank funds through universities will be duly considered by the EC in its forthcoming meetings.

The ES further mentioned that a workshop is also planned with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU), India, on higher education in the third week of January 2019. Impact studies on APAARI work are part of ‘Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning’ (MERL) and a detailed MERL work plan will be presented in the GAM by the appointed consultant.

The ES also highlighted that APAARI has co-organized along with TAAS, ICAR, and MSSRF a Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture (MAYA) event and also working with various universities and research institutes as NARS members to work together and access national funding available in the member countries.

Key Discussants: Dr Ashok Kumar Sarial, Dr. Gerry Jayawardena, Ms. Jintawee Thaingam Dr. Kamal Malla Bujarbaruah, Dr Kuldeep Singh, Dr. Narendra Govind Das Shah, Dr. Reynaldo V. Ebor, Dr. Sivakumar Uthandi, and Dr. Wayne Nelles

After due discussions the GA approved the workplan and on behalf of GAM the Acting Chairman made the following recommendations:

Recommendations

- APAARI to refine the work plan on the basis of suggestions made by the members and availability of resources.

- Further modifications in work plan, if any, based on discussions in the GAM, may be submitted to the next EC for ratification.

Agenda 12 Formation of the Executive Committee for Biennium 2019-2020

The ES explained the process for formation of the Executive Committee. Details of nominations and discussions are provided in Points of Discussion after the decisions on Agenda Items.

The constitution of new Executive Committee is as follows.

Executive Committee formed for the Biennium 2019-2020

APAARI shall have a 14 member Executive Committee, composed of: Six members representing NARS – two each from the Pacific, South-East Asia and South-West Asia sub-regions; One ex-officio member – the incumbent Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR); One ex-officio member represented by one of the CGIAR Center Directors General being associate members on rotational basis; Two members from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) – one from regional farmers' associations and one from NGO's associations/communities; One representative of the private sector; One member representing the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA); One member representing the Higher Education Sector (Universities); and the incumbent Executive Secretary of APAARI as ex-officio member. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and other members shall be elected/nominated by the General Assembly from among the regular member institutions at the biennial meeting and they shall hold the office for two years and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office. However, the outgoing Chairman will continue as a member for the next term to ensure continuity and for needed guidance.

The Executive Secretary of APAARI shall be appointed according to Article XII, Paragraph 22. No country NARS members will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee.

Nominations

South East Asia: Vietnam, Thailand and Philippines proposed Malaysia as core member and it was accepted by all GA members. Philippines proposed Taiwan as second core member in this zone and Japan seconded it, which was accepted by all GA members.

Pacific: Australia expressed its willingness to be a core member for this zone. Fiji, Samoa and New Caledonia supported Australia to be a member and it was accepted by all GA members. New Caledonia proposed Fiji as second core member in this zone supported by Samoa and unanimously accepted by all GA members.

South Asia: India expressed willingness to be one of the two core members, which was supported by Bangladesh and Iran and agreed by all GA members. Pakistan will be the second member by default as the country is holding Chair in the EC 2017-18.

It was proposed that if the host country (currently Thailand) is not part of the EC through the election process, it may be included as Ex Officio Member. GA unanimously approved the suggestion for Thailand to be the Ex Officio member of EC.

Indian Agricultural Universities Association was unanimously reelected.

Malaysia proposed Australia to be the Chair of EC. Australia accepted to be the Chair and it was also accepted by all GA members. Iran suggested India to be the Co-Chair. India accepted and approved by all GA members.

The New Executive Committee for the biennium 2019-2020 as approved by GA is as follows:

Chair: Australia

Vice Chair: India

Core Members

South Asia: India and Pakistan (in the capacity of outgoing Chair)

South East Asia: Malaysia and Taiwan

Pacific: Australia and Fiji

Global Forum of Agricultural Research and Innovation

Host Country Member: Thailand (as Ex Officio member)

Higher Education Sector Member

Indian Agricultural Universities Association

The other Executive Committee Members for the Biennium 2019-2020 yet to be finalized are as below:

- Member from among CGIAR institutes (ES to approach CG System Council).
- Member from NGO/ Private Sector/ Farmer/ Women/ Youth Organizations/ Cooperatives/ Communities representation to be decided in the next ECM.

The ES after due consultations with CGIAR and other organizations shall put up a proposal to the next EC for its consideration to nominate the remaining members.

Key Participants: Dr. Brigitta Jane Faafiti, Mr. David Kolutagane, Dr Kuldeep Singh, Dr. Laurent L'huillier, Dr Melissa Wood, Dr Mohamad Roff Mohd Noor, Dr Pradyumna Raj Pandey, Dr. Reynaldo V. Ebor, Dr. Samarendu Mohanty, Dr Suradet Patchimku, Dr Tooraj Valinassab, Dr Ando Shotaro.

Agenda 13 Statement by Chairperson Elect

Ms Melissa Wood, Australia, the Chair (Elect) profusely thanked GA members for electing ACIAR as Chair of EC, APAARI. She highlighted ACIAR being an active donor already has strong relationship with APAARI. She appreciated the excellent work done by APAARI during last year and assured to work more closely with APAARI in the next two years. She particularly appreciated the strategies developed by APAARI and highlighted that APAARI can do much more owing to its strengths and started moving in the right direction. She assured that ACIAR will be happy to strengthen further relationship with APAARI and enhancing its credibility and reputation in the region.

Agenda 14 Venue of the next General Assembly Meeting

As no proposals were received from the members, Chairman suggested that venue may be discussed and finalised in the next EC meeting.

Agenda 15 Comments by outgoing EC Members

Dr Marco Wopereis suggested that EC should have sufficient time and the duration shall be based on the agenda.

Agenda 16 Any Other Item

Due to paucity of time, the Acting Chairman decided to conclude the meeting with the consent of GA.

Agenda 17 Concluding Remarks by Chairperson

Mr Vincent Lin, the Acting Chairman thanked all the members for their excellent cooperation and contributions by their participation in the discussions actively. He also appreciated formation of the new Executive Committee 2019-2020 unanimously. He also thanked for nominating him as an Acting Chairman to conduct GAM. Further, Mr Vincent made the following concluding remarks.

- a. General Assembly authorises EC for approval of revised Constitution. Constitution to be revised in view of the suggestions made by GA members, revised version be vetted by Legal Advisor, circulated to GA members for their comments and put up to EC for approval. The whole process of revising the Constitution shall be done within two months.
- b. Provision for starting the sub regional offices is included in the Constitution. However, justification along with financial viability of any such proposal to start a sub regional office be provided to EC for its approval. EC only if needed may refer to GA for such decisions.
- c. Executive Secretary may provide all ppts presented in ECM and GAM to all members by email for their comments, if any.

d. Mr Vincent congratulated APAARI Secretariat for its tremendous achievements during past one year.

Finally on behalf of COA and his own behalf Mr Vincent Lin thanked one and all for their active participation in the 15th GAM and wished them a safe flight back home.

Agenda 18 Vote of Thanks

The ES profusely thanked all the members and their organizations/ institutions/ universities for their active participation and for sponsoring participants to this important biennial event of APAARI. Dr Rishi Tyagi (APCoAB Coordinator, APAARI) proposed a formal vote of thanks to all the organizations and members that participated and supported APAARI for ECM and GAM. He particularly acknowledged the excellent help and support received from COA, Taiwan to APAARI and also to the Academia Sinica, Taiwan for providing logistic support. He also thanked all the members for their active participation in the meetings and for their significant contributions.



Annexure I

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) 15th GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING 21 December 2018, Taipei, Taiwan

Tentative Programme

No.	Time	Agenda Item	Facilitation
1	11:00-11:10	Welcome Address	Yusuf Zafar Chairman, APAARI
2	11:10-11:15	Approval of Agenda for GAM	Chairman and Members
3	11:15-12:30	Progress Report for Biennium 2017-18	Ravi Khetarpal, Martina Spisiakova, Celilu Bitong, Rishi Tyagi, Norah Omot, Wayne Nelles
	12:30-13:30	Lunch	
4	13:30-13:35	Approval of ECM proceedings 2017-2018	Chairman and Members

5	13:35-13:50	Membership and Fee Payment Status	Executive Secretary
6	13:50-14:10	Audit Report for 2017, Interim Audit Report (Jan-Oct 2018) and Financial Statements	Executive Secretary
7	14:10-14:30	Administrative Matters	Executive Secretary
8	14:30-15:00	Amendments to APAARI Constitution	Executive Secretary
9	15:30-15:50	Development of Key Strategies	Executive Secretary/ Martina Spisiakova
	15:50-16:20	<i>Tea/Coffee</i>	
10	16:20-16:35	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning Accomplishments (Jan 2017-November 2018)/	Jo Roberts, MERL Consultant
11	16:35-16:50	Work Plan for the Biennium 2019-2020	Executive Secretary
12	16:50-17:20	Formation of Executive Committee for the Biennium 2019-2020	Members (Process explained by Executive Secretary)
13	17:20-17:25	Statement by Chairman Elect and new EC Members	Chair Elect and new members
14	17:25-17:30	Venue of the next General Assembly Meeting	Members
15	17:30-17:50	Comments by Outgoing Members of EC	Outgoing Members
16	17:50-18:00	Any Other Item	Members
17	18:00-18:10	Closing remarks by Chairman	Dr. Yusuf Zafar
18	18:10-18:15	Vote of thanks	

Annexure II

ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS
(APAARI)



15th GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

21 December, 2018, Taipei, Taiwan

Annotated Agenda

Agenda 1: Welcome Address by Chairman, APAARI (For Information) (Written statement)

APAARI members, special invitees, observers and APAARI Secretariat staff will be welcomed to the General Assembly by Chairman, APAARI.

Through his special address, the Chairman will speak on APAARI shaping its pathways, and how APAARI will contribute through its strategy plan to the strengthened agri-food research and innovation systems and to the realization of key Sustainable Development Goals in the Asia-Pacific region.

[The EC members, participants and staff will be formally introduced]

Agenda 2: Approval of Agenda by the GA (For Decision/Approval)

[The EC members, participants and staff will be formally introduced by the Executive Secretary to the framed agenda and the relevant documents/papers available for the business of the meeting. This meeting will have a special significance as it is going to deal with very important agenda items such APAARI constitution amendments, financial reforms and recent initiatives of new project development that will provide pathways to enhance APAARI performance.]

The already framed agenda will be pursued and re-examined by the members and will be approved with appropriate modifications/suggestions and inclusion of any additional agenda item.

The Chairman will request the members to consider and approve the agenda.

Agenda 3: APAARI Progress Report for the Biennium 2017 -18 (For Information and Endorsement) [Written submission]

The Executive Secretary and APAARI staff will present the key elements of the progress report, covering the period from January 2017 – November 2018.

The progress report covers the topics as major events/preparations undertaken by APAARI, development of corporate plans, knowledge management (publications) and information sharing, membership drive, training events, participation of APAARI in meetings/ events organized by other organizations, etc. APAARI staff will present a brief summary of their accomplishments and the projects developed and submitted.

The GA will be requested to provide comments, suggestions and to endorse the progress report.

Agenda 4: Approval ECM proceedings (Jan 17 to Nov 18)

The Executive Secretary will bring to the attention of General Assembly members about the three Executive Committee Meeting Proceedings (1/2017 held on 14 July 2017; 2/2017 held on 12 November 2017; 1/2018 held on 28 May 2018) since 14th GAM held on 3 November 2016 are place for their perusal and approval.

Agenda 5: Membership and Fee Payment Status (until 30 November 2018) (For Information and Endorsement) [Written submission]

APAARI Secretariat and its partners and our stakeholders continued APAARI drive for mobilizing membership. This paid off in terms of increased membership from 68 in 2016 to 78 up to November, 2018. Also, a brief on new members of APAARI will be presented.

The membership and fee payment status as on 30th November 2018 will be presented. The General Assembly will be requested to provide suggestions to help the Secretariat in further mobilization of the membership and endorse the progress made so far.

Agenda 6: Financial Statements (January 2017 to December 2017) and Audit Report (January 2018 to October 2018) [For Information/ Endorsement] {Written submission}

A new financial management system was introduced to improve APAARI's effectiveness and efficiency which helps in meeting the international standards and donor requirements. The revised chart of accounts has been made operational from 2018. Costs are now being classified to departments, grants, member services and projects. The financial accounting software has been upgraded to the network version, thus, facilitating financial reporting, monitoring and control. The financial system is being further refined for improved results. The Budget 2018 has been re-forecasted (Budget 2018RF1), based on the actual expenditure up to April 2018 and on additional information available. Attempts were made to apportion operations costs, technical staff costs and facilities costs to projects, member services and grants, thus leading to a drop in indirect costs. Projects in pipeline have been included, though at a very conservative revenue estimate.

The Assembly will be requested to provide any suggestions, take note of and provide its endorsement to financial reforms brought in APAARI.

Audited financial statements for the period 1 January to 31 December 2017 and the audit report and financial statements for 1 January to 31 December 2018 were prepared by the GAAP Professional Audit Co, Ltd. The audit report and audited financial statements are placed before the General Assembly for their perusal.

The Assembly will be requested to provide any suggestions, take note of and provide its endorsement of the audit report and audited financial statements.

Agenda 7: Administrative Matters

New Appointments

Executive Secretary

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal has been appointed as Executive Secretary, APAARI and joined APAARI on August 1, 2017.

APCoAB Coordinator

Dr. Rishi Tyagi has been appointed as Coordinator, APCoAB and joined APAARI on August 11, 2017.

ASTI Coordinator /Economist

Dr. Norah Omot has been appointed as Coordinator/Economist, ASTI and she joined APAARI on 10 November 2017.

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Mr. Fai Collins Dzernyuy, from Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Cameroon, has been appointed as Knowledge Management Coordinator. He joined APAARI on 15 January 2018.

Consultant/Intern/Research Assistant

APAARI appointed Dr. Raj Paroda, Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Ms. Martina Spisiakova, Ms. Geraldine Nemrod, Dr. Wayne Nelles, Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam Mondal, Carlo G. Custodio Jr., Dr. Nagendra Kumar Singh and Dr. K.S. Varaprasad as consultants for need based activities

Intern

APAARI accepted Ms. Lorene Siegwart from SupAgro, Montpellier, France as Intern for 4 months with effect from 2nd April 2018.

Research Assistant

APAARI recruited a Research Assistant Nguyen Thi Pham, a Vietnamese national, to assist Norah Omot with the current ASTI project with IFPRI. She joined APAARI on 7th of July 2018.

Project/Administrative Assistant

APAARI recruited a Project /Administrative Assistant Tarathip Sanboonkrong to assist in project and administrative activities

Outgoing Staff

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Ms. Martina Spisiakova has worked as APAARI's Knowledge Management Coordinator since December 2015 and left at the end of June 2017 for personal reasons

Mr. Fai Collins, Knowledge Management Coordinator has submitted his resignation with effect from 31 December 2018.

Contract Renewal

- The Accounts and Administration Associate completed her two-year contract in December 2017, and the contract was renewed for a period of five years with a marginal hike in salary. Similarly, the Knowledge Management Officer also completed her two-year contract and that was renewed after following the proper procedures w.e.f. May 2018.
- The India Office of APCoAB was closed because of joining of a new full time APCoAB Coordinator in August 2017 (with Headquarters at Bangkok) who was recruited through interview conducted as per norms in June 2017. The Senior Administrative Associate who was located there was transferred to Bangkok and his salary was adjusted accordingly.

Additional space in the Building

As approved by ECM 2/2017, additional space was acquired by APAARI in the same FAO Annex building where it is housed. The annual rent for APAARI has thus increased and highlighted the need for covering the additional cost through inhouse reserve fund and additional revenues being generated.

Recent Status of FAO support

FAO approached APAARI in October, 2018 regarding discontinuing its Support to Associations established under the Auspices of FAO RAP. APAARI does not have the legal status in Thailand and FAO is questioned by the Government in Thailand on providing services such as visa, stay permit etc to APAARI. A meeting was held by Executive Secretary with Senior Admin Officer of FAO, followed by a meeting with Dy Representative FAO RAP Mr Jong-Jin Kim and later with Ms Kundhavi Kaderesan, FAO-RAP. The details for APAARI to find a way forward in obtaining its proper status in Thailand will be discussed.

The GA will be requested to consider the administrative matters, provide their views and finally endorse the proposed Administrative Matters.

Agenda 8: Amendments to APAARI Constitution

The purpose of this agenda is to propose / present some basic modifications/amendments to the current Constitution of APAARI so as to help enhancing the APAARI's effectiveness in its management, development and governance and its overall performance. The General Assembly will consider and peruse the amendments proposed by a sub-committee for Constitutional Amendments which was constituted by the Chairman, APAARI as per the recommendation made in ECM (1/2018). The proposed amendment was circulated to all APAARI members on September 17, 2018, and only recently some comments were received from JIRCAS which will also be discussed. The Committee is to be requested to further consider and endorse the proposed amendments. Such endorsed and revised constitutional amendments will be notified, as per Article XVI – Para 31 of the current APAARI Constitution (Sixth Edition), to the members of the APAARI General Assembly; for the Assembly to consider these amendments for approval.

Agenda 9: Development of Key Strategies

APAARI has developed key strategies such as Stakeholder Mapping strategy, Knowledge Management strategy and resource mobilization strategy which were approved by Executive Committee during 2017-18. Also, in Executive Committee Meeting of 21st December. APAARI is presenting the Membership strategy to the ECM. The General Assembly will be requested to endorse and approve the strategies developed.

Agenda 10: Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning

A Consultancy Firm for Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL) of APAARI activities has been finalized as recommended by the ECM (2/2017). The consultant conducted the studies and an execution plan for MERL for APAARI is developed. Annex I-Agenda 14 to this submission provides the detailed report on execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning in the Biennium 2019-2020.

The General Assembly will be requested to endorse and approve the execution plan of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning.

Agenda 11. Work Plan for the Biennium 2019-2020 (For Decision/Approval) [Written submission]

The APAARI developed a Work Plan for the years 2019-2020 as guided by the Strategic Plan and also based on resources and partnerships. The key details of the work plan will be presented.

The Assembly will be requested to examine, provide suggestions and approve the work plan for implementation during 2019-2020.

Agenda 12: Formation of Executive Committee for Biennium 2019-2020 (For Decision) [Written submission]

The current APAARI Executive Committee was constituted during the last GAM in 2016 and it completes its two year-term on 31 December 2018. The Executive Secretary will provide the background and process relating to formation of new Executive Committee for the next biennium (2019-2020). The composition of all previous Executive Committees will also be shared.

Subsequently, the Chairman will seek nominations from members for endorsement by the GAM.

Agenda 13: Statement by Chairman Elect (For Information)

A brief statement will be made to the General assembly by the Chair Elect and new EC members to express their perspective on the APAARI's progression in immediate future, especially over the next two years.

Agenda 14: Venue of the next General Assembly Meeting (For proposition)

The venue for holding the next General Assembly meeting in 2020 will be discussed. The choice of hosting the General Assembly Meeting in October/November 2020 will be offered to all members for extending their invitations and for taking a decision by the General Assembly or by the upcoming meeting(s) of the Executive Committee.

Agenda 15: Comments by Outgoing Members of EC

Outgoing members of EC may briefly give their experience and offer suggestions to the new EC for effective functioning of APAARI.

Agenda 16: Any Other Items

This agenda will deal with any such items that will be suggested by the members.

Agenda 17: Concluding Remarks by Chairman

Based on the deliberations and outcomes of the General Assembly and especially by considering way forward, Chairman will present the closing remarks.

Agenda 18: Vote of Thanks

Dr Rishi Tyagi, APCOAB Coordinator will propose a vote of thanks on behalf of the ES and APAARI

Annexure III A- Agenda 3



**Agenda Item 3 Progress Report for the Biennium 2017-2018
FOR MEMBERS OF THE APAARI EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE**

Sub: APAARI Progress Report for the Biennium January 2017-18 (For Endorsement)

A. PURPOSE

1. To apprise the Assembly of the progress made on various activities, aspects by APAARI since January 2017 until 31st November 2018;
2. To seek the Assembly's views and suggestions on the progress made as presented; and
3. To seek the Assembly's endorsement of the progress during the Biennium 2017-18.

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATION

1. Four progress reports during the biennium 2017-18, covering specific periods i) November 2016 to June 2017, ii) July to October 2017 and iii) January to April 2018 and iv) May to November 2018 were prepared and circulated to APAARI members, partners and stakeholders. Copies were uploaded on the APAARI website links were provided to all.
2. The progress reports attached (in Annex 1 to Annex IV) with this submission is for the period biennium 2017-18. It may be noted that the period covered is from 1st January 2017 to 30th November 2018.
3. The report covers the major topics as main event and activities (during the period under reporting), especially covering executive committee meetings, major events organized by APAARI, Training events and activities, corporate planning, major events participated by APAARI, publications and reporting, knowledge management and sharing and membership progression.
4. The contents of this report will be used to develop the full biennial report for 2017-18.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the Assembly:

1. Consider and peruse the progress made on various activities, aspects by APAARI since January 2017 until 30th November 2018;
2. Provide views and suggestions on the progress made as presented; and
3. Provide endorsement of the Progress made during the Biennium 2017-18.

Annexure III contd.

PROGRESS REPORT ON APAARI ACTIVITIES

(November 2016 – June 2017)

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) is an apolitical, neutral, non-profit forum of National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) in the Asia-Pacific region and was established in 1990 at the initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). It has its headquarters at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. The main mission of APAARI is to promote the development of NARS in the Asia-Pacific region through facilitation of intra-regional, inter-institutional, and international cooperation and partnership. APAARI has been active in fostering the overall agricultural development by addressing the concerns of hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and sustainability of agricultural production. It has completed 26 years of its existence with an impressive record of achievements.

During November 2016 and June 2017, APAARI organized, co-organized and participated in several activities comprising various meetings and conferences. These included: i) Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific; ii) APAARI 14th General Assembly Meeting (GAM); iii) XIV APARIS Steering Committee Meeting; iv) XVIII APCoAB Steering Committee Meeting; v) Regional Symposium on “Mapping and Assessing University-based Farmer Extension Services in ASEAN through an Agro-ecological/Organic Lens; (vi) Regional Food Security conference: Let's Get to Work - Building a Food Secure Future; and (vii) Marketplace on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems. A brief account of the accomplishments is presented here for information and reference of APAARI members, partners and other stakeholders.

I. Meeting/Workshops/Conferences**1. Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific**

The Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food Innovations was organized jointly by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI); the Council of Agriculture (COA), Chinese Taipei (Taiwan); Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR); the World Vegetable Center (AVRDC), Taiwan; and the Asian Farmers Association (AFA), the Philippines, at Taichung City, Taiwan on 1-3, November 2016. It was attended by 87 participants from 14 countries including researchers, policy makers, innovative farmers and representatives of various organizations including national agricultural research institutions (NARIs) and organizations (NAROs) Higher Education Institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations (CSOs) – non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and farmers' organizations (FOs), women and youth representatives, CG Centers, and International Agricultural Research Centres. The programme was planned in six technical sessions besides inaugural and concluding sessions. It provided a platform to: (i) have in-depth discussions; (ii) develop a road map to catalyze policy/decision makers; (iii) sensitize stakeholders in agri-food research and innovations; and (iv) embrace successful agri-food innovations for upscaling and outscaling in Asia and the Pacific.

On 2 November, a field trip to the genebank and demonstration garden of AVRDC and the Taiwan Orchid Plantation was carried out for further comprehending the international cooperation and development of Taiwan agricultural industry. It was a fruitful and joyful experience where participants from different countries of the Asia-Pacific region could exchange information and knowledge, build up international network on agricultural issues, and strengthen collaboration with each other.

Major Recommendations

Models and Case Studies of Agri-food Innovations

- Partnerships and alliances with new actors are essential in contributing to innovative solutions to achieve scale out.
- There is an urgent need for innovation platforms to share knowledge between various actors, including industry, policy makers and researchers.
- The development of good agricultural practices, which comes under the incremental innovation, will address pesticide residue and food safety concerns.

Partnership for Agri-food Innovations

- There is a need to develop a roadmap to document innovative partnerships between funding agencies, researchers and the end users of research in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Incubation centres should be developed for adoption of good agricultural practices and to promote and upscale local agri-food innovations in a public-private partnership mode.
- Market intelligence should be ensured to strategize production and marketing, and to develop a database on agri-food market chains and post-harvest losses in Asia-Pacific.
- There is a strong need for participation of cooperative societies and NGOs in technology dissemination, and to have fair distribution of profits among all actors in the value chain.

Capacity Development in Agri-food Innovations

- The capacity in agri-food innovations area will need to be built individually to work collectively, **must be specific to the time in which it is developed** and there should not be any risk in order to safeguard the interest of farmers, as well as enhance their economy.
- Capacity development for innovation should be based on a long-term strategy with plans covering three interconnected dimensions: individual and organizational innovation capacity, and the creation of an enabling environment.
- There is a need to develop platforms for assessment, training, measuring the impacts of different efforts and interventions, and for enabling collective actions and investments in development of capacity for agri-food innovations.
- There is a need for political support in capacity building for sustainable and new concepts and institutional innovations with the emphasis on institutional change and skill development.

Technology Based Agri-food Innovations

- There is a greater need for the collection, documentation, maintenance, and application of information related to all processes in the supply chain.
- Concerted efforts are needed to develop public-private partnership to catalyze private investment in scaling up of agri-food innovations through the development of a business model

by which the enterprise delivers value to customers, entices customers to pay for value, and converts those payments to profit.

- **Special efforts need to be made on the process of developing a strategy, which should be open, specific to the time in which it is developed, and adaptive. It should evolve over time,** incorporate learning, and allow adjustments to the desired course if required.
- Greater thrust needs to be given on the development of new technologies to help improve the productivity of the farming systems, while decreasing their impact on the environment. These technologies should be contextual in nature, location and season specific, minimizing post-harvest and storage losses which will add income to farmers and in value chain.
- There is an urgent need for ICT-led agriculture, training of farmers in agricultural extension, biosafety and quarantine, conservation and profiling of indigenous breeds, strengthening of local institutions and the capacity to maintain and use biodiversity at local levels, product certification and women's empowerment.

Knowledge Management on Agri-food Innovations

- Concerted efforts are required for collection, customization, and dissemination of innovative knowledge and information in order to convert personal knowledge into organizational knowledge and corporate information. To disseminate information there is a need for credible messages in national and simplified language. Technical agri-food associations and extension agencies can be used for transferring knowledge to different stakeholders.
- Focused attention is required for managing knowledge on technical innovations in the production process, postharvest handling, product processing, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, as well as non-technical innovations in marketing, institutional development and capacity building.
- There is an urgent need for more innovations for technology management, by establishing industry clusters, strengthening agribusiness assistance, enhancing agro-tech marketing, assisting finance in the capital markets, training human resources and integrating industrialization platforms.
- Concerted efforts are needed to organize a series of workshops, which should include skills for partnering and engagement, project logic and theory of change; monitoring evaluation and learning tools for adaptive and managed action and learning, the theory and practice of multi-stakeholder processes, and innovation platforms.
- To promote long-term growth and the jobs of tomorrow, governments must ensure that framework conditions, institutions and policies facilitate business investment in knowledge-based capitals. Therefore, investment is needed in non-physical assets, such as R&D, data, software, patents, new business models, organizational processes, firm-specific skills and designs, especially for family farmers, service providers, traders and processors, researchers, policy-makers, etc., in developing their capacity to innovate. Special attention to youth and women is important.

Policy Oriented Agri-food Innovations

- There is urgent need for policy of agricultural transformation to revitalize rural community and to increase rural income by encouraging collective actions of multi-sectoral stakeholders by

which individual farms shift from highly diversified, subsistence-oriented production towards more specialized production – product- or market-oriented agriculture.

- The poor and less privileged in the country that do not have capacity to pay, should not be neglected. There should be fair treatment and equal opportunities for all people. One of the causes of disunity in a country is when the country neglects a section of its population. This can easily be avoided if a national policy is put in place to address all these issues.
- Special efforts need to be made on facilitating cooperation, networking activities and partnerships among different innovation actors working in the same field – universities, research and technological centers, SMEs and large firms – to achieve synergies and technology transfer.
- Focused attention is needed to provide the necessary financial services and training that will help farmers increase their crop yields, improve income and food security for their families and communities, and create jobs for their neighbors.
- Concerted efforts are needed to develop indicators and tools to evaluate the performance of agricultural innovation systems in general, and innovation policy regularly, taking longer term effects into account, possibly in collaboration with other countries and organizations.
- APAARI should play a major role in sharing knowledge of agri-food innovations across these countries in the Asia-Pacific region.
- There is an urgent need to share databases between public and private organizations for upscaling and outscaling technologies in a public-private-partnership mode, keeping in view the interest of smallholder farmers.

2. APAARI 14th General Assembly Meeting (GAM)

The 14th General Assembly Meeting (GAM) of APAARI was hosted by the Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan, and held in Taichung, Taiwan, on 3 November 2016. Dr Waraporn Prompoj, Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand, representing Dr Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Chairman, APAARI, and Director General, DOA, Thailand, chaired the meeting. Dr Sharif Haron, Director General, Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was requested to act as the Vice-Chair. Forty six members, partners, special invitees and APAARI staff and consultants participated in the meeting.

Dr Waraporn Prompoj appreciated that over the past two years, APAARI has made concerted efforts for developing the APAARI Vision 2030 and Strategic Plan 2017-22. They provide overall guidance to strengthening of agri-food research and innovation systems in the region. She urged APAARI to adopt transformative changes in important areas of governance and its development; especially strengthening its capacity and resources in areas of collaboration, knowledge brokering, capacity building and advocacy. She expressed her hope that the GAM participants will deliberate on various agenda items, including the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22 and the collective deliberations and contributions will result in positive outcomes of the meeting. She thanked COA, Taiwan for hosting the meeting in the beautiful city of Taichung, Taiwan. She also thanked all the members for their support and contribution in bringing APAARI at this high pedestal.

The key decisions taken by the meeting, which have far reaching progressing implications for the growth and accomplishments of APAARI, are presented below while the detailed proceedings are available on (www.apaari.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/GAM_Proceedings_2-1-2017.pdf)

- The audit report and audited financial statements for 2014 and 2015 were endorsed. Also endorsed was the audit report and financial statements for the interim period January – September 2016.

- Advanced and refined version of the “APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022: Pathways to strengthened agri-food research and innovations in Asia and the Pacific”, was unanimously endorsed after systematic deliberation and enriched consultations.
- By considering implications arising of the Strategic Plan, the APAARI Executive Committee and the APAARI Secretariat have been directed to work and progress on the changes that are necessary in the areas of APAARI governance and development.
- As an immediate implication arising through implementation of the APAARI strategy, an enhanced resource (human and financial) mobilization plan was approved for the biennium 2017-18.
- The necessary change to Article 10 of APAARI constitution on the composition of APAARI Executive Committee was approved, providing for two additional members on the Committee representing: i) the Association of International Research Centers for Development in Agriculture (AIRCA) and ii) the Higher Education Sector (Universities).
- As urgency for immediate replacement of Dr Raghunath Ghodake, who would be concluding his assignment effective as of 31 December 2016 due to his ill-health, a decision was made to have an interim Executive Secretary to manage APAARI programmes/activities.

New Executive Committee for the Biennium 2017-2018

Chair:	Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, PARC, Pakistan
Vice-Chair:	Dr Sergie Bang, DG, NARI, Papua New Guinea
Members:	Dr Suwit Chaikiattiyos, DG, DOA, Thailand
	Dr Grace- Lin, DG, COA, Taiwan
	Dr Y.R. Pandey, Executive Director, NARC, Nepal
	Mr David Hunter, CEO,MAF, Western Samoa
	Dr Marco Wopereis, DG,AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center (AIRCA)
	Dr K.M. Bujarbaruah, President, IAUA, India (Higher Education Sector)
	Dr Mark Holderness, Executive Secretary, GFAR
	Dr Barbara Wells, DG, CIP
	Farmers Associations (to be decided by EC)
	NGO (to be decided by EC)
	Private Sector (to be decided by EC)

3. XIV APARIS Steering Committee Meeting

The XIV Steering Committee (SC) meeting of the Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS) for 2016 was held at Taichung, Taiwan on 31 October 2016. Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI, welcomed the participants. Dr Waraporn Prompoi, Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand, chaired the meeting on behalf of Dr Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Director General, DOA, Thailand. Dr Andrew Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Australia, was the Vice-Chair. Dr S G Abbas, Consultant, represented Ms Martina Spisiakova, Knowledge Management Coordinator, APARIS, and presented the APARIS progress report. He emphasized that there was a need for improved communication and exchange of knowledge on agriculture and natural resources, improving the efficiency of the research-extension interface and keeping abreast with the continuous changes in technologies. The chairperson showed her satisfaction on current and past achievements of APARIS, as well as on the work plan for 2017. The following main recommendations emerged during the SC Meeting:

- Under the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022, APARIS should bring its members, partners and other stakeholders closer together to address priority needs of the agri-food system through strengthening of agri-food research and innovation systems.
- Knowledge management should become an overarching strategy of APARIS.
- Facebook is getting more popular in the social media and thus, APARIS should focus on increasing its number of followers on Facebook.
- Focal points from the NARS should increasingly share information with APAARI for further dissemination.
- The CEO, ACIAR, assured continued support for the APARIS future work plan and activities.

4. XVIII APCoAB Steering Committee Meeting

The XVIII Steering Committee (SC) Meeting of Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) was held on 31 October 2016 in Taichung, Taiwan. The meeting was attended by 11 participants, comprising SC members, their representatives, special invitees and observers. APAARI Chairman, Dr Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Director General (DG), Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand, was represented by Dr Waraporn Prompoj, DDG, DOA, while Vice-Chair, Dr Chun-yen Chen, DG, International Affairs, Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan, was represented by Ms Rose, Dong-chong Hsiou, DDG, Department of International Affairs, COA. Other participants included Dr Reynaldo V. Ebor, Acting Executive Director, Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), Philippines; Prof Andrew Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Australia, and Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, APAARI. Dr Jawahir Karihaloo, Sr. Consultant, APAARI, representing APCoAB Coordinator, presented a report on background, progress and proposed future programmes of APCoAB. He also introduced the outline of proposed extension of APAARI-COA collaborative programme for the period 2017-2020. Prof Andrew Campbell, Dr. Waraporn Prompoj and Ms Rose, Dong-chong Hsiou, made important observations and suggestions on APCoAB programme, progress and future plan. As a result of in-depth discussions, the following major recommendations emerged:

- The outputs of APCoAB workshop on communication strategies to be utilized by APCoAB and APAARI member organizations to develop future strategies for public engagement and debate on agricultural biotechnology.
- Appointment of new APCoAB Coordinator to be taken up on priority. Notification to be sent to all member organizations so that they could nominate candidates for the post.
- APCoAB Progress Report for 2016 to be submitted to COA by the end of December 2016.
- COA has agreed to continue funding support to APCoAB. New proposal for the next phase of APAARI-COA (2017-2020) collaborative programme based on newly developed APAARI Strategic Plan to be submitted soon. Decision on the requested enhancement of funding support shall be taken by COA after a review of the proposal.
- Activities for 2017 will be initiated soon after the new Coordinator joins. It is expected that larger number of activities shall be taken up during this year since there would be some additional savings available due to absence of APCoAB Coordinator during 2015.
- ACIAR-FAO project on regional consultation meetings on biotechnology is presently under discussion and APCoAB will also be involved in its implementation.

5. Regional Symposium on “Mapping and Assessing University-based Farmer Extension Services in ASEAN through an Agro-ecological/Organic Lens, Bangkok, Thailand

Mainstream monocrop-based agriculture remains one of the world’s greatest contributors to global environmental problems, such as pollution, desertification, deforestation, drought, depleting

aquifers, water diversion, biodiversity loss, land degradation and more. Agriculture may also be the world's single greatest contributor to climate change. Moreover, this largely agrochemical-dependent industrial, market-driven agri-food system has still not provided food or nutritional security for some 800 million of the world's poor, mostly rural people. What universities have done to mitigate these problems through extension services with farmers was the topic of the Regional Symposium on "Mapping and Assessing University-based Farmer Extension Services in ASEAN through an Agro-ecological/Organic Lens, which took place in Chulalongkorn University School of Agricultural Resources (CUSAR) in Bangkok, Thailand, on 23 February 2017.

The Symposium was supported by Chulalongkorn University UNISEARCH Fund ("ASEAN Cluster" Project Grant); Agroecology Learning Alliance in South East Asia (ALiSEA); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); and Chula's ASEAN Studies Center (ASC). The event aimed to present the university research on the roles universities play in either exacerbating or mitigating environment, food security, poverty reduction and agricultural development challenges in ASEAN and how they contribute to social or rural transformation. It also shared quantitative empirical evidence combined with good qualitative analysis, how, why and to what degrees Southeast Asian universities inhibit or support agro-ecological and organic approaches in teaching, research and extension services. Finally, it provided policy, programme and curricular recommendations for future education, research and extension services and rural development planning in response to perceived knowledge and capacity gaps.

APAARI was invited to make a presentation in the Symposium, and particularly to provide a regional perspective on the research-extension gap in Asia-Pacific; stress opportunities for university-based extension to reduce the research-extension gap; share the role of regional networks in reducing the research-extension gap and highlight the areas of how regional networks can better support university-based education and research-extension systems. The opportunities for university-based extension stressed by APAARI included: adaptation to a new research-extension environment; creation of space for research-extension interface; engagement in farmers' fields; enhancement of the quality of extension services; resource mobilization; engagement with other stakeholders; improvement of the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the delivery of extension services through ICT; and supporting transformative learning and youth leadership development. The presentation also highlighted APAARI's Strategic Plan 2017-2022, specifically the youth-related activities that it is planning to undertake in the future.

6. Regional Food Security conference: Let's Get to Work - Building a Food Secure Future, Hanoi, Vietnam

APAARI participated in the Regional Food Security Conference: Let's Get to Work - Building a Food Secure Future, held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 22-23 March 2016. The conference was built around a two-day experts' segment and a high level round table discussion providing specific fields for further action based on the current challenges and constraints, as well as good practices. The conference also set a first step of action with a set of concrete Food Security Deals. These deals were concrete, cross-sectorial deals made by different configurations of stakeholders which committed themselves to action in new solutions to contribute to achieving SDG2. The deals seek to reinforce and prompt real actions.

'Let's start implementing SDG 2 and let's do it together' was the main message of the conference. It was stated that SDG2 does not stand independently, but is interconnected with all other SDGs. That's why the conference focused on the following themes: (i) Climate Smart Agriculture - SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; (ii) Reducing Food Losses – SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; (iii) Food Safety – SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; and (iv) Sustainable Aquaculture – SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. APAARI presented its contribution to respective SDGs in line with the Strategic Plan 2017-2022. Its focus in the conference was specifically on climate-smart

agriculture (CSA). As such, it shared strategies to promote CSA through collective action to strengthen agri-food research and innovation systems. APAARI stressed that it: (i) recognizes climate change as a critical challenge to agriculture; provides knowledge-sharing mechanisms to discuss good practices in CSA to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change, and reduce stress on natural resources; advocates for increased and improved investment in CSA research, and other critical areas supporting sustainable agricultural development; creates an environment for increased resource allocation and congenial policy and institutional support; and facilitates partnerships to strengthen collective action in CSA. One of the recent examples is the High-level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific that APAARI organized in collaboration with ACIAR, Government of Thailand, FAO, GFAR, IFPRI, and other partners in December 2014.

In addition to the presentation made, APAARI also participated in the working group on fisheries where it made a ‘deal’ with SNV Vietnam, Fresh Studio, Research Institute for Aquaculture No. 1 (RIA 1), and Vietnam Farmer Union (VNFU), to advocate the role of aquaculture in farmers’ socio-economic development and share innovative practices to facilitate learning and scaling up of aquaculture innovations.

7. International Training Workshop on Developing Knowledge Management in Agriculture for Small-scale Farmers

The Food and Fertilizer Technology Center (FFTC) for the Asia-Pacific Region and the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) organized the International Training Workshop on Developing Knowledge Management in Agriculture for Small-scale Farmers held on May 9-11, 2017, at PCAARRD, Los Banos, Laguna. It served as a venue for sharing experiences in various KM strategies/programmes being implemented by agricultural organizations in the Asia-Pacific region. The main objective was to draw insights and enhance the functional guide for KM in agricultural development for possible adaption of the invited participants in their respective organizations/countries.

APAARI presented a regional overview of the issues facing agri-food systems and the key pillars of trend in KM in Asia-Pacific region. The presentation also highlighted the needs for improved KM to support the strengthening of agri-food research and innovation systems, and APAARI’s role in this process – its contribution to sustainable development goals. APAARI’s latest KM achievements and activities, and the introduction of Strategic Plan 2017-2022 were also emphasized during the workshop. A day visit to relevant institutions like the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and the Department of Agriculture was also organized for the benefit of participants.

8. CDAIS Innovation Fair at NAFRI, Vientiane, Lao-PDR

The TAP/CDAIS project in Lao PDR organized an Innovation Fair on 19 May 2017 to create opportunities for the actors representing agricultural innovation systems to meet and share experiences. The meeting also highlighted future programmes/projects for strengthening functional capacities to innovate, discuss needs and action plans on capacity development, and potentially establish partnerships. The aim was to broker partnerships to speed up agricultural innovation at the country level and bring together a range of different initiatives and projects that are supporting the development of agriculture. The marketplace also aimed to compare and understand different

stakeholders' capabilities and resources, and achievements, as well as to creates ynergies based on the partners' organizational experiences and current complementary activities.

The CDAIS Innovation Fair was an important avenue for facilitating the linkages between initiatives working on capacity development in agricultural innovation systems in Lao PDR, based on the needs of major agricultural innovation actors in the country. APAARI presented its role in TAP/CDAIS in the context of its key programmes from Strategic Plan 2017-2022, namely Knowledge Management, Capacity Development, Advocacy and Partnership and Networking.

9. Implementation of CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Programme

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between APAARI and ICRISAT for a collaborative CGIAR Research Program (CRP), the Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program was implemented. Six candidates from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Sri P.V.N. Telangana State University for Veterinary, Animal, Fishery Sciences. Hyderabad; Field Crops Research & Development Institute, Mahailuppallama, Sri Lanka; Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, China; and B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, are pursuing their Ph.D. research work under this collaborative programme.

As per the Letters of Agreements between APAARI and the respective universities and institutions, the total allocated scholarship grant was USD 94, 212 out of which USD 64,212 allocated for scholarship of these six candidates has been disbursed. The CRP-DC Programme has now been concluded and the liquidation statement has been submitted to ICRISAT. Out of six, two students have already submitted their Ph.D. Thesis and the remaining four students will also submit their theses as soon as their work is completed.

10. Knowledge Management Programme

10.1. Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy

The two strategic objectives of the APAARI Knowledge Management (KM) Programme, as stated in the Strategic Plan 2017-2022, are to: (i) make AFS more knowledge intensive to effectively contribute to sustainable agricultural development; and (ii) strengthen AFRIS through more effective knowledge management. These two KM strategies integrate communication, ICT, partnership and networking, capacity development and advocacy, and together contribute to APAARI's thematic areas. To provide further guidance on APAARI's KM Programme, in line with the SP 2017-2022, a KM and Communication Strategy has been prepared aiming to:

- define the term 'knowledge management' in the context of agri-food systems
- outline APAARI's key and specific strategies as per the Strategic Plan (SP) 2017-2022;
- present 'Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)' analysis;
- recommend a KM and communication approach and processes to support the implementation of SP 2017-2022;
- assess target audience;
- specify communication and outreach activities;
- suggests the way to measure KM and communication progress; and
- presents KM and Communication plan and performance framework.

The strategy is currently under review and will be finalized soon.

10.2. APAARI Website

The APAARI website has been the Association's key information tool since its establishment in 1990. To keep abreast with technology trends, it is important to ensure that the website's infrastructure is up-to-date and user-friendly to ensure that APAARI stakeholders can have easy and immediate access to information and knowledge on agri-food research and innovations. The assessment of the APAARI website conducted in January 2016 identified key issues and made recommendations that led to the development of a new APAARI website between January and June 2017. The new website is based on Wordpress mobile-friendly content-management software, with new design and re-organized content. The new software will allow integration of Social Media and other interactive features to enable two-way communication, and make stakeholders' access to information and knowledge easier than before. The new website will be launched in July 2017.

The current APAARI website has been regularly updated while the new website is being developed. The table below presents web statistics between November 2016 and June 2017.

APAARI Website Statistics (November 2016 – 15 June 2017)

Month	Unique Visitors	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Nov 2016	8,836	17,664	170,740	283, 659	18.14 GB
Dec 2016	10,856	21,971	269,814	365,820	15.71 GB
Jan 2017	15,695	23,749	122,545	239,633	23.30 GB
Feb 2017	11,682	18,457	149,743	238,248	15.57 GB
March 2017	9,495	16,147	306,221	412,702	16.51 GB
April 2017	10,686	19,520	382,065	467,265	15.80 GB
May 2017	7,564	14,848	306,790	392,290	15.26 GB
June 2017	4,043	7,790	110,266	158,136	7.41 GB

Source: Awstats apaari.org web panel

10.3. APAARI Social Media

Efforts have been made to share increased number of stories through Facebook, Twitter and the new APAARI social media tool – Linked In. On Facebook, the number of 'likes' have been growing, though the tool needs to be systematically monitored in terms of its followers, users and the number of downloads of the content. As of 16 June 2017, APAARI Facebook page had 320 likes (more than double since 31 December 2016 when the page had 149 likes). Since January 2017, a total of 279 posts were shared by APAARI (compared to 35 posts published between 1 July and 31 December 2016).

APAARI Twitter also shared 297 tweets since January 2017 (as compared to 20 posts tweeted between 1 July and 31 December 2016). The total number of Twitter followers as of 16 June 2017 is 94 (as compared to 39 followers on 31 December 2016).

APAARI Linked In platform was established in March 2017 with 126 followers by 16 June 2017. It shares vacancy announcements and other opportunities for stakeholders working in agri-food

research and innovation systems. Connected to Linked In is Slideshare – a platform to share powerpoint presentations. APAARI Slideshare has been established and includes one presentation About APAARI to enable people to learn about the Association. More presentations will be shared following APAARI-supported events.

10.4. APCoAB website

Following the Executive Committee (EC) meeting in September 2016, APAARI made major changes to the APCoAB website where there was inactivity since the programme coordinator left at the end of 2015. The website has been updated with new content related to biotechnology, including latest news and articles. The table below on APCoAB website statistics shows that the number of visits increased since 2016.

APCoAB Website Statistics (November 2016 – 15 June 2017)

Month	Unique Visitors	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Nov 2016	1,108	1,344	2,902	6,954	15.15 GB
Dec 2016	1,181	1,640	4,552	8,600	14.84 GB
Jan 2017	3,135	3,753	6,113	10,809	9.51 GB
Feb 2017	2,645	2,914	4,987	8,775	8.35 GB
March 2017	2,278	2,782	5,657	10,195	7.56 GB
April 2017	2,363	3,119	8,087	11,653	6.68 GB
May 2017	2,426	2,907	5,832	10,977	8.54 GB
June 2017	255	274	398	861	557.85 MB

10.5. Knowledge Partnership

In 2017, APAARI signed two new Letters of Agreement (LoA) with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Firstly, APAARI will continue to collaborate with FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) on the use of ICT in agriculture (e-agriculture). In particular, APAARI will be an implementing partner in the organization of the E-agriculture Solutions Forum 2017, and co-author of success stories on e-agriculture.

Secondly, APAARI will continue its knowledge partnership with FAO in Rome, Italy, on the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) and its Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CD for AIS) project in 2017. TActivities in 2017 included: (i) participation in the national marketplace events in Bangladesh and Lao PDR, which allow for showcasing good practices and for creating opportunities for cooperation; (ii) participation in the TAP Partners Assembly – Lao PDR, 18-22 September 2017; (iii) raising awareness on TAP and promote the CD for AIS in additional countries (non-pilot countries of the CDAIS project) and facilitation of the participation of TAP/CDAIS representatives from Bangladesh and Lao PDR in APAARI-supported events planned in 2017, such as the Expert Consultation on Underutilized bioresources and their potential for food and nutrition security of Asia and the Pacific; (iv) promotion of the Common Framework on CD for AIS through the printing and dissemination of TAP promotional materials (e.g.

factsheets) and presentations at various events, meetings and in online communications; (v) coordination of TAPipedia webinars and facilitation of the expansion of TAPipedia network; (vi) facilitation of knowledge and experience sharing on CD for AIS within NARS; (vii) advocacy with higher education institutions to include the Common Framework on CD for AIS in university curricula; (viii) integration the Common Framework on CD for AIS in APAARI-supported activities and projects; and participation in virtual TAP SC meetings.



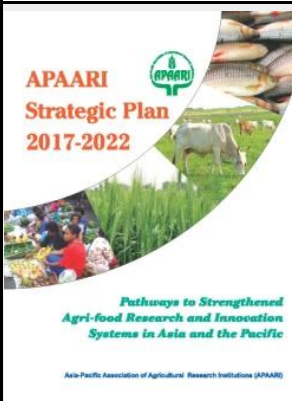
14.5. APAARI Network Highlights

APAARI Network Highlights has been published bi-monthly. It aims to highlight, promote and share the latest news from among the APAARI network. It is based on a short editorial and links under headlines such as news and announcements, upcoming events and opportunities, latest publications and success stories. The content is being researched by APAARI KM staff but increasingly, stakeholders have also been sending news directly to APAARI. Feedback received to date shows that this new communication tool has been received well by the APAARI community. Two issues have been prepared during the reporting period. One issue was missed (November 2016) due to heavy workload and lack of staff in APAARI.

14.6. Publications

During the reporting period, APAARI produced, published and disseminated the following publications:

Publication	Month published	Cover
Investment in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Country status Reports	June 2017	
Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri- food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific, Taichung, Taiwan; 1-3 November 2016 Proceedings and Recommendations http://www.apaari.org/publications/expert-consultation-on-best-practices-november-2016.html	May 2017	

<p>APAARI Flyer http://www.apaari.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2017/03/APAARI-Flyer-2017-FINAL.pdf</p>	<p>March 2017</p>	 <p>The flyer features the APAARI logo at the top left, followed by the text 'ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS' and 'Strengthened Research and Innovations for Sustainable Agricultural Development'. Below this is a large image of a golden rice field with a person working. At the bottom, there are four small images showing different agricultural activities and a small text block at the very bottom.</p>
<p>9th General Assembly Meeting, 7 November 2016 – Proceedings http://www.apaari.org/publications/proceedings/9th-gam-2016.html</p>	<p>December 2016</p>	 <p>The image shows the cover of the 9th General Assembly Meeting Proceedings. It features a group photo of the attendees at the bottom and a title at the top.</p>
<p>APAARI Newsletter Vol. 25 (2), December 2016, http://www.apaari.org/publications/apaari-newsletters/apaari-newsletter-vol-25-2-december-2016.html</p>	<p>December 2016</p>	 <p>The image shows the cover of the APAARI Newsletter Vol. 25 (2). It features a collage of images including people working in a field, a group photo, and various agricultural products. The title 'APAARI NEWSLETTER' is at the top.</p>
<p>APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022: Pathways to Strengthened Agri-Food Research and Innovation Systems in Asia and the Pacific http://www.apaari.org/publications/apaari-strategic-plan-2017-2022.html</p>	<p>December 2016</p>	 <p>The image shows the cover of the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022. It features a large image of a person working in a field with various agricultural products. The title 'APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022' is at the top, and the subtitle 'Pathways to Strengthened Agri-food Research and Innovation Systems in Asia and the Pacific' is at the bottom.</p>

<p>Abridged Version - APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022: Pathways to Strengthened Agri- Food Research and Innovation Systems in Asia and the Pacific http://www.apaari.org/news/abridged-version-apaari-strategic-plan-2017-2022.html</p>	<p>December 2016</p>	
<p>APAARI bracelet with latest publications and meeting-related information replaced the APAARI on CD</p>	<p>November 2016</p>	

The above publications available on the APAARI website have been shared with all APAARI member and partner organizations, participants of respective meetings and other stakeholders.

III. Membership Drive

During the period November 2016 – June 2017, efforts were made to increase the membership base of APAARI. Two new members joined APAARI the Associate member category during this period. These are: i) Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, India and ii) Dr Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, India. With addition of these two new members, the total number of members rose to 70 as against 68 in 2016.

IV. International/Regional Collaboration

During the period under report, APAARI had close collaboration with GFAR, CGIAR Centres, ACIAR, Australia, COA Taiwan, and FAO RAP and organized several activities/programmes including organization of workshops, conferences and training programmes with their funding support. This included the programmes on agro- biotechnology and research information systems.

APAARI-COA collaborative programme on biotechnology has been in operation since 2008. Initially approved for three years (2008-2010) with a funding support of USD 35,000 per annum, the programme was extended twice (2011-2013, 2014-2016) and funding raised to USD 50,000 per annum. In view of the excellent performance of this APAARI-COA collaboration it was felt necessary by both APAARI and COA to continue the Programme for another term. The

commitment of COA to continue supporting this programme was conveyed during the XVIII APCoAB Steering Committee Meeting held on 31 October 2016 in Taiwan. Accordingly, APAARI-COA Collaborative Programme (2017-2020) was approved with annual budget of USD 140,000 to be shared equally by the two partners.

V. APAARI Participation in Meetings organized by other Fora

Dr Raghanath Ghodake, Executive Secretary, Dr. Bhag Mal, Senior Consultant and Dr. J.L. Karihaloo, Senior Consultant, APAARI participated in 1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress at New Delhi, India on 6-9 November 2016

Dr Ramakrishna Akkinapally, Deputy Director General, National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), Papua New Guinea represented APAARI in GFAR Steering Committee in Rome on 8-9 February 2017

Ms Martina Spisiakova, Knowledge Management Coordinator, APAARI represented APAARI in Regional Symposium on “Mapping and Assessing University-based Farmer Extension Services in ASEAN through an Agro-ecological/Organic Lens, Bangkok, Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand on 23 February 2017

Ms Martina Spisiakova, Knowledge Management Coordinator, APAARI represented APAARI in Regional Food Security conference: Let's Get to Work - Building a Food Secure Future, Hanoi, Vietnam, in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 22-23 March 2017

Ms Celilu Bitong, Knowledge Management Officer, APAARI, represented APAARI in International Training-Workshop on Developing Knowledge Management in Agriculture for Small-scale Farmers at PCAARRD, Los Banos, Laguna on 9-11 May 2017

Ms Celilu Bitong, Knowledge Management Officer, APAARI, represented APAARI in CDAIS Innovation Fair, at NAFRI, Vientiane, Lao-PDR on 19 May 2017

Dr Sergie Bang, Director General, National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), Papua New Guinea represented APAARI in GFAR Steering Committee in Rome on 13-15 June 2017

VII. Other Items

New Appointments

Executive Secretary, APAARI

The position of Executive Secretary became vacant when the previous Executive Secretary, announced his decision in the General Assembly meeting (GAM) held in Taiwan on 3 November 2016 to conclude his tenure on 31 December 2016 due to health reasons. The Interim Executive

secretary took over the charge on 1 January 2017. The announcement for recruitment of Executive Secretary was made on 4 January 2017. A total of 27 applications were received out of which 7 applications were rejected due to non-fulfillment of specified qualification and experience. Based on critical assessment and evaluation, five candidates were short listed for personal face-to-face interview by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee was constituted in consultation with the Chairman, APAARI and the interview was held on 3 June 2017. The Selection Committee unanimously recommended the appointment of Dr. Ravinder Kumar Khetarpal, Regional Advisor (Strategic Science Partnerships) CABI South Asia - India for the position of Executive Secretary, APAARI. The appointment letter has been issued to Dr Ravinder Kumar Khetarpal and he has accepted the offer and is likely to join in the first week of August 2017.

APCoAB Coordinator

The position of APCoAB Coordinator became vacant in January 2016 when the previous Coordinator resigned. Announcement for recruitment of Coordinator was first issued on 23 December 2016. Fourteen applications were received, based on evaluation of which four candidates were short-listed for personal interview by the Selection Committee. The letter was constituted by the Interim Executive Secretary, APAARI in consultation with Chairman, APAARI and the interview was held on 31 May 2017. The Selection Committee unanimously recommended the appointment of Dr. Rishi Kumar Tyagi, Principal Scientist, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi for the position of APCoAB Coordinator. The appointment letter has been issued to Dr Rishi Kumar Tyagi and he has accepted the offer and is likely to join sometime in August 2017.

Outgoing Staff

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Ms. Martina Spisiakova was APAARI's Knowledge Management Coordinator from December 2015 to June 2017. She made major contributions to APAARI's strategic planning, through the development of the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022, Work Plan for the biennium 2017-2018, Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy, as well as stakeholder mapping. Martina also coordinated the implementation of APAARI's Knowledge Management Programme, particularly the development of a new APAARI website; introduction of a new communication tool – APAARI Network Highlights; enhancement of APAARI's presence and knowledge sharing on Social Media through Facebook, Twitter, Linked In, and Slideshare; improvement of APAARI's outreach and advocacy through enhanced communication materials (publications and posters); and strengthened partnership with APAARI members, partners, and other stakeholders, particularly collaboration with FAO. All these activities have become critical pillars of APAARI's future operations and will be pursued by the APAARI Secretariat. Martina left APAARI at the end of June 2017 for personal reasons but continued her involvement with APAARI on a consultancy basis.

VIII. Epilogue

As is evident from this report, APAARI activities had expanded and effectively addressing the expectations of its constituencies during the reporting period. This has been possible due to their great support and cooperation extended by all APAARI members, partners and other stakeholders, which is duly acknowledged.

Annexure III B

PROGRESS REPORT ON APAARI ACTIVITIES (July 2017 – October 2017)

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was established in 1990 at the initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, a unique voluntary, membership-based, self-mandated, apolitical and non-profit multi-stakeholder organization in the Asia-Pacific Region. The main objective of APAARI is to promote and strengthen agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems through partnerships and collaboration, capacity development and advocacy through facilitation of intra-regional, inter institutional, and international cooperation. APAARI has been active in fostering the overall agricultural development by addressing the concerns of hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and sustainability of agricultural production. It has completed 26 years of its existence with an impressive record of achievements. It has its headquarters at the FAO Regional Office for Asia-Pacific in Bangkok. To know more about the organization, please visit: www.apaari.org

APAARI organized and participated in meetings, conferences and workshops during the period of July 2017 to October 2017. These included (i) APAARI Executive Committee Meeting on 14 July 2017; (ii) SAARC Regional Consultation on 'Facilitating the use of microbial pesticides in South Asia'; (iii) Regional Policy Dialogue on Scaling Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI) in South Asia; (iv) FAO Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Asia-Pacific; (v) Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS), Marketplace; (vi) Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) Steering Committee Meeting; (vii) Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) Global Consultation Meeting 6; (viii) Sustainable Agro Food Business Forum (SABF); and (ix) Committee on World Food Security (CFS), GFAR 44th Annual Plenary Meeting.

I. Meeting/Workshops/Conferences

1. The 1st APAARI Executive Committee Meeting for 2017, Bangkok, Thailand

APAARI organized the first Executive Committee Meeting for the year 2017 which was held on 14 July 2017 at the Ambassador Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. It is the first meeting under the Chairmanship of Dr. Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI, Chairman of Pakistan Agricultural Research Centre (PARC), and attended by 21 participants, which includes the members of the Executive Committee, APAARI staff and Special Invitees.

The meeting was presided by Dr. Bhag Mal, Ex-Interim Executive Secretary, APAARI, and presented key agenda items which relate to APAARI Progress Report November 2016 – June 2017; Biennial Work Plan 2017-2018, Income and Expenditure Plan 2017; and the latest update on ASTI project. Three new APAARI publications was released by Dr. Yusuf Zafar, namely, APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022, Proceedings of the Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific, and Investments in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Country Status Reports.

Some of the highlights of the meeting was the APAARI membership and payment status, Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements January-December 2016, Project ideas for APAARI Governance and Development, the launch of the new APAARI website, Membership and Representation of NGOs, FO's and Private Sector on APAARI, Expanding the APAARI Network

to Pacific Island Countries, and the tenure of APAARI Executive Secretary. To download the proceedings, please visit this link: <http://www.apaari.org/web/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2017/Proceedings- ECM 14 July 2017 Final.pdf>

2. SAARC Regional Consultation on ‘Facilitating the Use of Microbial Pesticides in South Asia’, Bangalore, India

SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Bangladesh, CABI-South Asia at ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Bengaluru organized the Regional Consultation on ‘Facilitating the use of microbial pesticides in South Asia’ from 21-23 August 2017 in Bangalore, India. The meeting stressed the importance of the utilization of microbial pesticides in the SAARC countries; the challenges on IPR, regulatory hurdles, political interference and duplication of research within and across the countries. An effort was also called to develop climate resilient biocontrol agents and genetic improvement of biocontrol agents. The need for innovative funding and partnership strategy was emphasized to have a well-knit information opportunities for SAARC for environmental friendly biopesticides can be better utilized.

Some success stories about the research carried out in India in dealing microbial pesticides were also briefed during the meeting and also discussed constrains like difficulty in rearing of host larvae, problems in fermentation, shelf life and laborious registration requirement. New approaches like a combination of microbials with anthropod bioagents and symbionts were also suggested. The meeting also released the Book of Abstracts in SAARC Regional Consultation on ‘Facilitating the use of microbial pesticides in South Asia’, and release of e-Publication in SAARC Regional Consultation on ‘Facilitating the use of microbial pesticides in South Asia.

3. Regional Policy Dialogue on Scaling Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI) in South Asia, Dhaka, Bangladesh

APAARI participated in the regional dialogue jointly organized by the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) and supported by the Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) held last 8-9 September in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The meeting was also in collaboration with national agricultural research systems from across South Asia, CGIAR institutes, Australian Organizations, government officials, researchers, and policymakers. The key agenda of the meeting was mainly on sharing experiences from their own countries and identify which policy changes, institutions and regulations, recent advances on conservation agriculture in South Asia; current status on scaling CASI, group discussions, knowledge and capacity building, business models and entrepreneurship.

4. FAO Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Asia-Pacific, FAO-RAP, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) organized a “Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Asia-Pacific”, hosted and co-organized by the Government of Malaysia held last 11-13 September 2017 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The regional meeting’s objective is to create a space for greater clarity on the needs and concerns in relation to biotechnologies, underlining the needs for maintaining a multisectoral approach, covering the crop, livestock, forestry and fishery sectors. A wide spectrum of available biotechnologies, including microbial food fermentation, tissue culture in plants, reproductive technologies in livestock, use of molecular markers, genetic modification and other methods will be examined by the experienced participants in the public sector biotechnology work from across the region, along with those from the private sector and civil society. Representatives from the governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-state actors, civil society, private

sector, research/academic institutions and cooperative/producer organizations are the target audiences of the regional meeting.

5. Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS), Marketplace, Dhaka, Bangladesh

FAO in collaboration with the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Ministry of Agriculture organized a “Market Place” under the “Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS)” held last 13 September 2017 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The CDAIS is a global project funded by the European Union and is implemented in eight (08) countries including in Bangladesh. In Bangladesh, the project is being implemented by Agrinatura, a European based consortium of agricultural researchers and universities, and FAO in collaboration with BARC. The objective of the project is to improve the capacity of value chain actors to promote agricultural innovation and hence improve rural livelihoods through continuous learning. The CDAIS “Market Place” in Bangladesh seeks to facilitate the alignment of initiatives for capacity development for AIS (Agricultural Innovation Systems) by development partners and capacity development service providers (capacity development, supply side) with the capacity development needs of the niche partners/value chain actors (capacity development demand side).

APAARI participated in the event by submitting a poster to describe the organization’s current (or planned) capacity development projects or initiatives in line with the implementation of its Strategic Plan 2017-2022, and how to possibly support the following value chains: Mango, Fish (Tilapia and Pangus), Poultry, Pineapple and Tomato farmer’s group or niches.

6. Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) Steering Committee Meeting, Townsville, Australia

APAARI participated in the 8th GFRAS Annual Steering Committee meeting in Townsville, Australia as a representative of GFAR from 14-15 September 2017. It was co-organized with the Australasia-Pacific Extension Network (APEN) and the topic was Rural Advisory Services and empowered youth for balanced transformation in rural and urban communities. The meeting provided a unique opportunity from all regions, sectors, gender and ages to exchange on and learn about the roles, relations, challenges and opportunities of youth and Rural Advisory Services (RAS) in the context of rural and urban transformation. The objectives of the meeting are to identify and discuss roles, challenges and opportunities for youth to be meaningful actors in balanced and inclusive rural and urban transformation; relations between RAS and youth for inclusive and sustainable rural-urban linkages; changes in policies and the capacities of RAS needed for both RAS and youth to fulfil their roles; and to strengthen capacities of RAS networks through peer exchange and learning.

7. Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) Global Consultation Meeting 6, Vientiane, Lao-PDR

APAARI participated in the Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) Global Consultation Meeting 6 which took place in Vientiane, Lao-PDR last 18-19 September 2017. The objectives of the meeting is to share country progress and lessons learnt from the project with regards to the implementation of activities at different levels i.e. Niche Partnerships, organizations and national platforms, Country team dynamics (NPC, CPM, NIF lead, NIFs, Working groups, Steering Committee), the use, adaptation and results of global concepts, i.e. CNA_Niche, CNA_organization, MEL/Coaching Plan, National Platforms, CD interventions and 2017-2018 activities and beyond CDAIS. It also aimed to share concepts or approaches such as

review and refinement workshops, a discussion on how to document or capture stories of change and create a space for cross-country learning.

8. Sustainable Agro Food Business Forum (SABF), Bangkok, Thailand

APAARI attended the Sustainable Agro Food Business Forum (SABF) held from 26-27 September 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand. The forum's objective is to make an effort to identify ways to establish food value chain from producer to the end consumers and to develop a roadmap to establish a Sustainable Agro Food Platform. It also acknowledges the importance of agriculture and food role to mobilize Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) food producers and Small holders to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). All 7 dialogues had led to the establishment of Sustainable Agro Food Platform. The multi-stakeholders include policy-makers, Small holders, SE and MSME business sectors, international agencies, civil society organizations and academics.

9. Committee on World Food Security's (CFS), GFAR 44th Annual Plenary Meeting, Rome, Italy

The Committee on World Food Security's (CFS) 44rd annual plenary meeting took place in Rome, Italy at the headquarters of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) from 9-13 October 2017, and is the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together to ensure food security and nutrition for all. The event was supported by the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and also provided a 2-day training for the invited participants to cover the event.

APAARI participated as a Social Media Reporter to cover side events during the entire week by creating blog posts, promotion of the event to various platforms like Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn on a timely basis. The event, organized several dialogues and discussions ranging from climate change, the role of youth, food security and nutrition, women's roles and rights, forestry, food diversity and more.

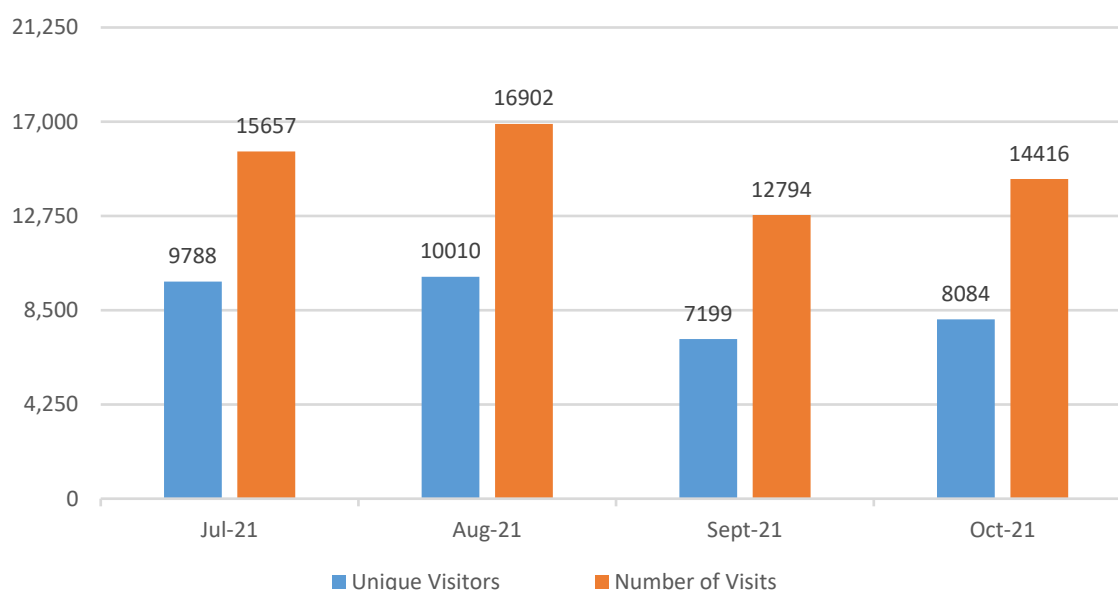
II. Activities Undertaken

1. Knowledge Management Programme

1.1 APAARI Website

The new APAARI website was launched on 14 July 2017 during previous Executive Committee meeting, with a new design and re-organized content. The site is based on Wordpress Content Management System and is mobile-ready, allowing integration of social media applications like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Blogger embedded on the pages. The website is up-to-date to ensure that APAARI stakeholders can have easy and quick access to news and latest publications on agri-food research and innovation. Moreover, improvements on content and design is still ongoing in order to promote and share more knowledge to its partners and encourage membership in the future.

APAARI Website Statistics (1 July – 31 October 2017)



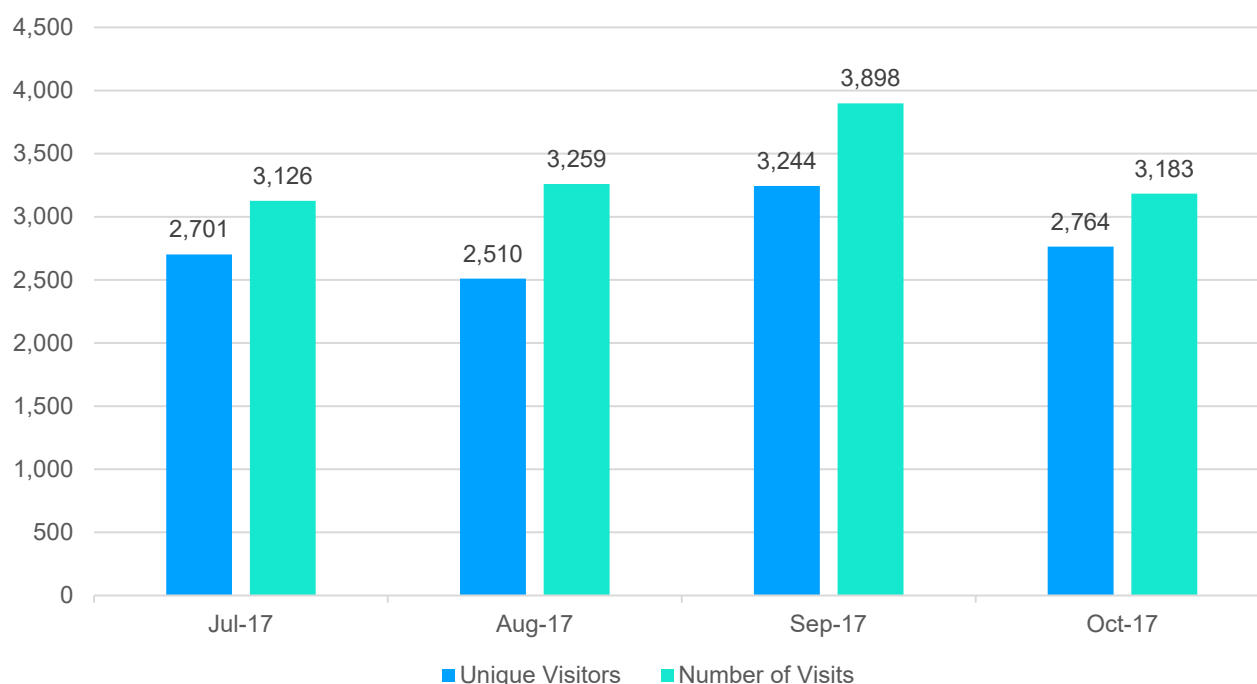
1.3 APAARI Social Media

Aside from the website, APAARI is also focused on giving importance to its social media exposure through Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and soon its Blogger account. Daily posts of news, upcoming events, opportunities and latest publications from its partners were being shared on the above mentioned platforms. The collection of articles is sourced from the APAARI network news, re-sharing posts from their partners' Facebook account and so as retweeting their posts from Twitter. Currently there are 398 Facebook likes compared to 320 likes; from 94 followers rose to 168 on Twitter and 126 to 169 connections in LinkedIn platforms, on a period from 16 June to 3 November 2017. Connected to LinkedIn is Slideshare – a platform. APAARI Slideshare has been established and includes one presentation About APAARI to enable people to learn about the Association. More presentations will be shared following APAARI-supported events.

1.4 APCoAB Website

APCoAB website has been continuously updated with effect from August 2017 with new contents of latest news and articles related to agricultural biotechnology. The 'look and feel' of the APCoAB website is harmonized with APAARI website. The efforts are being made to update the contents in existing databases.

APCoAB Website Statistics (1 July – 31 October 2017)



1.5. Partnership for Knowledge Management

APAARI signed two Letters of Agreement (LoA) with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in 2017. Its work in partnership with FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) will be on the use of drones for agriculture in 2018. An event on “APAARI Webinar CD for AIS” was scheduled on 16 November 2017 by APAARIs in collaboration with FAO in Rome, Italy, on the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) and its Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CD for AIS) project in 2017. Apart from this APAARI promoted the Common Framework on CD for AIS through the printing and dissemination of TAP promotional materials (e.g. factsheets) and presentations at various events, meetings and in online communications; coordinate TAPipedia webinars and facilitation of the expansion of TAPipedia network; facilitate knowledge and experience sharing on CD for AIS within NARS; advocacy with higher education institutions to include the Common Framework on CD for AIS in university curricula; integration the Common Framework on CD for AIS in APAARI-supported activities and projects; and participation in virtual TAP SC meetings.



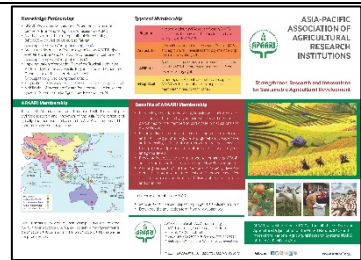
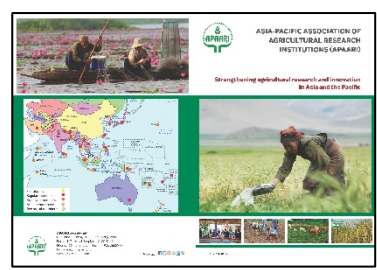
1.6. APAARI Network Highlights

APAARI, with its purpose to promote the latest news, announcements, opportunities and publications from its stakeholders, is being published bi-monthly. Two issues has been circulated during July – October 2017 and shared among its partners, website and social media platforms.

1.7 Publications

APAARI published the latest APAARI Flyers categorized into 2 namely: APAARI Membership and APAARI General Flyer. A newly designed APAARI Folder is also printed to be included and support documents on any upcoming meetings or events. The latest APAARI Newsletter for June 2017 was also released.

Publication	Month in which published	Cover
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APAARI Newsletter June 2017	July 2017	
APAARI Membership Flyer	October 2017	
APAARI General Flyer	October 2017	
APAARI Folder	October 2017	

2. Visits and Partnership

2.1. A visit to FAO-RAP Office, Bangkok

APAARI paid courtesy visits to various consulates and organization in Bangkok as part of its plan to learn and share about any recent and targeted activities where there will possibilities of partnerships. A meeting with FAO-RAP Assistant Director General Dr. Kundavi Kadiresan was held on October 5, 2017 and a future collaboration areas were discussed in general and the Pacific countries in particular. Dr. Kadiresan assured APAARI to provide her full support in achieving the common goals in the Asia-Pacific Region.

2.2. General Scoping for Partnership

2.2.1 A Meeting with Taipei Economic and Cultural Officer, Bangkok, Thailand

On August 28, 2017 and October 10, 2017, APAARI visited Mr. Allen Chenhwa Lou, Director Political Division of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand and a Plan of expansion of activities under APCoAB was discussed in detail with a focus on application of biotechnology for sustainable utilization of bioresources in Asia-Pacific region.

2.2.2 APAARI visit to Sri Lanka Embassy, Bangkok, Thailand

APAARI had a meeting with high level delegation of Sri Lanka in Embassy of Sri Lanka at Bangkok on October 19, 2017. Sri Lankan delegation comprised of Dr SDG Jayawardena, Chairman, Sri Lanka Council of Agricultural Research Policy (SLCARP), Ministry of Agriculture; Dr JDH Wijewardena, Secretary/Director, SLCARP; Dr Rohan Wijekoon, Director General of Agriculture. Mr Anil Sirimanna, First Secretary (Commerce), Embassy of Sri Lanka in Bangkok, Thailand, was also present during the discussion.

A detailed discussion was held to identify the common areas of interest in agriculture including agricultural biotechnology between APAARI and Sri Lanka to promote sustainable agriculture in Sri Lanka and other countries. Recognizing the expertise developed in Sri Lanka particularly in knowledge management using ICT, agricultural biotechnology, and e-agriculture, how can the benefits be harnessed for the welfare of farmers in Asia-Pacific, was also discussed. Sri Lankan delegation requested for support of APAARI in the area of bio pesticides and marine biodiversity. Capacity building of various stakeholders for sustainable agriculture and policy development and advocacy were also other areas where APAARI and national system of Sri Lanka may collaborate with each other.

2.2.3 FARA Executive Director visited APAARI

A partnership was charted when Dr. Yemi Akinbami, Executive Director, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Ghana, visited APAARI, on October 3, 2017, where a collaboration between the two regional organizations to foster an inter-regional cooperation and synergy in the common mandates was discussed. Several areas of partnership were identified, namely, exchange knowledge and expertise of agricultural research, innovation and development; jointly scoping for regional and inter-regional projects on agricultural related to research, policy, innovation, development, capacity development and policy advocacy with a special focus on women and youth in agriculture; organization of activities of mutual interest including conferences, workshops and training programs in fulfilment of their common goals; exploring the possibility of synergizing their activities in biotechnology and bio resources; Participate in apex committees of the other party on reciprocal basis.

III. Membership Drive

During the period July – October 2017, a new member joined APAARI in the Affiliate Member category namely the Indian Institute of Technology (IITB), Mumbai, India. The total number of members increased to 71 as compared to 68 in 2016.

IV. International/Regional Collaboration

During the period under report, APAARI had active discussions with FAO-RAP, ACIAR, GFRAS, TAAS, SAARC and DoA, Thailand and organized and participated on several activities/programmes including coordination of workshops, conferences and expert consultations.

V. Forthcoming APAARI-supported Meetings/Workshops

1. Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops for Food and Nutritional Security in Asia and the Pacific November 13-15, 2017

Under APAARI-COA collaborative program, Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops for Food and Nutritional Security in Asia Pacific was organized from November 13-15, 2017 at Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural

Research Institutions (APAARI) and Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan, in collaboration with World Vegetable Center, ICRISAT, Crops for the Future, ICARDA, Bioversity International and Department of agriculture (DOA), Bangkok have agreed to be co-sponsors. About 55-60 participants from 20 countries belonging to 33 organizations participated in the Expert Consultation. Nine thematic technical presentations and six strategic presentations were made by experts in underutilized crops. Country Status Reports (16 countries) from seven countries from South Asia, six from South-East Asia and 3 from the Pacific countries were presented. In addition, four working groups and one panel discussion were included in the technical program. Objectives of the Expert Consultation were:

1. To create much needed awareness on the role and value of underutilized bioresources that have potential for diversification of food basket to ensure better food and nutritional security in Asia Pacific;
2. To share experiences and learn lessons to accelerate the use of underutilized plants as crops for the future; and
3. To assess R&D status on priority crops and policies that are needed to promote the use of these 'Crops for Future' in Asia and the Pacific region.

Expected Outcomes of Expert Consultation are:

- The Regional Expert Consultation will provide a platform for sharing experiences/knowledge relating to underutilized plants of Asia and the Pacific that have food and nutritional value.
- Assessing the importance of most potential crops, status of their R&D for exploring the possibilities of their commercial use and eventual benefit to small holder farmers.
- Developing a Road Map to ensure sustainable use of underutilized crops, also known as 'Crops for Future', for food and nutritional security in Asia and the Pacific.
- Exploring the possibilities of establishing a regional network for knowledge sharing and AR4D collaboration.

3. Launch Workshop for ASTI project

APAARI organized a Launch Workshop for the ASTI project in collaboration with IFPRI, Washington, from 12 – 14 December, 2017 at Bangkok. It was attended by the ASTI focal points from 10 countries of South-East Asia.

3. International Collaboration - Third International Symposium on Plant Cryopreservation (CryoSymp 2018)

APCoAB-APAARI co-organized an event on The Third International Symposium on Plant Cryopreservation (CryoSymp 2018), at the Asia Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, from March 26-28, 2018, with Department of Plant Science, Faculty of Science, Mahidol University, Bangkok, International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) and other universities and government organizations. APAARI is represented in International Organizing and Scientific Committees of CryoSymp 2018.

VI. APAARI Participation in Meetings Organized by Other Fora

1. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal gave a key note address and talked about biosecurity engagements and use of biopesticides for meeting SDGs in SAARC regions in the Regional Consultation on 'Facilitating the use of microbial pesticides in South Asia organized by SAARC, ICAR and CABI, Bangalore, India, 21-23 August 2017.
2. Dr. Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB, represented APAARI and acted as Facilitator of Session IV: Policy Dialogue Scaling Conservation Agriculture in Regional Policy Dialogue on Scaling Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI) in South Asia, organized by ACIAR and TAAS, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 8-9 September 2017.
3. Dr. Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB, represented APAARI in FAO Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Asia-Pacific, organized by FAO-RAP, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 11-13 September 2017.
4. Ms. Celilu Bitong participated in the Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS), Marketplace, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 13 September 2017.
5. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, as a representative of GFAR, participated in the 8th GFRAS Annual Steering Committee meeting, Townsville, Australia, 14-15 September 2017.
6. Ms. Celilu Bitong and Ms. Martina Spisiakova participated in the Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) Global Consultation Meeting 6, Vientiane, Lao-PDR, 18-22 September 2017.
7. Dr. Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB, represented APAARI, in Sustainable Agro Food Business Forum (SABF), organized by ESCAP, AFMA, EBAC, Bangkok, 26-27 September 2017.
8. Ms. Celilu Bitong participated in the Social Media Bootcamp of the Committee on World Food Security's (CFS) 44rd Annual Plenary meeting, UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Rome, Italy, 7-13 October 2017.
9. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal attended the Working Group meeting of WTO's Standard and Trade Development Facility (STDF), Geneva, Switzerland, 30-31 October, 2017.

VII. APAARI Sponsorship for Capacity Development

1. Implementation of CRP Dryland Cereals Scholarship Programme

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between APAARI and ICRISAT for a collaborative CGIAR Research Program (CRP), the Dryland Cereals Scholarship Program was implemented. Six candidates from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Sri P.V.N. Telangana State University for Veterinary, Animal, Fishery Sciences. Hyderabad; Field Crops Research & Development Institute, Mahailluppallama, Sri Lanka; Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University, China; and B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, are pursuing their Ph.D. research work under this collaborative programme.

As per the Letters of Agreements between APAARI and the respective universities and institutions, the total allocated scholarship grant was USD 94, 212 out of which USD 64,212 allocated for scholarship of these six candidates has been disbursed. The agreement on the scholarship took effect from July 1, 2014 and shall last until 31 December 2016. The CRP-DC Programme has now been concluded and the liquidation statement has been submitted to ICRISAT. Out of six, two students

have already submitted their Ph.D. Theses under CRP DC Scholarship Programme sponsored by ICRISAT. The remaining four students are under the process of completion of work including writing and submission of their theses.

2. The Crawford Fund Master Class in Agricultural Research Leadership and Management

The 2nd Master Class in Agricultural Research Leadership and Management" course was scheduled from 29 October to 04 November 2017, in Penang, Malaysia. APAARI nominated 10 participants from 9 countries, namely, Md. Aziz Zilani Chowdhur, Bangladesh; Dr. M. Kamal Sheikh, Pakistan; Dr. Anand Kumar Gautam, Nepal; Mrs. I Kalubowila, Sri Lanka; Dr. Procy B. Sobrevinas, Philippines; Mr. Tekini Nakidkida, Fiji; Dr. Sujoy Rakshit, India; Dr. Prasanna Kumar Pathak, India; Dr. Michael Theophilus Dom, Papua New Guinea and Mr. Chalong Kerd Sri, Thailand. The organizers met the major expenses while APAARI's contribution to the training course for the 10 participants was only USD 5,000.

Master Class program identifies new areas of knowledge that are changing the way research is conducted, particularly in developing countries. In addition to courses on cutting edge technical topics such as molecular genetics, biodiversity and biosecurity, the Fund has conducted Master Classes on intellectual property, science communication, the management of technology transfer, and environmentally oriented areas such as sustainable resources management.

Individual Development Plans

A feature of the Master Class is the opportunity for participants to create an **Individual Development Plan**. This process, including post-workshop follow-up will be facilitated by the Master Class leader. It is anticipated that a strong alumni network can develop, as participants regularly share their progress as a result of participating in the Master Class.

3. Participation in Committee on World Food Security's (CFS), GFAR 44th Annual Plenary Meeting, Rome, Italy

APAARI partially sponsored Ms. Marita Carlos, Director, of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), for the two days social media bootcamp training and participation to GFAR 44th Annual Plenary Meeting (Committee on Food Security) in Rome, Italy.

CFS 44 is one of the world's main events for anyone working on food security and sustainable agriculture and GFAR is supporting the online outreach for this event.

Attendance at the CFS44 Social Media Boot Camp enabled participant's to gain knowledge and actual practice on how the community of Social Communicators help spread the thematic issues discussed among partners of GFAR at the 44th session of the Committee on World Food Security. 2-day event boot camp was held during 7-8 October 2017 prior to the CFS44 and the participants were introduced to various social media tools, i.e., social networking tools, blogs, photos, videos, slides, webcasting, file sharing and social bookmarking. PCAARRD is a regular member of APAARI and contributes articles relating to agriculture technologies, innovations, information and R&D events, and through the CFS44 training, its capacity to be involved in various KM networks will be more effective.

VIII. Other Items

New Appointments

Executive Secretary

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal was appointed as Executive Secretary, APAARI and joined APAARI on August 1, 2017.

APCoAB Coordinator

Dr. Rishi Tyagi was appointed as Coordinator, APCoAB and joined APAARI on August 11, 2017.

ASTI Coordinator /Economist

Dr. Norah Omot was appointed as Coordinator/Economist, ASTI and joined APAARI on 10 November 2017.

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Mr. Fai Collins Dzernyuy, an applicant from Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Cameroon, was selected as Coordinator, Knowledge Management. He joined APAARI at in January 2018.

Administrative Assistant (Intern)

APAARI hired a part-time Administrative Assistant - Intern, Ms. Tarathip Sanboonkrong who started working with effect from September 2017. Ms. Sanboonkrong is assisting in the administrative works duly assigned from time to time by the Executive Secretary as well as attending to some minor system and network troubleshooting in the workplace. She was on a probation period for four months.

VIII. Epilogue

During this reporting period, remarkable transitions took place, particularly in the expansion of the workforce to energize existing and newly signed partnerships. Increased trust was made to give renewed focus on its major programmes; APCoAB, Knowledge Management and ASTI project. APAARI's active participations in various meetings and conferences organized by other Fora were also seen as it drives a brave start under a new leadership and perspective, and looking forward to reach more partners, membership and stakeholders into fulfilling its goals to promote and strengthen agriculture and Agri-food research and innovation systems in the region.

Annexure III C

PROGRESS REPORT ON APAARI ACTIVITIES (November 2017 – April 2018)

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was established in 1990 at the initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, a unique voluntary, membership-based, self-mandated, apolitical and non-profit multi-stakeholder organization in the Asia-Pacific Region. The main objective of APAARI is to promote and strengthen agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems through partnerships and collaboration, capacity development and advocacy by facilitating intra-regional, inter institutional, and international cooperation. APAARI has been active in fostering the overall agricultural development by addressing the concerns of hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and sustainability of agricultural production. It has completed 28 years of its existence with an impressive record of achievements. To know more about the organization, please visit: www.apaari.org

APAARI co-organized and participated in meetings, conferences and workshops during the period of January to April 2018. The key ones include (i) ASTI Project implementation with Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD); (ii) USDA Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation at Bangladesh; (iii) Workshop on the Banana Bread and Coffee Sustainable Consumption; (iv) International Conference on Social and Sustainability Science in ASEAN: Agri-food Systems, Rural Sustainability and Socioeconomic Transformations; (v) Visits to CoA, TARI, Academia Scinica, ICDF, WorldVeg Centre; (vi) ASTI Project implementation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI); (vii) The 3rd CryoSymp 2018; (viii) ASTI Project Implementation with Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences (VAAS); (ix) Visit to AREEO; (x) ASTI Project Implementation with IAARD-ICASEPS; (xi) CGIAR GreenPass Phytosanitary Protocol for Germplasm Exchange, Expert Consultation, Rome, Italy.

1. Meeting/Workshops/Conferences

1. ASTI Project implementation with Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD), Jakarta, Indonesia.

A visit was made to the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD), Ministry of Agriculture, on 8 January 2018 by Norah Omot, ASTI Coordinator and Dr Ravi Khetarpal. The purpose of the visit was to explore the possibility of IAARD accepting to becoming a member of ASTI project and to discuss on a likely inception workshop on the ASTI project for IAARD staff. A presentation was made on the project by Norah Omot. The key people met were Dr Prama Yufdy, Executive Secretary-IAARD, IAARD staff members Ms Erlita Adriani and Ms Seta Augustina, and ACIAR Country Manager Ms Mirah Nuryati.

During the visit, Dr Khetarpal also discussed on the possibility of IAARD rejoining APAARI as a regular member. APAARI invited IAARD to its Executive Committee meeting in May 2018 along with a senior official from Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2. USDA Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal went for a final lap of the mission on the phytosanitary capacity evaluation of Bangladesh under USDA programme. During the mission, he held meetings with high level officials to finalize recommendations for the government.

3. Workshop on the Banana Bread and Coffee Sustainable Consumption, Bangkok, Thailand.

Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB, participated in a one-day Workshop on the Banana Bread and Coffee Sustainable Consumption, organized by Agriculture and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) and Great Earth International, Bangkok on January 18, 2018. Awareness was generated to save the over-ripe banana fruits and using the same in form of baked products for sustainable consumption.

4. International Conference on Social and Sustainability Science in ASEAN: Agri-food Systems, Rural Sustainability and Socioeconomic Transformations at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.

APAARI was co-organizer of the International Conference on Social and Sustainability Science in ASEAN that held at the at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand from January 23-25 on the theme Agri-food Systems, Rural Sustainability and Socioeconomic Transformations. This event grouped together researchers and representatives from the various institutions and organizations interested in the food security of the Southeast Asian.

As one of the lead organizations in agri-food innovation systems in the region, APAARI used the occasion both as member of the organizing committee and participant to showcase its prowess in promoting the exchange of scientific and technical knowledge and information in agriculture through capacity development and knowledge sharing activities. During the 3 days of the conference, APAARI used the various platforms to present the association's approach to enhancing agri-food systems through transformational learning and capacity development.

APAARI used 5 platforms to showcase its activities and share information and knowledge on its production and facilitation of the flow of global knowledge in improving sustainable agriculture through innovation.

5. Visits to CoA, TARI, Academia Scinica, ICDF, WorldVeg Centre (Taipei, Taichung and Tainan) Taiwan.

During the Executive Committee Meeting on November 12, 2017, Council of Agriculture (COA), endorsed the expansion of activities in relation to bioresources under APCoAB programme. A visit to Taiwan was made to discuss about further strengthening the collaboration with Taiwan, for expansion of APCoAB activities, activities in the Pacific and involvement of COA in ASTI project of APAARI. Visits were also made to 9 scientific organizations including World Vegetable Centre dealing with agriculture research and policies to explore the possibilities of collaboration in areas of agricultural biotechnology, bioresources and other mandated activities of APAARI. In principle, COA agreed that a comprehensive proposal inclusive of expanded activities under APCoAB, Center of Excellence, and the activities in the Pacific may be submitted by APAARI for consideration of COA.

6. ASTI Project implementation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

A country visit was made by Norah Omot and Ms Thansita Tanaphathrujira to Myanmar from 8-9 March 2018. The purpose of the visit was to discuss with the Department of Planning (DOP)-Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI) on the status of the ASTI Agreement between MOALI and APAARI, and to discuss the ASTI project activities. During the visit, Norah Omot gave a presentation on the project to a group consisting of representatives of a number of agricultural and university institutions and the staff, senior officials and policy advisor of MOALI. After the presentation, discussions were held around several topics including, which agencies they will invite to participate in the ASTI surveys, the types of survey forms for different agencies, the project impact

matrix, research outputs, and the Myanmar agricultural research systems. DOP-MOALI also clarified on the government processes that needed to be met to finalize the agreement. The key people met were Dr Tin Htut-Permanent Secretary-MOALI, Mr Kyaw Min Oo-Director General-DOP-MOALI, Dr Thanda Kyi-Director-International Cooperation Division (ASEAN)-DOP and Dr Cho Cho San, DOP. During the visit APAARI staff also discussed on the possibility of MOALI joining APAARI as a regular member. APAARI invited MOALI to its Executive Committee meeting in May 2018.

7. The 3rd CryoSymp 2018 by Mahidol University, ISHS, APAARI – APCoAB and others, Asia Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.

The CryoSymp 2018 was organized jointly by APAARI-APCoAB, Mahidol University, Bangkok in collaboration with International Society of Horticultural Science (ISHS), Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research and DOA, Bangkok, on March 26-28, 2018 at Bangkok, Thailand. A total of about 110 participants from 25 countries attended the symposium. The program comprised three sessions – Session I: Research in Plant Cryopreservation. Session II: Cryobanking, and Session 3: Methods in Plant Cryopreservation. Invited (3), oral (32) and posters (35) were presented related to various aspects of plant cryopreservation. Dr Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB, made a presentation on “Does cryopreservation stress impacts genotype integrity? A case study with germplasm of Musa spp.”. He served as the member of (i) International Advisory Committee and (ii) Scientific Committee of CryoSymp 2018.

8. ASTI Project Implementation with VAAS and IPSARD, Hanoi, Vietnam.

On April 5-6, Gert-Jan Stads and Norah Omot visited the Department of Information-Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences (VAAS). The purpose of the visit was to discuss on the Vietnam Agricultural Research Outputs, the Vietnam Agricultural Research system and to discuss issues related to the ASTI surveys. During the visit, important connections were made to the Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development (MARD) and the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD). IPSARD agreed to be involved with the analytical capacity component of the project. Key people met were Dr Tran Dahn Suu-A/Director-VAAS, Mrs Xuan-Survey Coordinator-VAAS, Dr Trang Truong-Director-Division of Strategy and Policy Study-IPSARD, Dr Nguyen Tuan-Director General-IPSARD, Ms Nguyen An-ACIAR Country Manager, Dr Thuyn-MARD.

9. APAARI Chairman and Executive Secretary visited AREEO, Iran.

Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI and Dr Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary visited Iran from 4-6 March and had discussions with Deputy Minister of Agriculture and senior officials of AREEO for strengthening relationship with AREEO, and number of key points were deliberated and agreed upon. AREEO agreed on facilitating their annual paid membership fee to APAARI through ICARDA through a tripartite agreement, and also agreed to convening and hosting of important APAARI events of in Iran. AREEO also appreciated APAARI for exploring the possibilities of facilitating sabbatical opportunities of Iranian researchers in Asia Pacific countries and provide same in Iran. AREEO will inform APAARI about decision to join and support the ASTI project soon. Besides, AREEO will appreciate publicizing its achievements and events on APAARI website and social media. Both AREEO and APAARI thus look forward for a stronger long term partnership.

10. ASTI Project Implementation with IAARD-ICASEPS, Jakarta, Indonesia - a visit by Ravi Khetarpal and Gert-Jan Stads,

A visit was made on 9 April by Dr Gert-Jan Stads, IFPRI ASTI Programme Manager and Dr Ravi Khetarpal to IAARD. The purpose was to meet with IAARD and Indonesian Centre for Agriculture,

Socio-Economics and Policy Studies (ICASEPS) to firm up on the Agreements of the ASTI project, involving both IAARD and ICASEPS. During the visit, Dr Gert-Jan met with staff of IAARD including 2 focal points who would be coordinating the data collection. He discussed the ASTI methodology and survey forms in detail with them. They also discussed with him the internal datasets that were available at IAARD. The 2 focal points nominated were Mr Arif Surahman and Mr Dhani Gartina.

11. CGIAR GreenPass Phytosanitary Protocol for Germplasm Exchange, Expert Consultation, Rome, Italy.

Key representatives from research institutions and organizations working in food and nutritional security across the globe met for two days in Rome from 18-19 April 2018 to share notes and ideas on how to develop phytosanitary protocols for expediting crop germplasm exchange with special reference to that of CGIAR gene banks. The discussion led to the development of a science based phytosanitary protocol (Green Pass) that takes into account the germplasm health at various stages of its collection, evaluation and conservation. The outputs of the meeting would be submitted to FAO to make it as an international protocol or as a best practice for a faster and smoother exchange of germplasm that would eventually expedite the development of new varieties of crops that can meet food and nutritional security in the era of climate change.

Organized by Dr. Lava Kumar, Head of Germplasm Health Unit at IITA, Nigeria, the other attendees-experts were; Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary of APAARI in Thailand, Dr. Bonnie J. Furman Agric Officer at PGR-Agrobiodiversity FAO Rome, Dr. Charlotte Lusty Genebank Coordinator at Crop Trust, Germany, Dr. Radha Ranganatha from the International Seed Federation Switzerland and Dr. Michael David Halewood from Bioversity International in Rome.

2. Activities Undertaken

1. Knowledge Management Programme

1.1 APAARI Website

The APAARI website is based on the Wordpress Content Management system and it is updated regularly on news from partners, publications, events and opportunity announcements. It is an interactive version accessible on tablets and mobile phone, and with social media integration of applications like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Blogger. The site also features easy to navigate drop down menus which link pages to overview about APAARI, collective resources of publication, the ongoing projects and essential information on how to become a member.

APAARI Website and Statistics (1 November 2017 – 30 April 2018)

Month	Unique Visitors	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits
Nov-17	9,241	16,744	128,137	203,264
Dec-17	10,088	17,041	190,092	243,465
Jan-18	13,106	28,129	203,959	254,006
Feb-18	9,011	17,472	284,706	332,122
Mar-18	8,996	19,772	201,025	278,938
Apr-18	6,950	14,913	165,078	244,057
Total	57,392	114,071	1,172,997	1,555,852

The chart above shows the trend of visits to APAARI website with URL www.apaari.org for the past six months. Unique visitors are recorded based on the IP addresses of the visitors while the number of visit is basically how many times the site, and its pages, was visited on a monthly basis. Based on the recorded web statistics ([AWStat](#)), the amount of traffic to the APAARI site depends on the following factors:

1. Direct address/Bookmark/Link in email: 82.1%
2. Organic (Search engine like Google, Yahoo, Bing etc): 2.3%
3. External pages (Social media platforms): 15.6%

1.2 APAARI Social Media

APAARI is currently active in updating its social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Blogger and Slideshare. The measurement of interests among these social media varies depending on the application. For Facebook, it is measured by the number of Likes; Twitter, Blogger and Slideshare has its Followers; and LinkedIn is in the Connections it established. With Facebook, the interest can be shown not merely by the number of Likes, but also on the amount of people following the network. Up to date APAARI Facebook has 588 Likes (with 610 who follows); Twitter has 287 followers; and 199 connections for its LinkedIn account. Blogger and Slideshare networks have been dormant although it contains substantial information about the latest blogs and slide presentations. Blogger has four blog posts written by APAARI staff on various topics: High-Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific; The Committee on World Food Security CFS44; and the 3rd Symposium on Cryopreservation. The SlideShare, on the other hand, has 38 slide presentations uploaded with the following presentations on: About APAARI, to enable people to learn about the association; APAARI Webinar with Universities on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems - Bringing system-wide change in the Asia-Pacific; presentations from the Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops; presentation on Bringing Transformational Learning and Capacity Development to Universities in Asia-Pacific to Enhance Agricultural Innovation Systems; and “Does Cryopreservation Stress Impact Genotype Integrity? A Case Study with Germplasm of Musa pp.”.

1.3 APCoAB Website and Social Media

The site has a new look with updates related to Biotechnology and Bioresources in Asia and the Pacific. The news section is updated on a regular basis with sources from APAARI partners and global feeds, events with latest publications available for download. The migration of APCoAB website to APAARI server last year resulted in the inability to measure the site statistics due to shared hosting. The only method to measure the site’s behavior is to manually check the APCoAB related pages visited/browsed based on the reports recorded by [AWStat](#). With its latest social media engagement through Facebook, the purpose is to expand the information sharing related to APCoAB activities in the region. Posting of news, events and expert consultations will be the major source of increasing engagement.

1.4 Partnership for Knowledge Management

APAARI signed an LoA with FAO-RAP (Bangkok) for knowledge management activities aligned to a workshop which was held in June 2018 on the use of Drones for Agriculture.

A Webinar on CD for AIS” was organized on 16 November 2017. It is APAARI-FAO Rome, collaboration on the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) that was based on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CD for AIS) project in 2017. APAARI, has promoted the Common Framework on CD for AIS by printing and dissemination TAP promotional materials and making presentations at various events, meetings and social media platforms. APAARI also coordinated TAPipedia webinars and facilitated the expansion of TAPipedia network and facilitated other knowledge sharing products.

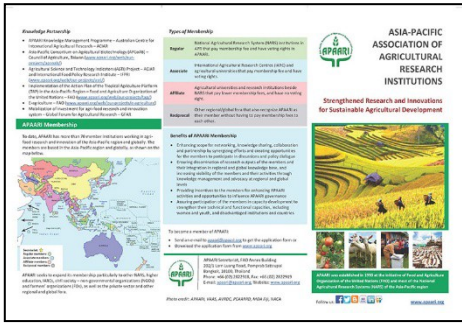
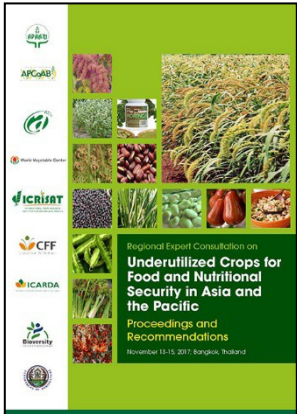
1.5. APAARI Network Highlights

APAARI disseminated three issues of its bi-monthly ANH between November 2017 and April 2018, and a fourth one in May 2018. The network highlights is a compilation of latest news, announcements, opportunities, success stories and publications from partners and stakeholders and shared through email, website and social media platforms.

1.6 Publications

The APAARI Newsletter for December 2017 was published in early 2018 and disseminated to members and stakeholders. APAARI updated and published two category Flyers: APAARI Membership and APAARI General Flyer May 2018. Proceedings and Country Status Reports of Underutilized Crops Expert Consultation and Thailand Durian Success Story have been published. PDF copies are available for download from APAARI website.

Publication	Month in which published	Cover
APAARI Newsletter December 2017	December 2017	
APAARI Membership Flyer	April 2018	

APAARI General Flyer	April 2018	
Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops – Proceedings	April 2018	

2. Visits and Partnership

2.1. General Scoping for Partnership

2.1.1 APAARI Skype meeting with TAP and GFAR Secretariat at FAO Rome

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Martina Spisiakova had a skype meeting with TAP Secretariat at FAO, Rome, on 5th January to discuss on the progress of the TAP project, and also with GFAR Secretariat at Rome, to discuss on the modalities of partnership for transformational learning.

2.1.2 APAARI attended Steering Committee meeting with TAP via Skype at FAO Rome

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal attended the TAP Steering Committee via Skype on 17 January 2018 and on 21st April, 2018.

2.1.3 APAARI Meeting with CropLife Asia Director

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Dr. Rishi Tyagi had a meeting with Dr. Sianghee Tan, Director of Crop Life Asia on 15th November, 2017 and discussed the involvement of Crop Life Asia in APAARI and APCoAB activities.

2.1.4 APAARI signed an Agreement with FAO/GIZ Microbanker

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal signed an agreement with FAO/GIZ Microbankers in December 2017 for APAARI to occupy additional space on the 2nd floor of FAO Annex building.

2.1.5 APAARI Meeting with ICIMOD

Drs. Ravi Khetarpal, Rishi Tyagi and Dr. Dhrupad Choudhury, ICIMOD, Nepal met on February 3, 2018 to explore future collaboration between APAARI and ICIMOD.

2.1.6 APAARI Meeting with National Chung Hsing University and International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS)

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Dr. Rishi Tyagi met with Prof. Lee Tzong-Ru, National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan; Vice Chairman and Michael Fu, Secretary General, International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), Singapore, to discuss future collaboration between APAARI-IAAS and also the possibility of IAAS becoming an Associate member of APAARI.

2.1.7 A Visit and Meeting to APAARI by Chulalongkorn University

Dr Wayne Nells from Chulalongkorn University visited APAARI for discussions on various concept notes to be developed in higher education sector in collaboration with UNESCO and SEARCA and for involving APAARI during a meeting with IUCN to be held in March, to develop a collaborative proposal on Agrobiodiversity Index. The meeting was attended by APAARI staff -Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Fai Collins and Celilu Bitong.

2.1.8 APAARI Meeting with AFMA

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal had a meeting and discussions with Khun Thirach Rungruang of Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) on possible areas of collaboration

2.1.9 APAARI Meeting with IFAD at FAO Office, Bangkok and at IFAD office, Rome

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Thansita Tanapatrujira attended a meeting with Dr. Fabrizio Bresciani of IFAD, Rome, at FAO office Bangkok on 23rd February on possible involvement and funding by IFAD on various areas of work by APAARI specially in Pacific and South Asia. Dr Khetarpal further met Dr Fabrizio at IFAD office in Rome on 20th April along with Country Manager of Pacific countries to discuss modalities of seeking IFAD support for mainstreaming Pacific island countries in APAARI's activities.

2.2.0 APAARI Meeting with UNESCO, Bangkok and Chulalongkorn University

Dr. Ravi attended a meeting at UNESCO with Sue Vize, Regional Advisor and Dr Wayne Nells (Chulalongkorn University) and other staff of UNESCO on the development of a project on mapping, assessing and strengthening higher education sector in agriculture in ASEAN countries.

2.2.1 APAARI Meeting with IUCN, FAO, UNESCO and UNESCAP about MAASEA

Dr. Rishi Tyagi and Geraldine Nemrod attended and participated in a meeting of core partners (APAARI, IUCN, FAO, UNESCO, UNESCAP) for discussion about the project on Mapping and Assessing Agrobiodiversity in Southeast Asia (MAASEA), 2018-2021, on March 7, 2018.

2.2.2 APAARI Meeting with RDA and KOPIA

Dr. Rishi Tyagi had a meeting with Dr Taek-Ryon Kwon, Director, International Technology Cooperation Centre, RDA and Dr Yoo Eunha, Deputy Director and Head of Asia Team, Korea Program on International Agriculture, on March 9, 2018 to discuss future collaboration between APAARI and RDA in areas of agri-biotechnology and bioresources management.

2.2.3 APAARI Meeting with FAORAP and AIT, Bangkok

Fai Collins along with Ms Thansita visited and attended a meeting with FAORAP and AIT on preparations for the workshop on the use of drone and GIS imagery in agriculture.

3. Membership Drive

During the period January – April 2018, APAARI had 4 new members; International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS) and Panjab Agricultural University, India as Associate members; Mahidol University as Affiliate members and Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Science (TAAS) as Reciprocal member. Currently APAARI has 73 members.

4. International/Regional Collaboration

During the period under review, APAARI had active discussions with FAO-RAP, ACIAR, TAAS, SAARC and DoA, Thailand, and organized and participated in several activities/ programmes including workshops, conferences and expert consultations.

5. Forthcoming APAARI-supported Meetings/Workshops

1. Regional Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology - Scoping Partnership to Improve Livelihoods of Farmers in Asia-Pacific, 29-31 May 2018, Bangkok, Thailand

Regional Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology - Scoping Partnership to Improve Livelihoods of Farmers in Asia-Pacific, was organized by APAARI on 29-31 May 2018 at Bangkok, Thailand, with the following objectives:

1. provide a platform to explore initiatives and mechanisms of sustainable partnership and networking for capacity and institutional building, developing regulatory framework, communication strategies, enabling policies for application of biotechnologies including bioprospecting of bioresources at regional level;
2. share technical knowledge, experiences and learn lessons from public-public, public-private, and private-private partnership to accelerate the application of agricultural biotechnologies and establish the mechanisms to ensure continued exchange of information on experiences with agricultural biotechnologies;
3. identify important areas of agricultural biotechnologies and scoping the new and innovative ways of making investments to improve the livelihoods of farmers in Asia-Pacific region.

2. Drone for Agriculture with FAO-RAP, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand, June 2018

APAARI in partnership with FAO and ITU of the Asian Institute of Technology, organized a 5 days training workshop on E-agriculture in Action on the theme “Drones for Agriculture” The workshop was held from 4th - 8th May 2018 at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) Bangkok, Thailand and attended by participants from the Asia Pacific countries. The training included field trips where participants not only learned on how to use drones but also saw how farmers in Thailand use drones on their farms.

3. ASTI Analytical Workshop, July 2018

The above workshop was held on 5th July and attended by analytical experts from 3 countries (Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia).

Alejandro Nin Pratt (IFPRI Colleague) who is leading the analytical part of the work has identified the

following research areas for the analysis: a) Examining the performance, strengths, weaknesses, and challenges of agricultural research in the region, b) Evaluating the impact of past and future research investment levels and resource allocation on the performance of research systems and the agricultural sector more generally, c) Providing forward-looking analysis on the future performance of research systems under different investment scenarios.

The research agenda however, did not exclusively focused on these 3 areas, because ASTI is keen on the process to be demand-driven and owned by countries so is eager to know what type of analytical research can be conducted in each of the 3 countries, based on ASTI data that has policy relevance to them.

6. APAARI Participation in Meetings Organized by Other Fora

1. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Dr. Norah Omot made a visit to Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD), for ASTI project membership and APAARI membership, Jakarta, Indonesia, 8 January 2018.

2. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, under a USDA assignment carried out the mission of Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 15-22 January 2018.

3. Dr. Rishi Tyagi attended a Workshop on the Banana Bread and Coffee Sustainable Consumption, organized by Agriculture and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) and Great Earth International, Bangkok, Thailand, 18 January 2018

4. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Martina Spisiakova, Fai Collins Dzernyuy and Celilu Bitong attended and participated in an International Conference on Social and Sustainability Science in ASEAN: Agri-food Systems, Rural Sustainability and Socioeconomic Transformations at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, 23-25 January 2018.

5. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Dr. Rishi Tyagi visited CoA, TARI, Academia Scinica, ICDF, WorldVeg Centre and discussed possible collaboration, (Taipei, Taichung and Tainan) Taiwan, 29-31 January 2018.

6. Dr. Norah Omot and Ms Thansita Tanaphathrujira visited and had a meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI), for ASTI Project implementation and APAARI membership, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 8-9 March 2018.

7. Dr. Rishi Tyagi, Fai Collins Dzernyuy and Celilu Bitong attended and participated at the 3rd CryoSymp 2018 organized by Mahidol University in collaboration with the International Society of Horticultural Science (ISHS), Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research and the Department of Agriculture -DOA, and APAARI – APCoAB, Asia Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, 26-28 March 2018.

8. Dr. Norah Omot and Gert-Jan Stads visited Department of Information-Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences (VAAS), Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development (MARD) and the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD) for ASTI Project Implementation, Hanoi, Vietnam, 5-6 April 2018.

9. Dr. Yusuf Zafar, Chairman and Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary, APAARI. visited Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Senior Officials of AREEO, Tehran, Iran, 4-6 March 2018.

10. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Dr. Gert-Jan Stads visited IAARD-ICASEPS on ASTI Project Implementation, Jakarta, Indonesia, 9 April 2018.

11. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal attended the CGIAR GreenPass Phytosanitary Protocol for Germplasm, Expert Consultation, Rome, Italy, 18-19 April 2018.

7. APAARI Sponsorship for Capacity Development

APAARI invited nomination for the 3rd Master Class Training Course in Agricultural Leadership and Management which was held at Penang, Malaysia from 11-16 November, 2018.

8. Other Items

New Appointments

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Mr. Fai Collins Dzernyuy, from Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Cameroon, was appointed as Knowledge Management Coordinator. He joined APAARI on 15 January 2018.

Consultant/Intern

APAARI hired Ms. Geraldine Nemrod as APCoAB Consultant. She started on 5th February 2018 and was on contract for four months.

APAARI accepted Ms. Lorene Siegwart from SupAgro, Montpellier, France as Intern for 4 months with effect from 2nd April 2018.

VIII. Epilogue

This year, APAARI has continued to further expand its workforce and collaboration/partnerships through its major programmes on APCoAB, Knowledge Management and ASTI Project Implementation. Recent partnerships with universities and signed agreements have led to a more face to face interaction, discussion, memberships and visits in order to give more stimulus in promoting the objectives in strengthening agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems in the region.

Annexure III D

PROGRESS REPORT ON APAARI ACTIVITIES (May– November 2018)

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was established in 1990 at the initiative of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, a unique voluntary, membership-based, self-mandated, apolitical and non-profit multi-stakeholder organization in the Asia-Pacific Region. The main objective of APAARI is to promote and strengthen agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems through partnerships and collaboration, capacity development and advocacy by facilitating intra-regional, inter institutional, and international cooperation. APAARI has been active in fostering the overall agricultural development by addressing the concerns of hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and sustainability of agricultural production. It has completed 28 years of its existence with an impressive record of achievements. To know more about the organization, please visit: www.apaari.org

APAARI co-organized and participated in meetings, conferences and workshops during the period of May to November 2018. The key events include (i) APAARI at the Science week at University of Kisangani, Kisangani, Congo; (ii) XIXth Steering Committee (SC) Meeting of APCoAB; (iii) APAARI Holds 1st Executive Committee Meeting for 2018; (iv) Regional Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology - Scoping Partnership to Improve Livelihoods of Farmers in Asia-Pacific; (v) Regional Training on the use of Drones, Satellite Imagery and GIS for Agriculture; (vi) APAARI's participation at the European Development Days EDD 2018; (vii) ASEAN Sustainable Agriculture and Food Forum; (viii) Andhra Pradesh State Mega Seed Park Ltd Work Plan meeting; (ix) Analytical research agenda workshop by APAARI and IFPRI; (x) Attendance to Regional Workshop on Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI); (xi) APAARI on 'Harnessing the Intellectual Property Rights for Agricultural Growth; (xii) APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (APEC HLPD AB); (xiii) The 22nd Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG) Meeting; (xiv) High-level presentation on Phytosanitary Strategy for Bangladesh; (xv) ABAC Food Security Symposium; (xvi) The Sustainability Science and Development Goals meeting; (xvii) EU Organic Market: Export Opportunities and Challenges; (xviii) 4th World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities; (xvix) APAARI-ICARDA Mung bean Field Study; (xx) Regional Conference on Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture; (xxi) 6th Annual Biosafety Conference; (xxii) APAARI at the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Australia; (xxiii) 3rd International Agriculture Innovation Conference IAIC 2018; (xxiv) The 5th International Rice Congress; (xxv) Knowledge Management Workshop 2018 in Lao (People's Democratic Republic PDR); (xxvi) UN agencies meeting fight against hunger and malnutrition in Asia and the Pacific; (xxvii) Seminar on the ASTI project MAF, Fiji; (xxviii) E-Agriculture Solutions Forum 2018; (xxix) Regional Conference on the Role of Soil and Plant Health Towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Asia-Pacific; (xxx) The "MAD" Conference, Managing Agriculture Digitally – Innovations for Sustainable Food; (xxxi) A Global Event to Accelerate the End of Hunger and Malnutrition; (xxxii) Webinar on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation.

I. Meeting/Workshops/Conferences

1. APAARI at the Science week at University of Kisangani, Kisangani, Congo

The University of Kisangani under the auspices the European Union and the Center for International Forestry Research -CIFOR, organized the 5th session of the Science Week at the Faculty of Sciences

of University of Kisangani from 7-12 May 2018. The one-week event brought together researchers, scientists and journalists from around the globe to share knowledge and add value to the research endeavors at the University of Kisangani.

For five days running, researchers and scientists from research institutions and Universities the world over, trained Masters and PhD students on dominant themes in the world of Forestry in particular and the environment in particular.

Aligned to the seminar presentations was a back to back capacity development of science journalists from the major media organizations in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The participants were able to reinforced and sharpened their skills in reporting science related themes especially in environment related. For one week, the journalists were trained by researchers and scientists on current themes in environment in general and Forestry in general.

Closing the one-week event, the Rector of the University Professor Faustin Toengaho saluted the sustained partnership of his institution with the European Union through the Center for International Forestry Research-CIFOR. He underscored the milestone the event which is in its fifth session has achieved as a knowledge watershed for budding scientists who are the future architects of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Rector singled out the novelty of the 2018 edition that zeroed in on research and project work of Masters and PhD students.

The Knowledge Management Coordinator of the Asia- Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions-APAARI used the occasion to present the mission and goal of APAARI especially the identification and sharing of knowledge in agri-innovation systems. This attracted discussions with students with related topics in knowledge management.

The Science week has become a yearly activity organized by the University authorities with assistance from national and international organization especially with support from the Center for International Forestry Research-CIFOR since 2013.

2. XIXth Steering Committee (SC) Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources (APCoAB)

The XIXth Steering Committee Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources (APCoAB) was held on May 28, 2018 at Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting was attended by 18 participants comprising Chairman, Vice Chairman and members of Steering Committee, special invitees and observers. Dr Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary, APAARI, welcome the participants. Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, Steering Committee, emphasized the importance of agricultural biotechnology and bioresources and gave a brief account of status of bio-tech crops grown in Asian countries. Dr Chung-Hsiu Hung, Vice Chairman, expressed his satisfaction for the progress under APCoAB and assured continued financial support from COA for the activities in areas of agricultural biotechnology and bioresources in Asia-Pacific countries. Dr Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, presented the action taken report, progress report, revised work plan and audited financial statement of APCoAB. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and all members appreciated the progress and provided some suggestions for further improvement.

3. APAARI Holds 2018 Executive Committee Meeting

The APAARI Executive Committee meeting was held on 28 May 2018 at the Rama Gardens Hotel in Bangkok under the chairmanship of Dr. Yusuf Zafar and Dr. Birte Komolong, who sat in for the Vice chair, Dr. Sergie Bang.

The meeting included an overview of the previous Executive Committee meeting held in November 2017, the recommendations made, actions taken and progress report of activities. Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary, presented the institution's balance sheet of the year under review. An optimistic membership drive was undertaken with four new members and more prospects in the pipeline. It was equally an opportunity for each staff to present the work plan that dovetails APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022. The special invitees were given a voice to talk about their organization, possible collaboration with APAARI to strengthen research and innovations for sustainable agricultural development in the Asia-Pacific region.

The amendment of the current APAARI constitution of the organization was one of the points on the agenda. This is to enable the institution keep pace with its shifting role and function. Because of time constraints members agreed to set up a Task Force to work on a draft that will be circulated to members. The meeting rose on a note of work well done to the staff.

Special guest at the EC meeting were from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI), Myanmar; CropLife Asia, Singapore; Indian Council of Agricultural Science (ICAR) from India; Forum for Agricultural Research (FARA) Africa, International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Indian Institute of Technology (IITB-Mumbai), Chulalongkorn University School of Agricultural Resources (CUSAR) and Mahidol University, Bangkok.

4. Regional Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology - Scoping Partnership to Improve Livelihoods of Farmers in Asia-Pacific

In pursuance of the recommendations of an International Symposium on “The Role of Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition” organized by The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations organized, on February 15-17, 2016, at Rome, a multi-stakeholder “Regional Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology - Scoping Partnership to Improve Livelihoods of Farmers in Asia-Pacific” was organized by APAARI/APCoAB, Bangkok, Thailand and COA, Taiwan on May 29-31, 2018 in Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok. Other technical and financial collaborators were ACIAR, Australia; Research Program on Grain Legumes and Dry Land Cereals, ICRISAT, India; BCIL, India and DOA, Thailand. The objectives of Expert Consultation were to: (i) provide a platform to explore initiatives and mechanisms of sustainable partnership and networking for capacity and institutional building, developing regulatory framework, communication strategies, enabling policies for application of biotechnologies including bioprospecting of bioresources at regional level; (ii) share technical knowledge, experiences and learn lessons from public-public, public-private, and private-private partnership to accelerate the application of agricultural biotechnologies and establish the mechanisms to ensure continued exchange of information on experiences with agricultural biotechnologies; and (iii) identify important areas of agricultural biotechnologies and scoping the new and innovative ways of making investments to improve the livelihoods of farmers in Asia-Pacific region.

A total of 62 participants belonging to 22 countries comprising research managers, senior officials, researchers from NARS of member countries of Asia-Pacific, CG centres, CropLife Asia, FAO, USAID, USDA and APAARI secretariat joined the 3-day deliberations during Expert Consultation. Dr Chung-Hsiu Hung, Director General, COA, Taiwan, delivered the inaugural address and Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI, chaired the inaugural session.

5. Regional Training on the use of Drones, Satellite Imagery and GIS for Agriculture An eye in the sky for agriculture

The Regional Office of the FAO for the Asia Pacific, organized a one-week hands-on regional workshop on the use of the drones, satellite imagery and GIS in agriculture from June 4-8 at the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok. This brought together 30 participants from Ministries of Agriculture, FAO country offices and ITU member countries in the Asia-Pacific region like Afghanistan, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Fiji, Philippines and Papua New Guinea.

Situating the urgency and importance of the training, the regional Knowledge and Information Management Officer at the ROAP, Gerard Sylvester, the “use of sustainable information and communication technology in agriculture is not an option; it is a necessity.”

Research indicates that agriculture will be the single largest application of drones as 80% use of the drones will be in the field of agriculture since agriculture is currently carried out over large farmlands which are very difficult to monitor. It will be easier to fly a drone over the farm land and collect the imagery get better insight about the farm.

The objective of the hands-on training was to introduce the use of drones in the agricultural sector in the region by providing tips on the use of drones and drilling the participants on how to use the lessons learnt in real life situations. Unfortunately, many countries in the region are still to adopt this innovative technology to improve agricultural productivity.

From the assessment of the participants, the workshop objectives were fully attained as it was a well-balanced training; both in Knowledge learning and skill development.

The workshop was organized in partnership with APAARI, UIT, Digital Globe.

6. European Development Days (EDDs) of the European Commission (EC), 5-6 June 2018

Organized by the European Commission (EC), the European Development Days (EDD) took place from 5-6 June 2018 in Brussels, Belgium under the main thread of ‘Women and girls at the forefront of sustainable development: protect, empower, invest’. The agenda of EDD 2018 was framed by three major themes emerging as key priorities in today’s current context:

- ensuring the physical and psychological integrity of Girls and Women
- promoting economic and social rights and empowerment of girls and women
- strengthening girls’ and womens’ voice and participation

Discussion from many speakers and participants from all over the world hinged on these themes. Highlevel guests included , Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the E U Commission Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians, Her Majesty the Queen of Spain; Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda; Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta; Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, President of Burkina Faso; George Weah, President of Liberia; Mahamadou Issoufou, President of Niger; Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations; Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women; and Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament. Their participation demonstrated the high importance of the girls and women-related issues on the political agenda.

APAARI hosted a stand in the ‘Global Village’ space showcasing activities of the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) in transforming agricultural education in the Asia-Pacific region. The focus was on developing functional capacities of young professionals especially women, to enhance agricultural innovation systems. Representing the TAP, APAARI highlighted its ongoing activities on this topic,

as well as other initiatives with TAP partners. This included activities of the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Bangladesh, Lao People's Democratic Republic and other pilot countries on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) project in other regions.

During the event, APAARI interacted with other exhibitors at the Global Village, particularly those that shared similar initiatives. One such sub-topic on gender equality in education it was stressed that tackling global challenges like climate change and healthcare in a sustainable and inclusive, there is need for the active involvement of both educated women and educated men. Yet, gender imbalance is particularly stark in the critical areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Addressing the challenges of gender inequality in education is complex and requires the involvement of men and boys, women and girls throughout society and its institutions.

A number of institutions that took part in the EDD 2018 offer free online courses in agriculture that could be beneficial to the APAARI community in Asia-Pacific and beyond. For example, the University of Wageningen, offers open courses on food production, nutrition, animal breeding, genetics, and many other topics. Access Agriculture – an international NGO – offers agricultural training videos in local languages. These include, floating vegetable gardens, managing bacterial leaf blight in rice or tomato leaf curl virus, as well as many other processes that could provide solutions to farmers and/or be a topic of further research by agricultural scientists. The DEVCO Academy is another public learning platform providing free access to a wide range of topics, including development policies, thematic areas, methodological approaches and financial management. APAARI has recently shared links to these resources through its APAARI Network Highlights.

Strategic discussions on engagement and partnership through joint project development were equally held by APAARI with the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO), EC; Directorate-General for Research (DG-Research), EC; FAO Liaison Office with the European Union and Belgium; European Forum on Agricultural Research for Development (EFARD); Bayer; GIZ; and Oxfam.

7. ASEAN Sustainable Agriculture and Food Forum

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal was invited to attend a workshop on “ASEAN Sustainable Agriculture and Food Forum” by Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) and made a presentation on “Market access for export of food and food products through compliance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement of WTO” on 8 June, 2018 at Bangkok, Thailand.

8. Andhra Pradesh State Mega Seed Park Ltd Work Plan meeting - Vijayawada, AP, India

The Mega Seed Park (MSP) is an initiative of Government of Andhra Pradesh and Iowa State University to give a fresh boost for the seed sector in AP. MSP intends to forge multiple partnerships among academics, researchers and knowledge bases, farmers, and as a cornerstone, public, private and farming community sectors of agriculture. Such partnerships enhance overall seed and food production. MSP goals are tenable farmer access to good quality seed; forge partnerships; create an enabling environment for advanced research, improved human resources, infrastructure and policy and regulatory framework; facilitate agricultural and hort universities transformation through commercialization of research and enhance food security through seed security. The main purpose of the work plan meeting held at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh from 20-21, June 2018 was to define the short term and long-term work plans for effective implementation of MSP goals. The participants include farmers, FPOs, NGOs, community Managed Seed Systems personnel, Government officers, private industry, international experts, seed science leaders from the state, national and international

research organizations/ universities. Important international organizations that contributed to the work plan are APAARI, Thailand, CYMMIT, Mexico and IRRI, Philippines and ICRISAT, India, in addition to consultants and senior professors from Iowa State University, USA. Detailed work plan developed for seed technology and research; knowledge consortium, business and policy and capacity building.

A delegation met Sri N Chandra Babu Naidu, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and discussed the work plan meeting proceedings. Dr Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary, APAARI explained the key roles played by APAARI in the region including India. Hon'ble CM appreciated and directed the officials to get associated with APAARI. Government of Andhra Pradesh approved the MSP policy recently for implementation.

9. Analytical research agenda workshop by APAARI and IFPRI

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in collaboration with the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD) held on workshop on 9-10 July 2018 in Bogor, Indonesia and attended by 15 agricultural researchers and representatives. The region is the latest area of ASTI work and support by Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) with goals in implementing an analytical research agenda and transforming results into stakeholder-friendly applications.

10. Regional Workshop on Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI)

Dr Ravi Khetarpal attended a Regional Workshop on Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI) organized by University Adelaide and ACIAR, Australia in Nepal, Kathmandu from 22-23 July 2018. The workshop focused on the modalities of developing regional collaborative platform. The meeting culminated in the signing of the Kathmandu Resolution by Heads of NARS from four South Asian countries. APAARI proposed active collaboration on Knowledge Management and scaling-up of innovations related to conservation agriculture in the Asia-Pacific region.

11. Brainstorming on 'Harnessing the Intellectual Property Rights for Agricultural Growth

Coordinator, APCoAB, participated in Brainstorming on 'Harnessing the Intellectual Property Rights for Agricultural Growth' organized by TAAS and ICAR, New Delhi, India, July 27, 2018. A one-day brainstorming meeting on "Harnessing Intellectual Property to Stimulate Agricultural Growth" was organized by the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Science (TAAS) on 27 July 2018 at the Central Library, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi. A total of 51 senior officials from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority, National Research Development Council (NRDC), Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Centers, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), South Asia Biotechnology Centre (SABC), intellectual property (IP) legal experts, biotechnologists, plant breeders, and representatives of seed associations participated actively in the brainstorming meeting and presented their viewpoints on the subject.

The meeting was organized with the following objectives:

- To discuss and understand the scope of IP protection of biological innovations under the Patents (Amendments) Act, 2005 as well as under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act (PPV&FRA) 2001
- To have better understanding of the possible grey/overlapping areas of IP protection, especially those of biological inventions

- To recommend/suggest measures to ensure proper incentives and rewards to researchers and to have an effective compliance relating to IPRs for accelerating agricultural research and innovation for development (ARI4D)

12. APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (APEC HLPD AB)

Coordinator, APCoAB, participated and presented a paper on ‘Current Status of Agricultural Biotechnology in the APEC Economies’, in APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (APEC HLPDAB), organized by Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, August 5, 2018. While discussing the status of agricultural biotechnology, he also emphasized that efforts should be made for regulatory alignment/cooperation amongst the APEC Economies which can ease out the process of adoption of the biotechnology and biotech derived products with minimum time period and cost of biosafety studies to enhance the food and nutritional security and improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. He proposed that APAARI, being a regional organization working in Asia-Pacific, can play an effective role to coordinate the above activities at APEC Economies level.

13. The 22nd Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG) Meeting

ATCGW meeting was a part of series of meetings organized by APEC and attended by representatives of all APEC to discuss about the Technical Program of agriculture in APEC members. The goal of the ATCWG was to enhance agriculture's contribution to the region's economic growth and social well-being by promoting agricultural technical cooperation between APEC members. The ATCWG's objectives are to improve the capacity of agriculture and its related industries and to share information and experiences in the areas of agriculture, biotechnology, and animal and biogenetic resource management. Priority is given to projects and activities that build members' capacities to increase trade in agricultural products.

14. High-level presentation on Phytosanitary Strategy for Bangladesh

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal participated in high-level presentation on Phytosanitary Strategy for Bangladesh along with experts from USDA and USAID at Dhaka, Bangladesh on 6 August 2018.

15. ABAC Food Security Symposium

Food Security Symposium was organized by APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) on August 9, 2018, to provided updates on their domestic policies to achieve food security and initiatives involving private sector participation relative to “Promoting Food Security in APEC Region” focusing on three thematic areas:

- Promoting food security and sustainable agriculture using information communications technology (ICT) to respond to climate change
- Promoting the participation of women in agriculture and fisheries
- Sustainable fisheries management and development

There was a general consensus that activities should leverage on collaborating cross-fora partnerships through multi-stakeholder platforms and public-private engagement.

16. The Sustainability Science and Development Goals meeting

Co-hosted by Chulalongkorn University Office of the Higher Education Commission and UNESCO, Bangkok, the 2nd phase of the ASEAN Way Forward for SDGs and COP21 was attended by

participants from seven ASEAN countries, SEAMEO Centre for Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, SEAMEO Centre for Tropical Biology, International Rural Sociology Association, United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability UNU-IAS, Thai Higher Education institutions and APAARI.

One of the goals of the project was to establish an ASEAN network of scholars on social and sustainability sciences and identify and conduct research that will serve as a foundation for policy recommendations. Dr Ravi Khetarpal participated in the Session III on Research Topics on Agri-food system studies, Agricultural Research and Higher Education Reform. The meeting concluded that ASEAN has to work collaboratively with other regional and international organizations on promoting sustainable development and sustainability sciences. The event was held on 20-21 August 2018 at the Berkeley Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.

17. EU Organic Market: Export Opportunities and Challenges

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal participated in a seminar on “EU Organic Market: Export Opportunities and Challenges” on 27th August 2018 at the Centara Grand at Central Plaza, Bangkok, Thailand. This seminar was organized by the Royal Thai Embassy Brussels together with the National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards, and the European Union (EU Delegation to Thailand and DG-AGRI)

18. 4th World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities” (WSSD-U-2018)

Dr. Wayne Nelles represented APAARI at the “4th World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities” (WSSD-U-2018) Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Penang, Malaysia, 28th-30th Aug 2018. He distributed general APAARI information materials and membership brochures with a Background Note on *HESAFS* for a display table. He also introduced APAARI and its new attention to HEIs in a presentation to a parallel session on partnerships with networking discussions among some prospective new HEI members for APAARI.

19. APAARI-ICARDA Mung bean Field Study

APAARI coordinated a Mung bean field visit from 25-31 August, 2018 in Chai nat, Saraburi, Lopburi, and Phitsanulok provinces of Thailand. The objective of the field study was to learn and share experiences on the trial of various varieties of mung bean grown at the Chai Nat Research Centre. The scientists and participant who came from many research institutions in India and led by ICARDA, noted various promising mungbean and blackgram varieties that produce an annual yield of 1.6 - 1.8 tons per ha. The researchers equally learnt among other things the breeding programs, DNA finger printing, varieties, varietal introduction, pulses value addition and technology Transfer. The Chai Nat Research Center is a ‘One-Stop State-of-Art Crop Research and Service Centers doing varietal trials, breeder Seed production, seed Testing Lab, Supply to Farmers, FPOs, Companies, Field inspection, Certification, buy back, Processing. A visit was also made on the mung bean farms in Saraburi where the researchers inquired about relevant scientific method introduced in growing a mung bean. The group also went to the seed multiplication center in Lopburi to check on the storage and packaging method of mung bean. A visit to the Phitsanulok Seed Research and Development Center (PSRDC) took place at Phitsanulok province and the group was greeted by the Director and staff. A presentation was made on seed production and breeding, the incentive given by the Thai government to the farmers and an inclusive visit to the scientist’s laboratory we also arranged by the center.

20. Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture (MAYA), 30-31 August 2018

With an expected rise in global population to around 8 billion by 2025 on one hand and the ageing

agriculture profession coupled with lack of interest of youth in agriculture on the other, who will feed the world tomorrow is a serious concern. Under such circumstances, the achievement and meeting the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is questionable. In this context, the role of youth in accelerating agricultural growth cannot be underestimated. In fact, those nations have progressed much faster where youth has been motivated and involved in creative, secondary and specialty agriculture, adequately supported by an enabling policy environment.

A regional conference on Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture (MAYA) was organized from 30-31 August 2018 by the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), APAARI, Skill India, Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI), Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD), and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

Dr RS Paroda, Chairman, TAAS, urged to mainstream youth in agriculture emphasizing that youth should to be trained as employment creator rather than employment seeker.

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) urged to create a “Mission for Youth in Agriculture” and “Regional Platform for Youth in Agriculture” with neighboring countries as partners. Dr MS Swaminathan, the father of green revolution in India, made an online key address stressing the potential of youth to revolutionize agriculture in India. Dr Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary, APAARI pointed out that youth want to get involved in glamorous jobs. If such jobs are created in agriculture, they will bring revolution.

The conference provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to interact and discuss various options and avenues for not only attracting youth to agriculture but even motivating them towards entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied fields. More than 200 participants including farmers from various states, senior research, development and policy related officials/managers from national and regional organizations, NGOs, the private sector, education and training institutions, and other members of civil society from Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka gathered to learn and share the good practices and innovative methods, tools and policies for motivating youth to agriculture.

APAARI facilitated session on Initiatives on Youth Empowerment in South Asia with contribution of representatives of Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. It also brought global perspectives on developing soft skills and ethical leadership to prepare graduates to become catalyst of change with participation of Dr. John Kennelly from GCHERA, as well as regional perspective on facilitating capacity development for agricultural innovation in Asia-Pacific. The meeting led to the development of a MAYA roadmap to guide policymakers, NARS, higher education and the private sector in creating an enabling environment to motivate and attract youth to agriculture as creators of agricultural jobs.

21. 6th Annual Biosafety Conference

Biosafety Program, ILSI Research Foundation, and Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL) on September 15-17, 2018 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Amongst others, APAARI and APCoAB were also co-organizers of the Conference. Dr Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB, Chaired the Plenary Session on Biosafety Regulation and Capacity Building Initiatives in South Asia. A total of about 160 participants belonging to academia, government and public sector from 8 South Asian countries participated in the Conference. Of the total participants, 36% were women researchers or students of biotechnology.

22. APAARI welcomed by Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Australia

Dr Ravi Khetarpal visited ACIAR on 3 October 2018 and was welcomed by ACIAR's CEO Andrew

Campbell and Mellissa Wood. The visit was to discuss further strengthening of research and innovation for agriculture in Asia and the Pacific.

23. 3rd International Agriculture Innovation Conference IAIC 2018

APAARI, International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS) and the Institute for Agricultural Planning of CAU, successfully co-organized the 3rd International Agriculture Innovation Conference 2018 on 12-13 October in Beijing, China. The conference was attended by more than 100 partners and delegates from China and across the globe and focused on the issues of Agriculture Innovation, Technology and Globalisation and with a special theme on Intelligent Agriculture. IAIC is an annual series of international conferences and has been running since 2016. It promotes exchange of ideas related to agriculture innovation from leading developers and researchers and examining current problems and issues in the agriculture.

24. The 5th International Rice Congress

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Agri-food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations organized 5th International Rice Congress (IRC 2018) from October 15 to 17, 2018 in Singapore. Around 1,500 participants participated in the three-day conference. Scientists, thought-leaders, decision-makers, investors, and private sector actors from 40 countries gathered to learn about the latest agriculture technologies, discuss potential areas for collaboration and strategies to boost the rice sector, and further agricultural innovations through sustainable solutions. During the event, partnership agreements for long-term funding, knowledge exchange, and technology transfer were officially signed by IRRI and partners. On Tuesday, October 16, 2018, the conference celebrated World Food Day with an interactive global discussion on the role of youth in achieving zero hunger.

25. Knowledge Management Workshop 2018

APAARI organized a Knowledge Management workshop with KM focal points from member organizations from 18-19 October 2018 in Laos. The objective was to share experiences on how to improve skills in identifying, collecting, packaging, using and sharing knowledge in agri-research and innovation systems. 29 participants attended the event. The hands-on workshop also aimed to increase the understanding of knowledge management in strengthening agricultural innovation systems (AIS), develop skills in the use of knowledge-sharing and communication methods and tools, share knowledge and experiences in various areas of Knowledge Management and identify and outline approaches to streamline Knowledge Management in daily work.

26. UN agencies meeting fight against hunger and malnutrition in Asia and the Pacific

Dr Ravi Khetarpal, participated in the global conference held on 2 November 2018 at Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting calls UN Agency presentation on latest figures and analyses in hunger and malnutrition in Asia and the Pacific.

27. Seminar on the ASTI project MAF, Fiji

Project visit made by Gert-Jan Stads and Norah Omot on 29-31 October to present a seminar on the ASTI project and to discuss on the survey implementation, influence pathway and research systems of Fiji. 45 participants from agricultural research agencies, universities, South Pacific Community (SPC), FAO and MOA attended. Key people met were Dr Apaitia Macanawa-Director Research, Mr Apenisa Sailo-Senior Research Officer Entomology, Ms Mereia Fong-Principal Research Office Pathology, ACIAR Country Manager Vinesh Prasad and representatives of universities and research agencies. A

visit was also made to the SPC office.

28. E-Agriculture Solutions Forum 2018, Nanjing, China

The E-agriculture Solutions Forum 2018, held from 15-17 November 2018 in Nanjing, China has entered the annals of history as participants were empowered with new knowledge and experiences to advance agricultural development through the use of ICTs. For four days participants cross pollinated best practices and experiences in implementing ICT solutions to improve food production, quality and livelihoods in a more sustainable way.

Organized by the FAO and partners, participants were drawn from Asia Pacific and beyond with an interest in improving policies and processes in the use of ICT to support agriculture and rural development while improving livelihoods. The knowledge sharing event was built around interactive activities and presentations from private organizations and related Ministries; from starters in e-agriculture strategy to those with top notch technologies in place already.

The forum was provided a platform for networking and building partnerships.

29. A Regional Conference of Diverse Experts on Soil and Plant Health in Asia-Pacific

APAARI and the Department of Agriculture, Thailand, organized the Regional Conference on Role of Soil and Plant Health Towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in Asia-Pacific held on 21-23 November 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. The event was attended by more than a hundred of participants, diverse experts from research and development, extension, policy makers, private sectors, professional societies, civil society and donor organizations. It was a regional platform for knowledge-sharing experiences on the statuses of soil and plant health, crop pest issues, challenges, and biodiversity in the context of climate change.

The objective of the assembly was to develop a knowledge platform within and outside the region for new technologies, establish and outline priorities, capacity development, policy interventions and new networks initiate to sustain and protect soil and plant health. It also addressed the common global issues of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which is significant in Asia-Pacific' major occupation of agriculture. The role of land degradation and carbon sequestration in soil health, and lingering harm of pests and diseases to plant health were some of the foremost discussion raised during the event.

The meeting was co-organized by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS), International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and Council of Agriculture, Taiwan (COA).

30. Managing agriculture digitally, a forum of university agriculture experts, scholars and entrepreneurs

The “Sustainable Food Digital Agriculture Innovation Management Seminar” co-sponsored by the International Association of Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), Singapore Management University (SMU) and the Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Institutions Alliance (APAARI) was held in Singapore on the 27th, inviting the United States, Taiwan, Experts, scholars and venture capitalists from all walks of the agricultural value chain attended the meeting in India and Thailand.

The conference focused on the concept of smart plant factories as a reliable source of food security in

response to the severe challenge faced by the global agriculture. Various speakers expressed their suggestions ranging from the wide use of applications in research and development, technical operation, product marketing, digitalization of image-containing sensing systems, and block chain development. Currently the United States have adapted the system to support their agriculture and Taiwan has been developing plant factories for 8 years already are some of the good examples mentioned during the meeting.

31. A Global Event to Accelerate the End of Hunger and Malnutrition

APAARI attended an event organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) with a vision to achieve food security and accelerate the progress to end hunger and malnutrition. The world with a targeted year to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 is experiencing a slow progress in eliminating hunger and malnutrition and widely seen across countries. The increased number of undernourished people worldwide, stunted children, overweight, obesity and associated communicable diseases are some of the major factors considered on a global scale. Our global food system is also threatened by continued conflict like rapid urbanization and climate change, and a need to speed up the progress to end hunger and malnutrition must take place.

This points to an array of introducing accelerators, which can be identified as policy, intervention, countrywide strategies, and innovations. The event highlighted high level panel discussions, acceleration fair (side events), parallel and plenary session, and networking. The Global Nutrition Report 2018 was launched and highlighted an unacceptable burden of malnutrition figures with slow and inconsistent progress to end global hunger. A publication on Future Smart Food (FSF) by FAO was also inaugurated during the event to address Zero Hunger in Asia-Pacific. It is a term for neglected and underutilized species (NUS) which is a potential solution to increase dietary and production diversity if integrated throughout the entire food system.

32. Webinar on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation (CDAIS)

APAARI organized a webinar on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation jointly organized by the Tropical Agricultural Platform -TAP, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), which targets University Managers, leaders and post graduate students in the Asia Pacific region. Resource persons and the academic community were brought together focusing on agri-food research and innovation in the Asia-Pacific region, in the dialogue on capacity development. It aimed to raise awareness on the importance of developing functional capacities to unlock the potential for agricultural innovation and the role of higher education in developing the respective capacities. It also raised awareness among professionals in higher education on the Common Framework on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CD for AIS) developed by TAP and partners, its principles and tools, including functional capacities for AIS – individual, organizational and enabling environment.

II. Activities Undertaken

1. Knowledge Management Programme

1.1 APAARI Website

The APAARI website is based on the Wordpress Content Management system and it is updated regularly on news from partners, publications, events and opportunity announcements. It is an interactive version accessible on tablets and mobile phone, and with social media integration of applications like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Blogger. The site also features easy to navigate

drop down menus which link pages to overview about APAARI, collective resources of publication, the ongoing projects and essential information on how to become a member.

APAARI Website and Statistics (1 May - 30 November 2018)

Month	Unique Visitors	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits
May-18	10,552	18,802	255,761	327,191
June-18	19,376	25,628	185,470	244,789
July-18	6,263	13,112	313,035	375,430
August-18	6,181	12,988	367,426	431,216
September-18	5,407	11,541	246,314	315,209
October-18	6,809	13,259	291,173	370,064
November-18	5,424	9,987	223,916	270,174
Total	60,012	105,317	1,883,095	2,334, 073

The chart above shows the trend of visits to APAARI website with URL www.apaari.org for the past seven months. Unique visitors are recorded based on the IP addresses of the visitors while the number of visits is basically how many times the site, and its pages, was visited on a monthly basis. Based on the recorded web statistics ([AWStat](#)), the amount of traffic to the APAARI site depends on the following factors:

- i. Direct address/Bookmark/Link in email: 86.1.9%
- ii. Organic (Search engine like Google, Yahoo, Bing etc): 2.2%
- iii. External pages (Social media platforms): 11.6%
- iv. Others: .4%

1.2 APAARI Social Media

APAARI is currently active in updating its social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Blogger and Slideshare. The measurement of interests among these social media varies depending on the application. For Facebook, it is measured by the number of Likes; Twitter, Blogger and Slideshare has its Followers; and LinkedIn is in the Connections it established. With Facebook, the interest can be shown not merely by the number of Likes, but also on the amount of people following the network. Up to date APAARI Facebook has 792 Likes (with 819 who follows); Twitter has 412 followers; and 236 connections for its LinkedIn account. Blogger and Slideshare networks have been dormant although it contains substantial information about the latest blogs and slide presentations. Blogger has four blog posts written by APAARI staff on various topics: High-Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific; The Committee on World Food Security CFS44; and the 3rd Symposium on Cryopreservation. The SlideShare, on the other hand, has 70 slide presentations uploaded with the following presentations on: About APAARI, to enable people to learn about the association; KM Workshop 2018 Lao PDR; Expert Consultation on Biotechnology; APAARI Webinar with Universities on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems - Bringing system-wide change in the Asia-Pacific; presentations from the Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops; presentation on Bringing

Transformational Learning and Capacity Development to Universities in Asia-Pacific to Enhance Agricultural Innovation Systems; and “Does Cryopreservation Stress Impact Genotype Integrity? A Case Study with Germplasm of Musa pp.”.

1.3 APCoAB Website and Social Media

The site has a new look with updates related to Biotechnology and Bioresources in Asia and the Pacific. The news section is updated on a regular basis with sources from APAARI partners and global feeds, events with latest publications available for download. The migration of APCoAB website to APAARI server last year resulted in the inability to measure the site statistics due to shared hosting. The only method to measure the site’s behavior is to manually check the APCoAB related pages visited/browsed based on the reports recorded by [AWStat](#). With its latest social media engagement through Facebook, the purpose is to expand the information sharing related to APCoAB activities in the region. Posting of news, events and expert consultations will be the major source of increasing engagement.

1.4 APAARI Network Highlights

APAARI disseminated five issues of its bi-monthly ANH between January and October 2018, the next will come up in November 2018. The network highlight is a compilation of latest news, announcements, opportunities, success stories and publications from partners and stakeholders and shared through email, website and social media platforms.

I. Visits and Partnerships

1.1 Partnership for Knowledge Management

APAARI signed an LoA with FAO-RAP (Bangkok) for knowledge management activities aligned to a workshop held on June 2018 on the use of Drones for Agriculture, and the upcoming E-agriculture Forum on November 2018 in Nanjing, China.

An upcoming Webinar on CD for AIS targeting agriculture universities is scheduled on 30 November 2018. It is APAARI-FAO Rome, collaboration on the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) that was based on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CD for AIS) project in 2017. APAARI, will equally promote the Common Framework on CD for AIS by printing and dissemination TAP promotional materials and presentations at various events, meetings and social media platforms. APAARI will also coordinate TAPipedia webinars and facilitate the expansion of TAPipedia network and facilitate other knowledge sharing products.

1.2 Partnership with the European Union

APAARI has been following up on its participation in the EDD 2018, where it was actively advocating the role of the TAP and the need for transformation in agricultural education systems as a pre-condition for effective agricultural innovation systems. Following the parallel discussions with DEVCO and DG-Research, APAARI developed its first Capability Statement highlighting its key expertise and capacities to add value to the strengthening of agri-food research and innovation systems. The Statement was specifically requested by EU DEVCO, as well as APAARI ECM of 2017, to improve the donor understanding of what APAARI is, its role in facilitating agricultural innovation processes, and key capacities. APAARI is also following up on its partnership discussions, particularly on: (i) collaboration with the EU in key priority areas of agricultural innovation; (ii) inclusion of APAARI in key EU working groups; (iii) scoping for a new Europe-Asia project on priority issues to EU, such as climate-smart agriculture and food security.

In addition, APAARI prepared a ‘shortlist’ of the calls under the EU Horizon 2020 facility that are most relevant and accessible beyond Europe. It then held a consultation among its technical staff to identify key relevant areas under the topic ‘Sustainable Food Security’, which are as follows:

SFS-01-2018-2019-2020: Biodiversity in action: across farmland and the value chain

- SFS-05-2018-2019-2020: New and emerging risks to plant health
- LC-SFS-19-2018-2019: Climate-smart and resilient farming
- DT-SFS-26-2019: Food Cloud demonstrators

EU-based partners were identified and APAARI is currently exploring inclusion in the already existing consortia to extend the scope of already developed project concepts to Asia and the Pacific.

1.3 Partnership with Africa

In the context of APAARI ECM of 2018 and the Regional Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology held from 28-31 May 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand, APAARI and the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) signed a Partnership Agreement. The signing ceremony included Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI, and Director General, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, and high-level officials from the ministries and National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of various countries of Asia-Pacific. Also present were representatives from USAID, ICRIAT, IRRI, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology and others.

According to the principles of the two regional fora, the signing of the agreement by the leaders of both secretariats comes at the time of implementation of South-South framework that opens the two regions to mutually beneficial growth opportunities. The Partnership Agreement will allow growth options between the two regions that hitherto remain largely unexploited. The agreement will consolidate the two geopolitical regions as the largest global alliance of the most food and nutrition-challenged vulnerable people that are now repositioned to explore new prospects that are expected to be a game-changing collaborative framework across the two regional fora.

An initial discussion between FARA and APAARI identified the need for partnership to address issues of mutual interest confronting the agricultural sector in the two continents. This discussion has led to the drafting of a Partnership Agreement that sets the scope of the operationalization frame to work together and foster synergistic actions and partnerships.

The partnership will focus on: (i) exchange of knowledge and expertise on agricultural research; (ii) innovation and development; (iii) joint scoping for regional and inter-regional projects on research and innovation, capacity development and policy advocacy with a special focus on women, youth and agribusiness.

On 15 October 2018, APAARI organized a Skype conference with FARA to follow up on the signed Partnership Agreement. The discussions with FARA have been timely since it is now developing its 10-year strategy to be implemented from next year, which presents an important opportunity to include collaboration with other regional fora. It was discussed that FARA-APAARI collaboration could be a ‘test case’ in this strategy implementation. FARA is taking a multidimensional approach to build resilience of farmers, and is committed to build capacity for science and documenting lessons from NARS, particularly how to feed these lessons into climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and post-harvest for farmers. It is committed to extend its operations beyond Africa, and scope for joint projects and funding with APAARI. Concrete opportunities that were identified include: (i) collaboration with the EU Science for Development initiative (technology transfer) and GFAR; (ii) explore APAARI’s

inclusion in the consortia under EU Horizon 2020 that FARA is already part of (CIRAD and SLU); (iii) opportunities under RUFORUM to collaborate with African and Asian universities; (iv) APAARI to play a role in an EU working group for Asia and the Pacific.

The following next steps have been agreed to be implemented in November-December 2018: (i) identification of areas of mutual importance in which APAARI and FARA can jointly pitch in and jointly scope for funding; (ii) FARA to look at APAARI's existing strategy and align with 1-2 areas (there are 4 thematic, 4 functional – programme areas, and 2 cross-cutting); (iii) invitation of APAARI to Africa Agricultural Science week 2019; (iv) integration of APAARI under one of the two consortia that FARA is already part in (CIRAD or SLU); (v) identification of EU priorities to access EU Desira funds and build on meetings with the EU in May-June 2018; (vi) sharing of lessons learned on PPARD (Partnership for Africa and Europe) and scope for a similar project for Asia; and (vii) preparation of a joint APAARI-FARA paper on Afro-Asian partnership for agricultural innovation, as a background for approaching donors.

1.4 APAARI Project Proposal for the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) / Council of Agriculture (COA) Taiwan for a USD 6.9 million project

Strengthening Knowledge and Capacity for Agricultural Innovation Systems in the Asia-Pacific Tropics is a new project developed by APAARI and submitted for funding of the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) and Council of Agriculture (COA) Taiwan, worth USD 6.9 million.

The project recognized that the global agri-food system is one of the world's greatest contributors to environmental damage, including agrochemical pollution, desertification, deforestation, drought, depleting aquifers, biodiversity loss, land degradation, soil infertility, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change while it also threatens consumer health and food safety. At the same time, at least 815 million people worldwide remain undernourished or food insecure with over half (491 million) in Asia and the Pacific. Innovation in agriculture is a precondition for meeting the challenge of feeding the world's growing population in the face of a changing climate and degrading natural resources. It is fundamental to achieving the SDGs of ending poverty and hunger, improving food security and nutrition, and contributing to sustainable agriculture by and beyond 2030. Many countries are however not fully exploiting their innovation potential. In order to do so, they must manage their knowledge and information more effectively, strengthen the capacity of individuals and organizations, create an enabling environment and, crucially, reinforce or make agricultural innovation systems (AIS) in Asia-Pacific more effective.

The purpose of the proposed five-year project is to reduce the knowledge, information and capacity gap of AIS in the Asia-Pacific Tropics in key areas of need. This is by improving the management of data on institutional developments, investments, outputs and human resource capacity in the context of the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS); knowledge management (KM) to speed up the generation, adaptation, transfer and dissemination of scientific knowledge needed for scaling up and out of successful innovations; technical capacity of researchers and scientists with particular emphasis on agricultural biotechnologies, bioresources, and tissue culture; functional capacities (soft skills) of and policy dialogue with agricultural education institutions to enable them to better address the complex and interrelated economic, social and environmental sustainability challenges facing agri-food systems today; entrepreneurship skills of young prospective entrepreneurs in commercial plant tissue culture and farmers' knowledge about its benefits; and institutional frameworks (enabling environment) within which individuals and organizations in Asia-Pacific can sustainably improve their own capacity and innovate, enhance agricultural productivity and farmers' livelihoods, and thereby continuously strengthen the AIS.

The action will be coordinated and implemented by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), in collaboration with a range of APAARI members and other stakeholders, and is in line with the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022.

The proposed five-year project will have five sub-projects with specific objectives, expected outputs and outcomes, all envisioned to have a positive impact on future investments and policy decisions in AIS, thereby contributing to the development of the Asia-Pacific agri-food sector.

Sub-Project 1 – Development of agricultural science and technology indicators in the Pacific aims to generate information and knowledge on agricultural research performance in the Pacific Island Countries (PICs)¹ and related analysis. APAARI will closely collaborate with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), the Pacific Community (SPC) and the main national agricultural research institutes (NARIs) and organizations (NAROs) of PICs.

Sub-Project 2 – Capacity enhancement in agricultural biotechnologies and their applications for conservation and use of bioresources for sustainable agri-food system in the Pacific aims to develop capacities of relevant stakeholders in agricultural biotechnologies and their various application in agriculture, bio-prospecting, conservation and use of bioresources for sustainable agri-food system, as per the needs of some selected PICs. In the context of the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources (APCoAB), APAARI will closely collaborate with the Council of Agriculture (COA) of Taiwan, Taiwan Technical Missions in the Pacific, SPC, NARS of the participating countries from PICs, Academia Sinica Agricultural Biotechnology Research Centre (ABRC) of Taiwan, National Technical University of Taiwan, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), and Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL).

Sub-Project 3 – Capacity Building in Commercial Plant Tissue Culture Sector for Addressing the Need of Quality Planting Materials of Horticultural Crops in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of South Asia aims to develop human capacity through awareness generation for farmers, skill development for researchers and graduate/post-graduate students, and entrepreneurship development for young prospective entrepreneurs in area of commercial plant tissue culture in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. APAARI will closely collaborate with BCIL of India, ABRC of Taiwan, and NARS institutions of the participating countries.

Sub-Project 4 – Transformation of agricultural university education to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region aims to address the need to strengthen Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and other professional agricultural education institutions in South², Southeast³ Asia and the Pacific through development of functional skills envisioned to improve education policies, teaching, curricula, research or public service, as well as farmer extension systems for the major paradigm shift required to address the existing challenges facing AFS. APAARI will closely collaborate with the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP)/FAO, Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA), and HEIs and other agricultural education institutions of participating countries identified in collaboration with the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and SPC.

¹ To be selected from SPC Member Countries: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshal Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

² To be selected from South Asian countries that include: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

³ To be selected from Southeast Asian countries that include: Brunei; Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam plus non-ASEAN Timor Leste.

Sub-Project 5 – Strengthening APAARI’s Role as a Knowledge Platform for Scaling up of Agricultural Innovations in Asia-Pacific aims to strengthen APAARI’s KM processes to become a valuable facilitator of regional learning, knowledge sharing, capacity development and collaboration. APAARI will closely collaborate with its member institutions, particularly with NARS, as well as the ASTI project.

In this project, APAARI will ensure gender balance across all project components, which will also be reflected in the detailed Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework to be developed upon the project approval.

1.5 Other Partnerships signed

Memorandum of Understanding were signed between APAARI and International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), Italy and APAARI and Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL) to collaborate in capacity building in areas of agricultural biotechnology.

2.2. Meetings General Scoping for Partnership

2.2.1 APAARI Meeting with USAID, Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary and Dr. Rishi Tyagi, Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB), along with Ms. Tarathip Sanboonkrong (Project/Admin Assist), APAARI visited United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Bangkok, Thailand, on June 7, 2018. To discuss with Dr. Tracy Powell, Agricultural Research Advisor and Mr. Sutham Phurahong, Agriculture Project Management Specialist, USAID regarding how to engage with USAID about development of Policy Advocacy and Science Technology of Agriculture for the countries of Southeast Asia.

2.2.2 APAARI visited Department of Agriculture, Thailand

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal visited Department of Agriculture (DOA), Bangkok, Thailand for discussions on the modalities of organizing a proposed DOA-APAARI Regional Conference on Soil and Plant health and to also discuss on other opportunities and avenues of partnership on 15 June, 2018.

2.2.3 APAARI visited International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), Singapore

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal went to Singapore for discussions on strengthening partnership with International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), Singapore on 7-8 July, 2018.

2.2.4 APAARI Meeting with Crops for the Future, Selangor, Malaysia and MARDI, Penang, Malaysia

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal along with Dr. Rishi Tyagi, APAARI visited Crops for Future (CFF) and Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) on 21 – 24 July 2018 at Malaysia for discussion regarding Workshop on Underutilized Animal Resources and their Amelioration which will be organized by APAARI/APCoAB in collaboration with MARDI, Malaysia that will be held on 22-24 January, 2019, and for envisaging possibility of establishing a Center of Excellence on underutilized crops at CFF.

2.2.5 APAARI visited European Union (EU) in Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal visited Patrick Deboyser, Minister Counselor of Health and Food Safety of European Union (EU) in Bangkok, Thailand. The visit held on 31 July 2018 was to discuss on possible

areas of partnership for food safety and development of the knowledge-based hub on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) capacity building.

2.2.6 APAARI meeting with DOA Thailand on ASTI Project

Norah Omot, Nguyen Pham and Tarathip Sanboonkrong visited DOA on 6 August 2018 to discuss the progress of the survey and challenges faced in implementing the survey. Key person met was Dr Isiwat Bandrapiwat.

2.2.7 APAARI visited the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Bangladesh

Dr Ravi Khetarpal, APAARI Executive Secretary, visited the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on 7 August 2018 and met with the Director and Senior Staff and have agreed upon to jointly host a workshop for participatory need-based programme development through consultations. This will help develop a plan of action for SAC in South Asia and also areas of collaboration on joint projects were explored.

2.2.8 APAARI visited Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Visit made by Norah Omot and Nguyen Pham on 16-17 August 2018 to discuss on survey progress, research systems of Myanmar, research outputs by Department of Agriculture Research and influence pathway. Key people met were Dr Thanda Kyi-Focal Point, Mr Kyaw Min Oo-Director General-Department of Planning-MOALI, DDG and staff of Department of Planning and the Department of Agriculture.

2.2.9 APAARI visited Cambodia Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Visit made by Norah Omot and Thansita Tanaphatrujira on 27-28 August 2018 to discuss on survey progress, research systems of Cambodia, research outputs and influence pathway. Key people met were Dr Chanty Pol-Focal Point, Dr Makara-DG, and staff of CARDI.

2.2.10 APAARI visited External Relations, ICRISAT

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Ms Martina Spisiakova met Ms Joanna Kane-Potaka, ADG, External Relations, ICRISAT, regarding the opportunity to become a strategic partner on the Smart Food initiative on 29 August, 2018 at New Delhi, India.

2.2.11 Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institution (MARDI), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Visit made by Norah Omot on 4 September to discuss on survey progress, research systems of Malaysia, research outputs and influence pathway. Key people met were Ms Rozana Binti Nik-Project Assistant, Dr Roslina Binti Ali-Focal Point, Director General of MARDI Dr Mohamad Roff Mohd Noor and Mr Tipsir Serin, Director for Economic and Social Science Center.

2.2.12 APAARI participated in TAP Steering Committee Meeting – ROME

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal participated in TAP Steering Committee Meeting – ROME through skype on 13 September 2018.

2.2.13 APAARI meeting in National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan

Dr Ravi Khetarpal, Executive secretary, APAARI, visited Agricultural Expert and Professors in National Chung Hsing University to discuss the possibility of further cooperation with the potential experts and professors on 10-14 September, 2018 at Taiwan.

2.2.14 APAARI meeting with FAORAP, Bangkok

Dr .Ravi Khetarpal had a discussion with Mr. Gilmozzi, Senior Administrative Officer, FAO RAP regarding FAO vis-à-vis APAARI relationship on 17 September, 2018 at FAO RAP, Bangkok, Thailand.

2.2.15 APAARI visited JIRCAS, Bangkok, Thailand

Dr Ravi Khetarpal and Thansita Tanaphatrujira visited Dr Naruo Matsumoto from Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS) on 18 September 2018.

2.2.16 APAARI visited Taipei Economic & Cultural Office

Dr .Ravi Khetarpal and Dr Rishi Tyagi met Dr .Paul Shek, Mr. Boris C.K.Chang and Ms. Yu-Chen Shih, Taipei Economic & Cultural Office, on 9 October, 2018 Bangkok, Thailand.

2.2.17 APAARI Meeting Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) in Beijing, China

Dr Ravi Khetarpal visited Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) in Beijing, China on 13 October 2018 and met with the Director General Gong Xifegag, and senior officials of Department of International Cooperation. The meeting was held on 12 October 2018 and discussed on possibilities of China resuming membership with modalities on collaboration between APAARI and CAAS.

2.2.18 APAARI Meeting with DOA Thailand in ASTI Project

Visit made by Gert-Jan Stad, Norah Omot, Nguyen Pham and Tarathip Sanboonkrong to DOA on 22 October 2018, to discuss on the data already collected and uploaded on the ASTI system and plans for additional data collection for November and December. Key person met was Dr Isiwat Bandrapiwat.

2.2.19 APAARI visit with Director General of DOA, Thailand

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal and Dr Rishi Tyagi visited and congratulated Ms. Sermsuk Salakphet, DG, Department of Agriculture (DOA) Thailand on 26 October, 2018 on her new appointment at DOA office, Bangkok, Thailand.

2.2.20 APAARI meeting with AFMA and NEDAC, Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal had a meeting with AFMA – NEDAC – APAARI for discussion regarding tri-partner on 26 October, 2018 at FAO Annex building, Bangkok, Thailand.

2.2.21 APAARI visit with NARI, Papua New Guinea

National Agricultural Research Institute, Lae, PNG, a visit made by Norah Omot on 8 November 2018 to discuss the ASTI output publications and research systems of PNG. Key people met were Dr Birte Komolong-Focal Point and My Raywin Ovah-project assistant.

2.2.22 APAARI Meeting with FAORAP Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal had a meeting with Mr. Jong-Jin Kim, Deputy Regional Representative and Mr. Gilmozzi, Senior Administrative Officer, FAO RAP regarding support to Associations on 9 November, 2018 at FAO RAP office, Bangkok, Thailand.

2.2.23 APAARI Meeting with FAORAP Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal had a meeting with Dr Kundhavi Kadiresan, Assistant Director-General of FAO Regional office for Asia-Pacific and discussed APAARI administrative status and possible technical collaboration in the near future.

2.2.24 APAARI attended E-Agriculture Solutions Forum 2018

Fai Collins Dzernyuy attended the E-Agriculture Solutions Forum held in Nanjing, China on 15-17 November 2018. The event empowered with new knowledge and experiences to advance agricultural development through the use of ICTs and organized by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN-FAO) and The International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

2.2.25 APAARI organized the Regional Conference on Soil and Plant Health

APAARI and the Department of Agriculture, Thailand, organized the Regional Conference on the Role of Soil and Plant Health Towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Asia-Pacific and participated by more than 150 invitees, speakers and experts in the Asia-Pacific region. The event gave a focus on knowledge sharing, challenges, and current status of soil and plant health in their countries, and a way forward recommendations on how to reach a strategy in compliance with sustainable development goals (SDG) of the United Nations. The conference was held on 21-23 November 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand.

2.2.26 APAARI participated and co-organized the MAD Conference held in Singapore

Dr Ravi Khetarpal participated in a conference of leading entrepreneurs, academics and industry stakeholders and possible collaborations on innovative business models and digital technologies to support food sustainability in the ASEAN. The event was organized by International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS) and Singapore Management University and held on 27 November 2018.

2.2.27 APAARI attended the Accelerating the End of Hunger and Malnutrition – A Global Event

Celilu Bitong attended an event organized by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Food and Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on Accelerating the End of Hunger and Malnutrition which took place in Bangkok, Thailand on 28-30 November 2018. The event calls for interventions, policies and innovations to overcome barriers and challenges in ending hunger and malnutrition.

2.2.28 APAARI organized Webinar on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation

APAARI organized a Webinar on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation jointly co-organized by the Tropical Agricultural Platform -TAP, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization- FAO on 30 November 2018. The webinar targets University Managers, leaders and post

graduate students in the Asia Pacific region with resource persons are technocrats and hands on specialists on capacity development and agri-food research and innovation.

II. Project Scoping, Drafting and Submitting

4.1 APAARI Project Proposal for the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) / Council of Agriculture (COA) Taiwan for a USD 6.9 million project

Strengthening Knowledge and Capacity for Agricultural Innovation Systems in the Asia-Pacific Tropics is a new project developed by APAARI and submitted for funding of the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) and Council of Agriculture (COA) Taiwan, worth USD 6.9 million.

The project recognized that the global agri-food system is one of the world's greatest contributors to environmental damage, including agrochemical pollution, desertification, deforestation, drought, depleting aquifers, biodiversity loss, land degradation, soil infertility, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change while it also threatens consumer health and food safety. At the same time, at least 815 million people worldwide remain undernourished or food insecure with over half (491 million) in Asia and the Pacific. Innovation in agriculture is a precondition for meeting the challenge of feeding the world's growing population in the face of a changing climate and degrading natural resources. It is fundamental to achieving the SDGs of ending poverty and hunger, improving food security and nutrition, and contributing to sustainable agriculture by and beyond 2030. Many countries are however not fully exploiting their innovation potential. In order to do so, they must manage their knowledge and information more effectively, strengthen the capacity of individuals and organizations, create an enabling environment and, crucially, reinforce or make agricultural innovation systems (AIS) in Asia-Pacific more effective.

The purpose of the proposed five-year project is to reduce the knowledge, information and capacity gap of AIS in the Asia-Pacific Tropics in key areas of need. This is by improving the management of data on institutional developments, investments, outputs and human resource capacity in the context of the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS); knowledge management (KM) to speed up the generation, adaptation, transfer and dissemination of scientific knowledge needed for scaling up and out of successful innovations; technical capacity of researchers and scientists with particular emphasis on agricultural biotechnologies, bioresources, and tissue culture; functional capacities (soft skills) of and policy dialogue with agricultural education institutions to enable them to better address the complex and interrelated economic, social and environmental sustainability challenges facing agri-food systems today; entrepreneurship skills of young prospective entrepreneurs in commercial plant tissue culture and farmers' knowledge about its benefits; and institutional frameworks (enabling environment) within which individuals and organizations in Asia-Pacific can sustainably improve their own capacity and innovate, enhance agricultural productivity and farmers' livelihoods, and thereby continuously strengthen the AIS.

The action will be coordinated and implemented by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), in collaboration with a range of APAARI members and other stakeholders, and is in line with the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022.

The proposed five-year project will have five sub-projects with specific objectives, expected outputs and outcomes, all envisioned to have a positive impact on future investments and policy decisions in AIS, thereby contributing to the development of the Asia-Pacific agri-food sector.

Sub-Project 1 – Development of agricultural science and technology indicators in the Pacific aims to generate information and knowledge on agricultural research performance in the Pacific Island Countries (PICs)⁴ and related analysis. APAARI will closely collaborate with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), the Pacific Community (SPC) and the main national agricultural research institutes (NARIs) and organizations (NAROs) of PICs.

Sub-Project 2 – Capacity enhancement in agricultural biotechnologies and their applications for conservation and use of bioresources for sustainable agri-food system in the Pacific aims to develop capacities of relevant stakeholders in agricultural biotechnologies and their various application in agriculture, bio-prospecting, conservation and use of bioresources for sustainable agri-food system, as per the needs of some selected PICs. In the context of the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources (APCoAB), APAARI will closely collaborate with the Council of Agriculture (COA) of Taiwan, Taiwan Technical Missions in the Pacific, SPC, NARS of the participating countries from PICs, Academia Sinica Agricultural Biotechnology Research Centre (ABRC) of Taiwan, National Technical University of Taiwan, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), and Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL).

Sub-Project 3 – Capacity Building in Commercial Plant Tissue Culture Sector for Addressing the Need of Quality Planting Materials of Horticultural Crops in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of South Asia aims to develop human capacity through awareness generation for farmers, skill development for researchers and graduate/post-graduate students, and entrepreneurship development for young prospective entrepreneurs in area of commercial plant tissue culture in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. APAARI will closely collaborate with BCIL of India, ABRC of Taiwan, and NARS institutions of the participating countries.

Sub-Project 4 – Transformation of agricultural university education to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region aims to address the need to strengthen Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and other professional agricultural education institutions in South⁵, Southeast⁶ Asia and the Pacific through development of functional skills envisioned to improve education policies, teaching, curricula, research or public service, as well as farmer extension systems for the major paradigm shift required to address the existing challenges facing AFS. APAARI will closely collaborate with the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP)/FAO, Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA), and HEIs and other agricultural education institutions of participating countries identified in collaboration with the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and SPC.

Sub-Project 5 – Strengthening APAARI's Role as a Knowledge Platform for Scaling up of Agricultural Innovations in Asia-Pacific aims to strengthen APAARI's KM processes to become a valuable facilitator of regional learning, knowledge sharing, capacity development and collaboration. APAARI will closely collaborate with its member institutions, particularly with NARS, as well as the ASTI project.

⁴ To be selected from SPC Member Countries: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshal Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

⁵ To be selected from South Asian countries that include: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

⁶ To be selected from Southeast Asian countries that include: Brunei; Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam plus non-ASEAN Timor Leste.

In this project, APAARI will ensure gender balance across all project components, which will also be reflected in the detailed Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework to be developed upon the project approval.


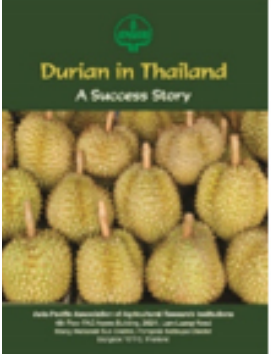
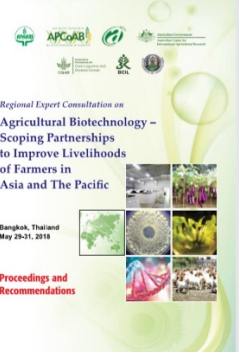
4.2 APAARI Project Proposal for Higher Education (HEI)

- Dr. Wayne Nelles, drafted an APAARI component for a concept note on Mapping and Assessing ASEAN Higher Agriculture Education, Research and Extension (HAERE) To Achieve SDGs in Southeast Asia (2018-2019): Phase One - A Preliminary Rapid Appraisal. The concept for a proposed study to be conducted in 2019 is being led by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Bangkok with proposed USD 100,000 budget and APAARI, SEARCA and Chulalongkorn University as core partners contributing to implementation of ASEAN Work-Plan on Education (AWPE), 2016-2020. UNESCO submitted the concept to ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta and Office of the Higher Education Commission (OHEC), Ministry of Education, Thailand requesting budget support from ASEAN Trust Funds. The concept requires endorsement by all ASEAN Member States. OHEC has tabled the proposal for consideration by Senior Officials and Ministers of Education (SOM-ED). However, funding is still not secure. SOM-ED decision on project approval is pending. If ASEAN SOM-ED approves it in principle UNESCO must also negotiate with a suitable donor (and ASEAN Secretariat) about budget details and project timeline.
- Dr. Wayne Nelles, drafted a preliminary concept note on Mapping, Strengthening and Scaling-up Agroecology in Asia-Pacific Higher Education, Science and Extension to Encourage Innovation and meet SDGs, 2019-2022. The proposed project is intended as a flagship HEI activity of APPARI to complement FAO's Scaling-up Agroecology Initiative: Transforming Food and Agricultural systems in Support of the SDGS launched in 2018. The APAARI concept was shared with FAO Rome headquarters and a discussion meeting held with FAO-RAP project officer in Bangkok. The concept was submitted for funding consideration to EU in Bangkok and shared with EU officials in Brussels. APAARI still needs to follow-up with EU and FAO to assess if the proposed project is suitable for EU support, to develop a budget, further develop on a more detailed work-plan and secure adequate funding. Additionally, APAARI could pursue a broader partnership with FAO on other elements of FAO's Scaling-up Agroecology Initiative. For this APAARI will need complementary funding with different donors or other partners.
- Dr. Wayne Nelles, drafted a preliminary concept on “***Higher Education for Sustainable Agri-food Systems (HESAS) in India through National Reform and ASEAN-SAARC Partnerships: Five Activity Themes for Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Consideration.***” APAARI's Executive Secretary presented the concept to ICAR in June 2018. Follow-up is required in 2019 to agree on potential next steps for more strategic APAARI-ICAR collaboration in India as well as across ASEAN and the SAARC regions.

III. Publications

The latest APAARI Newsletter for June 2018 was published in the second half of 2018 and disseminated to members and stakeholders. APCoAB designed and updated a new flyer on July 2018 and Success Stories on Bt Brinjal from Bangladesh, Climate Smart Farmers' Field School from Philippines and Thailand Durian have been published. PDF copies are available for download from APAARI website.

Publication	Month in which published	Cover
Thematic, Strategic Papers and Country Status Reports presented during Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops for Food and Nutritional Security in Asia and the Pacific, held on November 13-15, 2017 (ISBN 978-616-7101-10-1) (2018)	June 2018	
APAARI Newsletter June 2018	July 2018	
APCoAB Brochure	July 2018	
Success Story on Bt Brinjal from Bangladesh	August 2018	

Success Story on Climate Smart Farmers' Field School as Extension Modality for Climate Change Adaptation in Rice Farming: Bicol, Philippines	August 2018	
Success Story on Thailand Durian	August 2018	
APAARI Capability Statement	November 2018	
Agricultural Biotechnology – Scoping Partnership to Improve Livelihoods of Farmers in Asia and the Pacific Proceedings and Recommendations ISBN 978-616-7101-13-2	November 2018	

ASTI Flyer	November 2018	
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IV. Membership Drive

During the period January – November 2018, APAARI had 8 new members; International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS) and Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), India as Associate members; Mahidol University, National Chung Hsing University and Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) as Affiliate members and Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Science (TAAS), Human Life Advancement Foundation (HLAF) and Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) as Reciprocal member. Currently APAARI has 77 members.

V. International/Regional Collaboration

During the period under review, APAARI had active discussions with FAO-RAP, ACIAR, TAAS, SAARC and DoA, Thailand, and organized and participated in several activities/ programmes including workshops, conferences and expert consultations.

VI. Forthcoming APAARI-supported Meetings/Workshops

1. *International Seminar on Conservation and Prospecting of Bioresources in Asia Pacific region, 18-20 December, Taipei, Taiwan*

Under APCoAB programme, APAARI and COA are organizing seminar comprising technical sessions on Policy and Regulation of Bioresources in Asia Pacific Region, Conservation and Prospecting of Bioresources in Pacific island Countries, Prospecting and Application of Bioresources in in Asia Pacific Regions, Toward Successful Commercialization of Bioresources in Taiwan, including a field visit.

2. *The 2nd APAARI Executive Committee Meeting 2018, 21 December 2018, Taipei, Taiwan*

3. *APAARI 15th General Assembly 2018, 21 December, Taipei, Taiwan*

4. *Workshop on Underutilized Animal Resources of Asia-Pacific and their Amelioration, 22-24 January 2019, Selangor Malaysia*

The Regional Workshop is being organized by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources (APCoAB), Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan, and Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)

in collaboration with Department of Veterinary Services (DVS), Malaysia and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia.

VII. APAARI Sponsorship for Capacity Development

APAARI has invited nomination for the 3rd Master Class Training Course in Agricultural Leadership and Management and held at Penang, Malaysia from 11-16 November, 2018.

VIII. Epilogue

APAARI has given more focus on establishing new partnership and linkages outside its region and however still broadening its major programmes on Knowledge Management, APCoAB and ASTI project implementation with a view to broaden agricultural research and innovation in Asia and the Pacific. Its latest participation in EU conference and meetings, partnership with association in Africa, and enhanced advocacy on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are some of the collective actions APAARI undertook this year with recently signed MoU's and collaboration.

Annexure IV - Agenda 4

Agenda 4. ECM Recommendations



APAARI ECM PROCEEDINGS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2017-18

FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sub: APAARI ECM Proceedings for the Biennium 2017-18 (For Endorsement)

A. PURPOSE

1. To apprise the Assembly of the proceedings of the various Executive Committee Meetings held since January 2017 until 31st November 2018; and
2. To seek the Assembly's endorsement of the proceedings of ECMs held during the Biennium 2017-18.

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATION

1. Three ECMs were held during the biennium 2017-18, covering specific periods i) November 2016 to June 2017, ii) July to October 2017 and iii) November to April 2018 were prepared and circulated to APAARI members, partners and stakeholders. Copies were uploaded on the APAARI website links were provided to all.
2. The proceedings of ECMs attached (in Annex 1 to Annex IV) with this submission is for the period biennium 2017-18. It may be noted that the period covered is from 1st January 2017 to 30th November 2018.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the Assembly:

1. Consider and peruse the proceedings of ECMs since January 2017 to 30th November 2018; and
2. Provide endorsement of the proceedings of ECMs during the Biennium 2017-18.



APAARI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (1/2017)
Bangkok, Thailand, 14 July 2017

PROCEEDINGS

The first meeting of the APAARI Executive Committee (EC) for 2017 was held on 14 July 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand under the Chairmanship of Dr. Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI, and Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Pakistan. The meeting was attended by 21 participants including EC members, special invitees and staff of the APAARI Secretariat (Annex. I).

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and introduction

Dr. Bhag Mal, Interim Executive Secretary, APAARI, welcomed the Chairman, Vice Chairman, EC members and special invitees. He then formally introduced the participants to the first Executive Committee Meeting (ECM). The Interim Executive Secretary elaborated on key agenda items, including APAARI Progress Report for November 2016 – June 2017, Biennial Work Plan for 2017-2018, Income and Expenditure Plan 2017-2018, and ASTI project update. The Interim Executive Secretary also apprised the members about the documents/papers made available for the meeting and the important publications provided/displayed for participants' information.

Agenda Item 2: Opening remarks and release of publications by Chairman, APAARI

Before his opening remarks, Dr. Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI, released the following APAARI publications: (i) APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022: Pathways to Strengthened Agri-Food Research and Innovation Systems in Asia and the Pacific (full and abridged versions); (ii) Proceedings of the Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific; and (iii) Investments in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Country Status Reports.

In his opening remarks (Annex. II), Dr. Zafar emphasized the need for continuous efforts to strengthen APAARI and the collective actions, to effectively contribute to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He stressed the need for continuity and regularity of APAARI activities to implement the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022. He welcomed the APAARI's new team to be led by the new Executive Secretary and also appreciated the contribution of the Interim Executive Secretary to APAARI during the transition period.

Mr. Vincent Lin, Deputy Director General, Department of International affairs, Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan, informed that he has been designated by COA as the member of EC and the arrangement should be treated accordingly by APAARI. He also conveyed COA's agreement to continue supporting APAARI and the APAARI-COA collaborative project on biotechnology.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of the Agenda by the EC

The proposed meeting agenda (Annex. III) was presented by the Interim Executive Secretary and was approved by the ECM with no additional agenda items suggested.

Agenda Item 4: Approval of Minutes of the Last Executive Committee Meeting (ECM)

The Interim Executive Secretary, APAARI, presented the salient features and key decisions from the proceedings of the last ECM (1/2016) held in Bangkok on 8 September 2016 (Annex. IV).

These included:

- Proceedings of ECM held on 10 December 2015 approved
- Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements for January- December 2015 approved
- Financial Statement for 1 January – 15 August 2016 endorsed
- APAARI Work Plan for September – December 2016 approved
- APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22 approved
- Additional members representing AIRCA and the higher education sector approved
- Strengthening of APCoAB programme endorsed
- Organization of the Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food Innovations approved

The EC members perused the minutes and these were formally approved.

Agenda Item 5: APAARI Progress Report: November 2016 – June 2017

The APAARI Progress Report for period, November 2016 – June 2017(Annex.V) was presented by the Interim Executive Secretary. It highlighted the activities undertaken during this period. The presentation covered progress on the key topics of strategic importance to APAARI, including, APAARI knowledge management (KM) programme, key meetings organized by APAARI, APAARI's participation in the meetings organized by partners, APAARI's membership status, project planning, collaboration and partnership, as well as staff changes. The following are the key suggestions:

- The resource mobilization plan for 2017-2018 is an important area APAARI needs to focus on.
- APAARI's reserve funds could be used strategically and in line with international standards of keeping a four-month (120 days) reserve to fund critical areas of work that will improve APAARI's efficiency and effectiveness and fund raising ability.'
- APAARI needs to consider integrating the innovation framework into its operations. The framework was presented at the Expert Consultation in Taiwan and has been tested by ACIAR. It is based on three innovation approaches: (i) incremental, (ii) breakthrough, and (iii) transformational.
- APAARI needs to actively promote women's participation and engagement as they are key contributors to farming and other agricultural activities.
- EC members should be considered to represent APAARI in key meetings of partners in case APAARI is unable to participate.

The EC endorsed the progress report for the period November 2016-June 2017.

Agenda Item 6: Membership and Fee Payment Status (as on 31 May 2017)

The Interim Executive Secretary presented the membership and fee payment status as on 31 May 2017 (Annex. VI). He highlighted that during 2015-2017, the APAARI Secretariat and its partners

continued APAARI's drive to mobilize membership to broaden representation in APAARI. During the period November 2016 – June 2017, two new members joined APAARI in the Associate category. These are: i) Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, India; and Dr Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, India. With addition of these two new members, the total number of members rose to 70 as against 68 in 2016. The following suggestions were made in the ECM on membership mobilization:

- Some members, namely, BAR from the Philippines, and AREEO from Iran, have not paid their membership fee for the last 3 or more years. EC needs to review and develop guidelines to take decision whether to cancel membership of those organizations that have not paid their membership fee contribution to APAARI for more than 3 years.
- To a query about nature of some members, it was clarified that IAUA represented the higher education sector (universities) on the EC and not as an individual organization.
- Mrs JintaweeThaingam, Director of International Agriculture Affairs Group, Department of Agriculture (DOA), Thailand, conveyed the advice of DOA to use the correct title for the King of Thailand as “His Majesty” and not “His Excellency”. This needs to be changed in the GAM report and followed in all future APAARI communications.

The EC endorsed the membership and fee payment status.

Agenda Item 7: Audit Report and Audited Financial Statements January- December 2016

The audit report and audited financial statements for 1 January – 31 December 2016 were prepared by the GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd based in Bangkok, Thailand (Annex. VII). The audit report and audited financial statements were presented by Mr. Rattanachai Dumnernsawat, the external auditor. During the period 1 January – December 2016, APAARI spent USD 606,035.92 and received USD 581,304.82 in the form of membership and partnership contributions and thus overspent USD 24,731.10. However, this was within the budgeted amount of USD 795,838. The audit report and financial statements were found unqualified and satisfactory in all respects and were accepted.

The audit report and audited financial statements for 2016 were endorsed by the EC.

Agenda Item 8: Work Plan for the Biennium 2017-2018

The Interim Executive Secretary introduced the agenda by giving a brief background and mentioned that the detailed Work Plan for the Biennium 2017- 2018 was developed in line with APAARI's Strategic Plan 2017-2022. The work plan was developed following the structure of APAARI's key programmes and was presented by respective persons as follows:

- Knowledge Management, Partnership and Networking, Capacity Development, Women and Youth (Annex. VIIa) – Ms. Martina Spisiakova
- APCoAB activities including COA-APAARI Collaborative Project (Annex. VIIb) - Dr. J. L. Karihaloo
- APAARI Governance and Development - Dr. Raghunath Ghodake
- ASTI Project Update -Dr. Gert-Jan Stads

The presentation also included the detailed plan for the APAARI-COA collaborative programme on biotechnology – APCoAB.

The EC made the following suggestions/recommendations:

- Collaborative research activity between all sub-regions – South Asia, South-east Asia and the Pacific needs to be included in the plan.
- Working with partners who are monitoring the implementation of the Paris commitment on mitigating the effects of climate change needs to be considered in APAARI's knowledge dissemination activities.
- APAARI needs to consider dissemination of new and attractive knowledge products such as op-eds.
- The women and youth programme needs to be addressed more proactively and can potentially attract more funding from donors. Gender champions have been identified in different countries. APAARI can take the lead in identifying such champions in the Asia and Pacific region and facilitate capacity development.
- Different stakeholders possess different knowledge sets and require different communication channels to share this knowledge. The knowledge-sharing strategies of different stakeholders need to be reflected in the stakeholder mapping and the KM and Communication Strategy.
- APAARI needs to learn from existing KM platforms, such as the Science-dev.net, on how to make its stories of agricultural research more attractive.
- Animal science, particularly livestock, has been advancing as its contribution to the GDP increases. APAARI needs to integrate animal science into its programme in addition to focusing on crops.
- In the list of work plan activities and their budgeting, it is important to show the respective APAARI partners, the source of budget, and the likely beneficiaries of outputs.
- Agriculture faces a serious issue in developing KM models. APAARI needs to assess different KM models and determine whether and how they can fit in members' organizations. Development of such KM model and digitization of agriculture could also be pursued in partnership with members and partners to better manage agricultural knowledge.
- Establishing a community of KM and communication focal points from different member and partner organizations is a very good initiative by APAARI. An action plan or a road map should be provided in the KM and Communication Strategy on how these focal points can help enhance KM within AFRIS.

The comments and suggestions for APCoAB-specific activities included:

- The next expert consultation planned by APCoAB needs to be linked to the regional consultation on biotechnology to be organized by FAO and supported by ACIAR.
- Many communication strategies on promoting agri-biotechnology exist but whether they are effective is questionable. APAARI needs to take into consideration communication capacities of targeted stakeholders and learn about local contexts in which biotechnology is promoted.
- KM platforms are important but not all are effective. APAARI needs to pick up emerging issues in biotechnology and document lessons learned and success stories. For example, this includes documenting the adoption of genetically-modified (GM) and non-GM crops, and the reasons why Bt. Brinjal is adopted in Bangladesh but not in India. These lessons require visibility to attract interest of stakeholders.
- Agri-biotechnology programme needs to put more focus on bio-prospecting of bioresources.

The EC approved the Work Plan for implementation during 2017-2018.

Agenda Item 9: Project Ideas for APAARI Governance and Development

Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Senior Advisor, APAARI presented the agenda item relating to project ideas for APAARI governance and development (details in Annex. IX). He emphasized that one of the fundamental requirements for delivering APAARI's mission and vision and its strategic and biennial work plans, is to reform and develop APAARI in terms of good governance, capacity development and effectiveness.

To meet this challenge, APAARI's Strategic Plan emphasizes the basic and fundamental changes in improving APAARI governance and development. These changes will be the principal driver of making APAARI more efficient and effective in its collective efforts with members, partners and other stakeholders, to strengthen agri-food research and innovation in Asia and the Pacific. Four key projects and their ideas for further development and implementation, during the biennium 2017-2018, were presented as follows:

1. Develop and implement strategies, structures and standards for efficient mobilization, management and use of resources for APAARI's effective performance.
2. Develop APAARI as more diverse multi-stakeholder platform with wider equitable and inclusive stakeholder involvement, representation and ownership in collective actions in strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems (AFRIS).
3. Realize effective involvement and partnership of APAARI members, AFRIS and primary stakeholders in benefit and resource sharing in APAARI collective actions.
4. Develop and implement an effective planning, monitoring and evaluation/learning system to assure timely adjustments and efficient derivation of results, as well as an assessment of how such results are contributing to the desired outcomes and outcome pathways.

It was further emphasized that the systematic APAARI reform will have some pertinent and crucial implications for appropriate changes to APAARI's existing constitution. Without due constitutional changes, such efforts cannot be effectively implemented and cannot have positive effectiveness on APAARI performance. Furthermore, there are quite a few ambiguities and flaws in the current constitution and, if not addressed, these would bring severe limitations to improving APAARI governance and development. Therefore, APAARI will need to plan and implement systematic and progressive changes/ amendments to APAARI constitutions, in accordance with the provision of Article 16 of its constitution.

The EC members provided the following suggestions on the presented project ideas:

- APAARI is now becoming action-oriented and through its M&E system, it needs to track impact by looking at intermediary outcomes of member and partner activities.
- The operational plan is subject to change. The new management will need to look at what is feasible with what partners.
- APAARI governance is the General Assembly that needs to consider external panel reviews. Mid-term reviews of APAARI have been indicated in the Strategic Plan 2017-2022, but they should be undertaken only after reaching some point in achieving the goals.
- Human resources management improvement is needed for the member organizations, the APAARI Secretariat and all others involved in collective actions.
- Recognizing the activities for improving APAARI governance and development in terms of needed funds and efforts, HR development can be straightforward while PM&E can be extremely complicated. It is recommended to recruit an M&E officer to focus on PM&E since indicators in the Strategic Plan 2017-2022 require more work to make them practical and realistic. ACIAR could assist APAARI to find an appropriate M&E consultant to help in this work as ACIAR is currently undertaking similar work.

The ECM endorsed the ideas presented under the four projects for further refinement, finalization and implementation of these projects. The ECM also endorsed the much needed amendments and modifications to APAARI constitution, to be undertaken in a progressive and systematic manner.

Agenda Item 10: Income and Expenditure Plan for the Biennium 2017-2018

The Interim Executive Secretary presented the Income and Expenditure Plan for the Biennium 2017-2018. For the ease of understanding of EC members, the income and expenditure plan was presented for 4 distinct periods (details given in Annex. X)

- 1 January 2017 – 31 May 2017
 - 1 June 2017 - 31 July 2017
 - 1 August 2017 - 31 December 2017
 - 1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018
-
- It was informed that the new Executive Secretary is likely to join APAARI the first week of August 2017 and will have an opportunity to review and re-assess the income and expenditure plan for 2017-2018. The Executive Secretary will consult the Executive Committee when it meets next and modify/adjust the plan as per the approval of EC.

The following suggestions were made on the income and expenditure plan:

- Contribution of members, partners and donors is incorporated in the Income and Expenditure Statement.
- The Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops is to be organized back-to-back with APCoAB Steering Committee and APARIS Steering Committee Meetings which will take place in Bangkok in November 2017.

The EC approved the Income and Expenditure Plan for 2017-2018.

Agenda Item 11: Launch of APAARI New Website

Ms Martina Spisiakova made a presentation on the new website of APAARI to apprise the EC members. The APAARI website has been the Association's key information tool. To keep abreast with technology trends, it is important to ensure that the website's infrastructure is up-to-date and user-friendly to ensure that APAARI stakeholders can have easy and immediate access to information and knowledge on agri-food research and innovations.

Following the guidance provided in the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022, suggestions made during the Steering Committee Meeting of APARIS held on 30 October 2016, as well as the website assessment conducted in March 2016, the APAARI Secretariat developed a new improved website that is envisioned to become an effective information-sharing and communication tool within the APAARI community and beyond. The EC members were impressed by the fresh and well-organized look of the new website and made the following suggestions:

- The link on "How to become an APAARI member" needs to be integrated to each page and sub-page for easy reference.
- TAP is a platform supported by the CDAIS project, financed by the European Union and implemented by Agrinatura and FAO. This needs to be reflected in the text and inclusion of the organizations' logos.

- The main programmes need to be placed on the home page.
- APAARI needs to make use of its Blog.
- The KM/Communication Community to review the website and provide critical feedback to ensure linkages with member and partner organizations of APAARI.

The EC approved and launched the new website of APAARI

Agenda Item 12: Membership and Representation of NGOs, FO's and Private Sector on APAARI

The Interim Executive Secretary presented the agenda item on membership and representation of NGOs, FOs and the private sector on the Executive Committee of APAARI. The APAARI Secretariat needs to systematically develop the necessary processes and approaches to implement decisions on APAARI membership of organizations, such as civil society organizations (NGOs and FOs), and the private sector, and to have their appropriate representation on the APAARI EC.

The exercise of scoping and mapping currently being undertaken by the APAARI Secretariat will greatly help in selecting these organizations for membership of APAARI and deciding on their representation in the EC. There is a need to identify key attributes and features of such organizations, such as type of organization, scope of work, geographic coverage, sectoral coverage, and willingness, which in turn will help identifying right type of organizations to be considered eligible for membership and representation.

The following suggestions were made by the EC:

- APAARI should focus on mobilizing membership from umbrella organizations that work with NGOs, FOs and the private sector, and not the individuals, to secure seats on APAARI EC.
- NGOs and other organizations to be considered for representation on EC should first become members of APAARI.
- Membership fee for these groups of stakeholders needs to be lower than that of affiliate members to attract them to join APAARI.
- The profile of targeted institutions needs to be studied for their suitability for APAARI membership and representation on EC.
- Expanding the APAARI partnership by targeting more organizations and institutions should be a priority.
- The constitutional change which may be required for the above purposes should be undertaken in a progressive manner.

The EC approved the development of processes and criteria to identify the representatives of civil societies (NGOs, FOs) and the private sector groups for APAARI membership and for representation on the Executive Committee.

Agenda Item 13: Tenure of Executive Secretary

The agenda item regarding the extension of tenure of Executive Secretary from two to three years was presented by the Interim Executive Secretary. It was clarified that in the vacancy announcement for the position of Executive Secretary, the tenure was given as three years as applicable to other professional staff of APAARI. The minimum three year-tenure was necessary to attract, recruit and retain qualified and well experienced professional from the regional and international markets for this

key position. It was emphasized that the United Nations has the provision of 3+2+2 years for professional staff. Hence the three- year tenure of Executive Secretary was considered very appropriate. However, the APAARI constitution at present has a provision of two-year tenure and, therefore, APAARI issued the offer of employment with a two-year tenure to the new Executive Secretary - Dr Ravi Khetarpal. There was some discussion on how best to resolve this issue of satisfying the constitutional provision on one hand, and smoothly recruiting and retaining the new Executive Secretary appointed by the current EC on the other hand.

After appropriate discussions and due considerations, the EC decided to recommend to the APAARI General Assembly an amendment of Article 12 (Paragraph 22) of the APAARI constitution, to allow the new Executive Secretary to avail the three-year tenure during his current tenure of employment.

As per the Agenda Item 9, it is of paramount importance to amend /modify and bring appropriate changes to the APAARI Constitution so that APAARI improves its governance and development for its effectiveness in delivering on its vision and mission. There are quite a few ambiguities in the current constitution which need to be addressed.

The EC further considered the practical reality of the need to have three-year tenure and decided to issue a revised appointment letter with three-year term to the new Executive Secretary, subject to the above referred change in the APAARI Constitution by the General Assembly by the end of 2018.

Agenda Item 14: Update of the ASTI project

Dr Gert-Jan Stads, Senior Program Officer, IFPRI presented the agenda item regarding the update of ASTI Project. This project will be funded by ACIAR and will be jointly implemented by IFPRI and APAARI. The purpose of this presentation was to seek the views and endorsement of the EC for implementation of AST Project.

IFPRI found a big gap in Southeast Asia in terms of funding of the ASTI project. In June 2015, APAARI approached IFPRI on how much Southeast Asia invests in agricultural research and innovation. As there was no data available, this led to the development of a joint proposal to collect data and build capacity at the country level to monitor agricultural research at the national level. ACIAR in principle committed AUD one million for 2 years. The outputs of this project will help investment decisions at the country level. ASTI will facilitate access to the data through online tools. It will also examine performance, strengths, weaknesses and challenges of agricultural R&D in the region and evaluate the impact of past and future R&D investments. IFPRI is also looking for funding to include the Pacific in the project, as part of APAARI-IFPRI-ACIAR collaboration.

As part of APAARI-IFPRI-ACIAR collaboration, APAARI will recruit ASTI Coordinator, set up long-term collaborative alliances with NARS in participating countries to collect data, conduct an inception workshop, facilitate data collection, validate the data and prepare country publications, prepare a regional synthesis report, and facilitate stakeholder access to data and publications. Analysis will be done by IFPRI research fellow to assess strengths and weaknesses of national research systems in Southeast Asia, identify alternative future paths to overcome challenges, and set priorities for allocation of resources in agricultural research. ASTI will build a network of country focal points to ensure that in-country institutions submit data at regular intervals. Large-scale outreach will need to be done, to eventually embed ASTI in broader agricultural policy or M&E frameworks. Partnerships are critical to this project.

EC endorsed the proposal for implementation of the ASTI Project.

Agenda Item 15: Expanding the APAARI Network to Pacific Island Countries

The agenda item for expanding the APAARI Network to Pacific Island Countries was presented by the Dr Sergie Bang, Director General NARI, PNG and Vice Chairman, APAARI.

He highlighted that there are 22 small island countries and territories within the Pacific region. Out of these, 15 are independent states. Malnutrition is a silent emergency in Papua New Guinea, with one child in 13 dying before reaching the age of 5. Key issues and trends are low agricultural and food productivity, difficult access to rural finance, technology and markets, food price volatility, as well as issues of climate resilience and environmental sustainability.

The following suggestions were made to extend the APAARI network to the Pacific: (i) special emphasis to be given to Pacific research priorities; ii) effective and meaningful engagement through collaborative research to be facilitated; iii) invitation for membership and increased participation to be made; and iv) technical personnel from the Pacific to join the APAARI secretariat and R4D programmes. The EC appreciated the suggestions and advised that APAARI should make necessary efforts to expand its activities in the Pacific region

Agenda Item 16: Remarks by incoming Executive Secretary, APAARI

The newly appointed Executive Secretary, Dr Ravi Khetarpal was invited to the ECM and familiarize himself with the organization and its management. In his remarks, he presented his vision to lead APAARI in its mission of strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems of Asia and the Pacific. He emphasized that APAARI needs to focus on the following:

- Design and implementation of innovative funding strategy
- Change in the perception of APAARI activities – implementing them as projects
- Diversification of partner portfolio to create a donor platform, taking into consideration political factors and learning about potential partners before APAARI brings them on board
- Identification of strategy for those members that cannot afford to pay membership
- Identification of operational targets for all APAARI strategies and prioritization of activities
- Determination of how each outcome leads to specific SDGs to ensure better funding
- Making APAARI a one-stop-shop in the field of Knowledge Management in agricultural research and development
- Business development for APAARI to be included in the terms of reference of the Outreach and Partnership Coordinator to better scope partnerships
- Mobilization of new member organizations
- Include in its programmes the role of certain unaddressed areas, such as microbial resources, marine biodiversity
- Enhancement of APAARI's visibility through greater engagement with the media

Agenda Item 17: Concluding Remarks by the Chair

Based on deliberations and discussions during the meeting and by considering the way forward for APAARI's operations, plans, opportunities and challenges, the APAARI Chairman, Dr Yusuf Zafar presented his concluding remarks. He reminded that the EC Meeting had reached a number of milestones, including: approving the biennial work plan for 2017-2018, income and expenditure plan 2017-2018, the audit report and financial statements, launching the new APAARI website, and

endorsing new APAARI staff. He thanked all the EC members and special invitees for their cooperation and hoped that the incumbent staff would implement the recommendations made by the EC. He also reemphasized APAARI's need for continuous support and cooperation.

Agenda Item 18: Vote of Thanks by Interim Executive Secretary

Dr. Bhag Mal, Interim Executive Secretary, APAARI extended vote of thanks to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and all EC members, and special invitees for their active participation and valuable inputs, as well as those in the APAARI Secretariat who directly or indirectly helped in organizing the meeting. He also expressed sincere thanks to Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, incoming Executive Secretary, and Dr. R. K. Tyagi, incoming APCoAB Coordinator for attending the meeting and sharing their opinions and vision for APAARI. He expressed satisfaction about the success of the meeting which could only be possible due to the support and cooperation of all the EC members, special invitees and staff colleagues. He expressed that there is no doubt that APAARI will continue to grow and make faster progress in the years ahead.

Annexure IV B

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



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (2/2017)
Bangkok, Thailand
12 November 2017**

The second meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of APAARI for the year 2017 was held on 12 November 2017 at Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, under the chairmanship of Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI and Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Islamabad, Pakistan. The meeting was attended by EC members or their representatives, Special Invitees and staff of the APAARI Secretariat. (Annex 1)

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introduction

Dr Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary (ES), welcomed the Chairman, Vice Chairman and EC members, Special Invitees and APAARI Secretariat staff to the second meeting of the year 2017. Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, formally introduced all the participants of the Executive Committee Meeting (ECM). The ES presented key agenda items: Action taken report on recommendations of ECM (1/2017), including responses of EC members on the tenure of ES as per agenda 13 of EC 1/2017; Progress Report of APAARI for July-October 2017; membership fee status (as on 31 October 2017); revised work plan for the biennium 2017-2018; income and expenditure plan for the biennium 2017-2018; APAARI Secretariat – Way Forward, including administrative and finance management reforms, as well as updates and new initiatives including recruitments. Furthermore, presentations to be made by some EC members were highlighted. The ES also stressed that the present ECM would be reviewing only four months of work (July-October 2017) of the Secretariat as the previous EC meeting was held in July 2017.

Agenda Item 2: Opening Remarks by Chairman and Launch of ASTI Project

Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, welcomed all the EC members and participants. In his opening remarks, Dr Zafar appreciated the efforts for recruitment of the Executive Secretary; Coordinator, APCoAB; Coordinator, ASTI; and Coordinator, Knowledge Management. He emphasized to take initiatives for global partnership by APAARI towards achieving SDG #17. He stressed that partnership of APAARI with ASEAN and SAARC countries should be developed. Dr Zafar asserted that APAARI should expand its activities within the framework of the Strategic Plan (2017-2022). He mentioned that there is scope for mobilization of funds to accomplish the additional activities through partnership with COA, ACIAR, IFPRI, CropLife Asia, and enhanced membership of other countries in Asia-Pacific region. To achieve the mandated activities, the APAARI secretariat should be strengthened with transparent finance management system as per international standards.

The Chairman then highlighted the importance of APAARI-IFPRI collaboration on ASTI project (funded by ACIAR), which would finally contribute to developing congenial policies and advocacy tools and establish a resource group to facilitate dialogue on enhanced investments in agri-food innovations in South East Asian countries. He then officially launched the ASTI project.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Agenda by the Executive Committee

The proposed agenda of ECM (Annex 2), which was circulated to EC members in advance, was presented by the ES and was unanimously approved by the EC without any modification.

Agenda Item 4: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous EC Meeting (1/2017)

The ES presented the salient features and key decisions from the proceedings of the previous meeting (1/2017), held in Bangkok, on 14 July 2017 (Annex 3).

The EC confirmed the Minutes of the previous meeting with a minor change as addition of word 'FAO' on page # 8 of the Minutes of previous meeting.

Agenda Item 5: Action Taken Report of the Recommendations of EC Meeting (1/2017)

The ES presented the action taken report (ATR), which included the items for which action has been taken and also those for which actions were being taken on various suggestions and recommendations as reflected in the proceedings of different agenda items of the previous EC meeting of 14 July 2017 (Annex 4). He highlighted that a Consultant for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of APAARI activities will be shortlisted soon and a list of M&E specialists has been provided by Dr Melissa Wood of ACIAR. ACIAR has increased funding, which would permit to undertake the task now. The Chairman invited comments and suggestions from the EC members, which were made as follows:

- i. EC complemented APAARI for presenting a comprehensive ATR.
- i. APAARI should develop qualitative indicators for M&E purpose, as the activities of APAARI cannot be quantified.
- ii. A Capability Statement of APAARI should be prepared.
- iii. Asian countries have invested heavily in agricultural biotechnology, therefore, impact of agricultural biotechnology should be assessed.
- iv. Biotechnology is beyond GMOs, therefore, activities should be taken up for application of biotechnology for molecular breeding, sustainable use and management of genetic resources and other areas of agriculture.
- v. Organizations like CropLife Asia may be a good partner to foster the cause of agricultural biotechnology in the region. CropLife Asia is active in ASEAN countries and expressed the desire to work with APAARI for the common interests of both organizations.

EC approved the ATR including the tenure of ES from two years to three years, which will be put up in next General Assembly Meeting for appropriate amendment in the Constitution of APAARI.

Agenda Item 6: APAARI Progress Report July 2017 - October 2017

The ES presented the progress report to apprise the members about the progress made by APAARI during the period July-October 2017 (Annex 5). The progress report covered major events/preparations undertaken by APAARI, APCoAB, progress in the FAO projects on KM and information sharing, membership drive, project planning and organizing, collaboration, participation in meetings organized by other organizations, general scoping of partnerships, new recruitments, and ASTI project etc.

The EC members were requested to provide comments and suggestions. They also appreciated the new team of APAARI, especially for initiating technical and other activities in a short period of time.

EC endorsed the Progress Report for the period July-October 2017.

Agenda Item 7: Membership and Fee Payment Status (as on 31 October 2017)

The ES presented the membership status of APAARI as on 31 October 2017 (Annex 6a, b). He mentioned that the APAARI Secretariat, its partners and stakeholders continued their efforts to mobilize and broaden membership of APAARI. This paid off in terms of increased membership from which stands as 71 at present, with addition of the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai, India, which joined as a new affiliate member during October 2017. The membership fee generated until October 2017 was to the tune of USD 229,500 of the total anticipated amount of USD 343,000 for the year 2017, which included the arrears from few members. The ES requested suggestions to help the Secretariat in further mobilization of the membership.

EC endorsed the membership and fee status.

Agenda Item 8: Work Plan for the Biennium 2017-2018

The APAARI Secretariat had developed a detailed Work Plan for the biennium 2017-2018, in line with APAARI's Strategic Plan 2017-2022 and presented it in the EC meeting of 14 July 2017. The revised plan (as agreed and suggested in the previous EC meeting) was presented in the current meeting following the structure of APAARI's key programs – Knowledge Management, Partnership and Networking, Capacity Development, Advocacy, Women and Youth, APCoAB and APAARI Governance and Development.

Firstly, the ES presented key elements of the Work Plan focusing on the status and revamping of APCoAB activities, replacing APARIS with the Knowledge Management Program of APAARI, and ASTI project. The following was highlighted:

- The activities of APCoAB and horizons need to be enhanced by including bioresources. As of now, APCoAB may thus be known as the Asia-Pacific Consortium of Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources instead of Asia-Pacific Consortium of Agricultural Biotechnology. This change would be of strategic importance for APAARI as it would include an important component of one of the four thematic areas of APAARI (related to natural resources management), and make the application of biotechnology more relevant for stakeholders.
- The existing Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS) will be merged under the Knowledge Management (KM) Program of APAARI. There is no need for a separate Consortium, as all APARIS activities are now covered under the KM Program regularly reviewed by the EC. This would also help in economizing the budget without affecting the output and quality of work.
- The ASTI project (APAARI-IFPRI Collaboration) is an important and prestigious project just launched for South-East Asian countries and its Coordinator Ms Norah Omot has just joined APAARI.

The EC agreed with these suggestions to expand the scope and name of APCoAB by including bioresources, include APARIS under the KM Program with no steering committee of its own.

This session was followed by presentations on the revised work plan (Annex 7). The presentations and observations of EC members are highlighted below:

Knowledge Management – The KM presentation included stakeholder mapping of members and potential members, revised work plan related to Partnership and Networking, Capacity Development, Advocacy, Women and Youth. The presentations were made by Martina Spisiakova, KM Consultant, and Celilu Bitong, KM Officer.

Martina Spisiakova presented the key conclusions of the stakeholder mapping exercise. The exercise has been conducted to (i) determine and assess key stakeholders within AFRIS; (ii) understand stakeholders' key business areas; (iii) target and prioritize APAARI stakeholders for future partnership and activities (projects, resource mobilization, webinars, moderated discussions, participation in events); (iv) identify gaps within membership and recommend strategies for (re)engagement; (v) mobilize new members; and (vi) develop targeted communication and engagement strategies.

The previous list of all primary stakeholders has been modified to assess both members and non-members. Firstly, basic information was collected in terms of (i) institutional category; (ii) key focus; (iii) areas of contribution to APAARI's collective action (KM, CD, partnership, advocacy); and (iv) expectations from APAARI (KM, CD, partnership, advocacy). In addition, for members, the information also included the current status in APAARI, year of joining APAARI, membership fee, status of payment of membership fee for the last three years, and unique facts e.g. extent of involvement in APAARI activities, EC membership.

Secondly, interest in APAARI's collective action was assessed in terms of high, medium and low: (i) for members, based on the regularity of membership fees, communication on withdrawal from APAARI, participation in APAARI activities, completion of stakeholder survey; and (ii) for non-members, based on their feedback in the stakeholder survey, website research (synergies in mission and vision with that of APAARI), past/current relations with APAARI.

Thirdly, influence over agri-food research and innovation systems (AFRIS) was assessed in terms of high, medium and low: for members and non-members, based on organizations' outreach (national and international), funding from their governments or international donors (ref. APAARI country papers on investment), references in publications, and university ranking (national and international).

Potential members have also been identified in terms of high, medium and low based on: (i) expressions of interest in membership, partnership and collaboration in/with APAARI by e-mail or in various meetings; (ii) initiated scoping activities for membership by APAARI; and (iii) past and/or current involvement in joint activities.

The preliminary results showed that out of 70 members (as of beginning of October 2017): (i) 56, 9, 5 showed high, medium, and low interest in APAARI, respectively; (ii) 49, 4, 17 showed high, medium, low influence over AFRIS, respectively. This indicates the need for different (targeted) engagement strategies to sustain the current membership. Other (non-member) stakeholders that were subject to the assessment have come to 484 and include: NARS, HE, CSO – NGOs, FOs, WO/YOs, IARCs, international development organizations, regional and global fora, and the private sector. Out of these, the assessment identified 42 potential members on which APAARI needs to focus its efforts for membership/partnership mobilization. The stakeholder mapping sheet has become APAARI's primary tool for monitoring stakeholders. It is a living document that will be continuously updated as a basis for action and stakeholder engagement.

Celilu Bitong updated the participants on KM activities related to website upgradation, publications and other KM projects, and presented the Work Plan for the 2018 with the following highlights:

- As part of APAARI's efforts to improve KM, making it more effective to facilitate and share knowledge among its partners and stakeholders, a continuous implementation of existing activities on development and dissemination of information through the Newsletter, APAARI Network Highlights (ANH), progress reports, and constant updates of the website and social media platforms, will be ensured in 2018.
- The APAARI website now has more organized and formatted content, which will require more improvement for 2018. Social media icons are already integrated on all pages of the site including Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Blog. Managing the contents of the site includes integration of old resources and publications into archives, and now puts more focus on harvesting stories, particularly related to capacity development for agricultural innovation systems (CD for AIS) and e-agriculture, as planned for 2018. The migration of the old APCoAB website from the previous APCoAB server to the APAARI server is also under way. Continuous improvement and updating of the website is therefore planned for 2018. An integration of APCoAB KM within APAARI KM Program is also considered.
- The Community of Practice (CoP) of KM has already been established through the focal points of member and partner organizations. APAARI staff's attendance at various meetings will enable to more networking facilitating connections for future engagement.
- The draft KM and Communication Strategy will be finalized and enforced in 2018. Apart from current online and face-to-face interactions, finding the right online platform to connect is planned for the first quarter of 2018.
- For the e-Agriculture project with FAO-RAP Bangkok, a new Letter of Agreement (LoA) is being signed with increased budget and new capacity development activities on the use of drones in agro-advisory services.
- APAARI is also implementing the Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) project under the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) hosted by FAO Rome. A webinar with universities to raise awareness about the Common Framework on CDAIS and the importance of functional capacities ('soft skills') has been organized by APAARI to take place after the ECM. FAO, GCHERA and GFAR are important partners in this activity.

The EC was pleased to note the progress made on KM and APPARI's participation in key projects of FAO. The importance of the stakeholder mapping that was just concluded was also stressed. The EC members noticed that the mapping indicated about 40 per cent of the potential members being at the level of medium/low importance. As such, the membership drive may need more attention by APAARI and membership expansion should be centre-productive. It was also pointed out that knowledge sharing with the Pacific requires different strategies to be explored by APAARI due to poor internet connectivity in this sub-region. Many activities such as webinars might not be accessible.

Recommendations

- i. On the basis of stakeholder mapping, gap analysis and lessons learned from this exercise, APAARI should develop a stakeholder mapping tool and a strategic plan to fill the existing gaps, to foster future partnerships and enroll new members.

APCoAB – The APCoAB presentation was made by Dr Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB, and it included the expansion of activities under the APAARI-COA Program for 2018, additional requirements of the funds and proposal of Steering Committee of APCoAB.

The EC was pleased to see the new dimension given to APCoAB in APAARI. They were convinced that APAARI's presence in Asia-Pacific should increase by enhanced activities on biotechnology and bioresources. CoA, the main sponsor of APCoAB also supported this new dimension of APCoAB. It was felt that a needs assessment for agricultural biotechnology and bioresources management needs to be conducted for the Pacific region while developing a future work plan. EC also appreciated the proposed idea for initiating APAARI-CropLife Asia partnership in capacity building on regulatory system, non-GMOs technology and advocacy. CropLife Asia has members from 91 countries including 15 countries from Asia-Pacific. It is working in the areas of trade compliance in the seed sector, capacity building and advocacy of policies in biotechnology and seeds, where collaboration with APAARI can be effectively developed to serve the common interests of both organizations in the region. The EC also agreed on making the Steering Committee of APCoAB to be functional at the earliest, as per the Terms of References of the Steering Committee.

Recommendations

- i. The expansion of scope of APCoAB mandate with additional activities related to bioresources should be considered under APAARI-COA work plan (2018-2020), as Asia-Pacific region is very rich in bioresources. The additional activities may be implemented in 2018, subject to availability of funds.
- ii. Since COA budget for 2018 has already been approved by the Taiwan government, it will be difficult for COA to financially contribute for expanded activities during 2018. However, for 2019 and 2020, COA agrees in principle to enhance the budget under the APAARI-COA program.
- iii. Content management window of APCoAB should remain separate on the APAARI website to manage the content of APCoAB with useful information and databases related to agricultural biotechnology and bioresources.
- iv. Amelioration of underutilized crops may be deleted in the work plan of 2018, as the Expert Consultation is being organized immediately after this meeting from 13-15 November 2017.
- v. Perspective 'Success Stories' should be planned and eminent researchers should be identified in advance.
- vi. Documentation of Bt brinjal in Bangladesh and Rice Biotechnology in Asia-Pacific is important, which will be useful for other countries in the region.
- vii. Biotechnology experts from advanced universities of Japan, South Korea or Taiwan should be included in the Steering Committee of APCoAB (2018-2019).

viii. The following Steering Committee of APCoAB (2018-2019) was recommended by the EC:

Chairman, APAARI, Thailand	Chairman
Director General, International Affairs, COA, Taiwan	Vice Chairman
Representative of ACIAR	Member
Representative of NARS	Member
Representative of CG Centre (Bioversity International)	Member
Expert in Agriculture Biotechnology from Advanced University	Member
Representative from CropLife Asia	Member
Executive Secretary, APAARI	Member
Coordinator, APCoAB	Member Secretary

ASTI – The presentation was made by Ms Norah Omot, ASTI Coordinator, which included the project background and quarter-wise tentative work plan. The highlights of the ASTI presentation are as follows:

- ASTI data is important to monitor agricultural R&D resources to understand trends, identify gaps, set future investment priorities, better coordinate agricultural R&D across institutes, regions and commodities, and assess the contribution of agricultural R&D to agricultural and economic growth in general.
- The project is supported by ACIAR and jointly led by APAARI and IFPRI in close collaboration with NARIs of South East Asian countries and the Pacific.
- The country coverage includes: Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
- The project comprises of 3 components: Data collection and reporting; Analysis; and Capacity engagement & outreach.
- APAARI will be the long-term home of ASTI in Asia-Pacific.
- Brief annual plan for 2018 was proposed and will include: preparations for data collection (Q1); initiating data collection (Q2); undertaking processing survey (Q3); and initiating country publications (Q4).

The EC remarked that ASTI project is very important since its outcomes will be helpful to policy makers in national systems. Dr Vincent Lee expressed his desire to explore the possibility of COA partnership with ASTI project to join and/or sponsor ASTI project.

Regarding overall presentations of the Work Plan, the EC complimented the APAARI team for their outstanding accomplishments made during a very short period (July-October 2017). The EC approved the Revised Work Plan for implementation during 2017-2018 with some suggestions/ and subject to availability of additional funds.

Agenda Item 9: Income and Expenditure Plan for the Biennium 2017-2018

The ES presented income and expenditure figures as compiled under various major heads summarized to have an insight into and estimates of the status and position of financial resources, as well as how these could be managed effectively for efficient functioning of APAARI. (Annex 8). Besides, a shift to a new financial management system was also presented to improve APAARI's effectiveness and

efficiency. This includes accounting for income and expenditures from 2018 onwards, while meeting the international standards and donor requirements.

The carry-over of the budget was USD 155,531 during 1 August 2017. The balance amount to carry forward to 2018 is estimated at USD 161,624 (as against USD 196,198 presented in the ECM 1/2017 of July 2017), and the available reserve (fixed deposit) to remain at USD 914,293 (Annex 6 a).

It was highlighted that the total revenue expected to be generated during the year 2017 (from membership, partners and projects) will be to the tune of USD 420,831 and the total expenses foreseen until December will be to the tune of USD 259,107.

The following suggestions were made by the EC:

- i. Indirect/direct cost ratio is high even without including the overhead, therefore, partition of budget needs be done to reduce the ratio of indirect/direct cost.
- ii. The prediction of budget for 2019 and 2020 is very conservative as the indirect costs are too high. The ES and Coordinators need to be actively engaged in fund raising to increase the top line. APAARI should develop a strategy to raise funds, which may be presented in the next EC meeting.
- iii. Reserved amount should be used in case of emergency only and it should not be projected as income.

The EC approved the income expenditure plan for 2017-18 and improvements as per suggestions may be presented in next ECM.

Agenda Item 10: APAARI/Secretariat – Way Forward

The ES highlighted that:

- There is a need to set up a strong accounting system to facilitate day-to-day operations, for effective financial oversight and to provide accurate and timely financial information to both internal and external stakeholders. This is also pivotal in strengthening the process of planning, decision making, monitoring and control. Hence, the reforms were being envisaged for financial management along with certain administrative matters that were discussed (Annex 9). The new financial system, to be made effective from January 2018, was thus presented.
- The current chart of accounts does not have classification of direct and indirect costs. Besides, direct costs cannot be identified and matched with revenue to monitor progress and submit reports as per donor contracts. Desired financial information is not available for preparation of financial statements, budgeting, monitoring, decision making and control.
- Chart of accounts has been revised to provide the requisite financial information for both internal and external reporting. Budget format has been developed to enable progress monitoring, control and medium term planning.
- Keeping in view the expansion of APAARI activities and staff positions, APAARI needs to explore the availability of additional space preferably nearby the existing office or in premise of some academic institution.
- The recruitment status and the need for a Finance, Administrative and Membership (FAM) Coordinator and also for a Technical Officer for APCoAB was presented.

- Need for a small enhancement in salaries of selected staff, their tenure (from existing 2-3 years to 5 years) and need for sick leave for staff was discussed. Besides, some updates and new initiatives and important areas of partnerships, program and fund mobilization were shared.
- A strategy on membership and resource mobilization will be presented in the next EC meeting.

The EC appreciated and approved the financial reforms that are being brought in by the Secretariat and highlighted that it would be the key for managing funds efficiently and transparently. It further mentioned that keeping the budget and activities in view, expansion of the APAARI Secretariat should be done at slow pace.

The EC approved the proposal that provision of sick leave, salary hikes, and health insurance of the family members of APAARI staff and sick leave should be made as per international norms. The tenure of the administrative, finance/accounts and technical posts should be minimum of 5 years and salary of the above staff should be reviewed by the ES during the finalization of the new contract.

Recommendation

- The EC recommended that the proposed recruitment of FAM may be deferred due to the current limitation of financial resources. Instead, existing suitable staff, if any, may be trained, or a consultant deployed for a short term to install/operate the financial software. However, the EC also emphasized that the ES may decide as per the availability of funds and justified need.
- The post of the Coordinator, Outreach and Partnership (approved earlier) and of Technical Officer – APCoAB (proposed) may be considered to be recruited, subject to the need and availability of resources.
- It was also highlighted that on the basis of availability of the budget and need, the ES may hire project staff in APAARI. The EC should not be involved in micro-management of APAARI.

Agenda Item 11: Presentations by EC members on updates and new areas of interest for APAARI

The ES requested EC members to present the relevant information comprising new themes and updates with a focus on strengthening APAARI's technical program and scoping for new programs and fund mobilization. Special invitees – Dr Raj Paroda, Former Executive Secretary, APAARI, and Ms Sonny Tababa from CropLife Asia, Singapore, were also requested to make a presentation on critical areas for strengthening APAARI activities, and possible collaboration between APAARI and CropLife Asia, respectively.

The presentations were also made by Dr Marco Wopereis (WorldVeg Centre, Taiwan) entitled as AIRCA and APAARI, Mr Vincent Lin (COA, Taiwan) entitled as APAARI/APCoAB – A COA Perspective, and Ms Sonny Tababa entitled as CropLife Asia: Biotech/Seed Program. For strengthening APAARI activities and collaboration, valuable thoughts were shared by Dr Siwapon Choochim (on behalf of Dr Suwit Chaikiattiyos, Director General, DOA, Thailand) and Dr Raj Paroda. Dr Ravi Khetarpal shared the views of Dr. Mark Holderness, GFAR, Rome.

The following are the highlights of the above presentations and discussions:

Dr Marco Wopereis presented the details about the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA), its memberships, vision, mission and strength. His presentation also included building the partnership under the Global Action Plan for Agricultural Diversification (GAPAD). The following areas of collaboration between APAARI and AIRCA were identified:

- Facilitating knowledge exchange events such as the ‘Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops for Food and Nutritional Security in Asia and the Pacific’.
- Knowledge management – e.g. setting up a knowledge base on agri-food systems development with suitable metrics (TAP/CDAIS + Andy Hall framework).
- Promoting strengthened partnerships and networking (e.g. with APCoAB in particular through CFF and WorldVeg).
- Capacity building – facilitating individual and group training: e.g. students from the Asia-Pacific region to work at AIRCA centers and promoting visiting scientists schemes.
- Advocacy – lobbying to get funding for agricultural research to tackle big issues and achieve transformational change (e.g. GAPAD).

Mr Vincent Lin presented the details about APAARI-COA collaboration through APCoAB. The following recommendations were made through this presentation:

- Expansion of activities in strategic areas e.g. capacity building, policy advocacy and general awareness in areas of agricultural biotechnologies and bioresource management.
- Evaluation of the outcomes and benefits of activities carried out in the past.
- Design long-term and mid-term visions and programs under the APAARI-COA program.
- Strengthen collaboration with stakeholders, especially international organizations and fora, and related private sectors.
- Enhance capacity building for island countries in the Pacific region.
- Encourage participation of APAARI’s Members in expert consultations, brainstorming, seminars, symposia etc.
- Reinforce multi-channel dissemination of information and achievements.

Ms Sonny Tababa shared the objectives of the Biotech/Seed program of CropLife Asia. The potential areas of collaboration between APAARI-CropLife Asia were identified as mentioned below:

- Capacity Building - stewardship, seed science, biosafety, regulatory science, regulatory harmonization, multi-media science communication.
- Research e.g. Institute Risk Management (IRM) studies.
- Pilot Demo Project e.g. pest risk analysis, commercial demo of biotech crop, detection methods.
- CropLife Stewardship Program e.g. capacity building for responsible use, container management, IRM, soil conservation and via Excellence Through Stewardship.

Dr Siwapon Choochim assured full support of DOA to APAARI and enhanced collaboration between APAARI and DOA. He mentioned that DOA will participate actively in the ASTI project as per the project work plan.

Dr Raj Paroda expressed his gratitude to APAARI for giving him an opportunity to participate in the EC meeting and present his views for addressing critical areas for strengthening the APAARI program which need to be prioritized as follows:

- Existing partnership and networking e.g. with CG centre to be strengthened and existing network e.g. South Asia Vegetable Network with WorldVeg Centre and Cereal Legume Agricultural Network (CLAN) with CG Centres (ICRISAT, ICARDA) should be revived. APAARI also needs to revive networks for the implementation of Suwon Declaration for conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity for food and nutritional security in the region.
- An expert consultation meeting for scoping new niches for APAARI may be organized e.g. with emphasis on research to innovation; linking farmers to market; ICT; role of APAARI to achieve SDGs; and use of agrobiodiversity for food security.
- Revisit Tsukuba Declaration for climate change action, how APAARI can play its role to address the climate change issues.
- Public-private partnership should be fostered for out scaling innovations.
- Vigorous efforts are needed for developing partnership with ASEAN, SAARC, and GFRAS.
- APAARI should develop policy briefs on specific issues e.g. based on the outcomes of the Expert Consultation on UUC.
- Aggressive membership drive is needed with support from Chairman, members of EC and the Executive Secretary. Membership with China, Indonesia and New Zealand needs to be revived.
- Non-members and potential members may also be invited as special invitees in EC meeting e.g. from Myanmar, Singapore etc., to apprise them on the activities of APAARI.

Dr Ravi Khetarpal shared the views as received from Dr Mark Holderness, GFAR, which are as follows:

- GFAR under its new plan has an increased focus on transformational learning and for that higher educational institutions, such as universities have to be targeted.
- Transformational learning and student leadership development in undergraduate universities at the global level is a key focus area of GFAR for the years 2018-2021. This is due to the fact that reforms of agricultural and life science universities and departments around the world are needed so that universities adapt to changes in their dynamic environments, and to mend the gap in producing the right caliber of university graduates, who can meet societal demands, and fulfill their own future aspirations. The universities of Africa, together with their clients and key stakeholders, met in Nairobi in September 2017 at the invitation of GFAR, in collaboration with RUFORUM and the University of Nairobi. Their aim was to develop a model of reform of their departments of agriculture towards transformational learning and student leadership development. GFAR then took the outputs of the Nairobi meeting to the RUFORUM meeting in Malawi in October 2017.
- This initiative received high buy-in among stakeholders in Africa and GFAR is developing a proposal for funding, in order to start the implementation in pioneer universities in Africa.
- GFAR would like to partner with APAARI in implementing this approach in coming year.

Agenda Item 12: Concluding Remarks by Chair

Based on the deliberations and discussions during the meeting and by considering the ‘Way Forward’ for APAARI’s strategic operations, plans, opportunities and challenges as presented by the new management, Dr Yusuf, Chairman, APAARI, presented his concluding remarks. He advised that the expansion of APAARI should be done at slow pace considering all dynamics of the management e.g. planned activities and availability funds. He emphasized that several valuable suggestions have been made by the EC members and special invitees, which is not possible to implement all at a time, therefore, APAARI need to prioritize in accordance with the human and financial resources available with APAARI. He stressed that all possible efforts should be made to make all small Pacific Island countries as members of APAARI. He suggested that different global donors may be approached for increasing funding to accomplish the expanded activities of APAARI in the region. APAARI should foster the partnership and networking in order to achieve the SDG#17. Finally, Dr Zafar appealed to all national partners to extend full support to APAARI and thanked all the members of EC, special invitees and staff members of APAARI for their cooperation and active participation in the EC meeting.

Agenda Item 13: Vote of Thanks by Executive Secretary

The ES extended vote of thanks to Chairman, Vice-Chairman and all the EC members and special invitees for their participation and valuable inputs, as well as to those who helped directly/indirectly in organizing the meeting. He assured that under the guidance of EC, APAARI will continue to grow further through partnerships and networking and work vigorously for achieving the SDGs in Asia-Pacific region.



**APAARI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (1/2018)
Bangkok, Thailand
28 May 2018**

Proceedings

The first meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of APAARI for the year 2018 was held on 28 May 2018 at Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand, under the chairmanship of Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI and Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Islamabad, Pakistan. The meeting was attended by EC members or their representatives, special invitees, observers and staff of the APAARI Secretariat (Annex 1). Dr Birte Komolong from NARI, PNG officiated as Vice Chair in the absence of Dr Serge Bang.

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introduction

Dr Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Secretary (ES), welcomed the Chairman, Vice Chairman and EC members, Special Invitees and APAARI Secretariat staff to the first meeting of the year 2018. Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, formally introduced all the participants of the Executive Committee Meeting (ECM).

The ES presented key agenda items: Action Taken Report on recommendations of ECM (2/2017); Progress Report of APAARI for November to April 2018; membership fee status (as on 30 April 2018); revised work plan for the biennium 2017-2018; income and expenditure plan for the biennium 2017-2018; administrative matters, finance and important initiatives such as constitutional amendments. Furthermore, the presentations to be made by some special invitees were also highlighted.

The ES informed that the present ECM would be reviewing six months of work (November 2017 to April 2018) of the Secretariat as the previous EC meeting held in November, 2017 had reviewed work up to October 2017.

Agenda Item 2: Opening Remarks by Chairman

Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, welcomed all the EC members and participants. In his opening remarks, Dr Zafar briefly highlighted the significant progress made by APAARI in the last one year. He thanked all the EC members and APAARI secretariat for their contributions. He highlighted the intensive membership and resource mobilization campaign initiated by the ES and

more so the efforts to get the arrears of membership fee from defaulters since past few years. He also appreciated APAARI for taking initiative of venturing into higher agriculture education sector and the related projects and opportunities that are being scoped for. He mentioned the visit he had undertaken to the Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization (AREEO), Iran, along with the ES for strengthening relationship, developing a mechanism along with the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) to get membership fee through an Iranian bank, and identifying potential areas where APAARI and AREEO can organize events in Iran. He also mentioned the visit to Taiwan undertaken by the ES and APCoAB Coordinator for enhancing the scope of collaboration with Taiwan, and thanked Taiwan Government for their gesture of supporting APAARI in the region. He was pleased to see the progress made for various activities under projects of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Council of Agriculture (COA), Taiwan and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). He appreciated the expert consultation on underutilized crops organized in November 2017 and the related publication that was brought out in the form of proceedings and recommendations, as well as country status reports on under-utilized crops.

Dr. Zafar also emphasized APAARI's efforts of pursuing the recommendations of the Expert Consultation, and mentioned that the role of NARS, and other national and international organizations is crucial to take forward the recommendations. He was pleased with the drive on project proposal development that the Secretariat has initiated for sustainability and growth of the Association. He highlighted that being in regular contact with the ES was useful for monitoring the progress and problems on regular basis. Emphasizing the strong commitment of APAARI staff, though ambitious considering APAARI resource constraints, he believes that APAARI will now play an important role towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Asia-Pacific region. He thanked all the EC members and APAARI secretariat for their praiseworthy contributions.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Agenda by the Executive Committee

The proposed agenda of ECM (Annex 2), which was circulated to EC members in advance, was presented by the ES and was unanimously approved by the EC without any modification.

Agenda Item 4: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous EC Meeting (1/2017)

The ES presented the salient features and key decisions from the proceedings of the previous meeting (2/2017), held in Bangkok, on 12 November 2017 (Annex 3).

Agenda Item 5: Action Taken Report of the Recommendations of EC Meeting (1/2017)

The ES presented the Action Taken Report (ATR) with the items for which action has been taken, and those that are ongoing based on various suggestions and recommendations stated in the proceedings of the previous EC meeting held on 12 November 2017 (Annex 4). The following technical, administrative and finance related points were the key highlights of the ATR

- A Consultant for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of APAARI activities has been identified, and work plan and the cost has been negotiated.

- A Capability Statement of APAARI will be prepared following the EC meeting, and the grant applications, having reflected on APAARI's strengths and value added to the agri- food development process.
- Membership has been pursued actively and four new members were inducted. Membership for new members from countries, such as Indonesia and Myanmar are under discussions. Two reciprocal members have been also inducted. The Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) of the Philippines, which had not paid membership fee for the last four years was pursued as a result of communication with the ES and crucial support from the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD). As a result, BAR agreed to restore the membership of APAARI by paying the membership fee for at least 2018. The Secretariat will draft a guideline to be placed before next EC or through circulation to take appropriate decision about those organizations that have not paid their membership fee contributions to APAARI for more than three years.
- Biotechnology experts from advanced universities of Japan, South Korea or Taiwan were contacted to be included in the Steering Committee of APCoAB (2018-2019). An expert from the National Taiwan University, Taiwan, is the member of the Steering Committee of APCoAB.
- A visit to COA Taiwan was made and various collaborative activities explored. A comprehensive proposal for COA will be submitted soon for funding mainly from 2019 onwards. However, for 2019 and 2020, COA agrees in principle to enhance the budget under the APAARI-COA programme, in view of the increased activities related to bioresources.
- Based on the stakeholder mapping tool, a stakeholder engagement strategy was designed to foster new partnerships and engage new members.
- Five success stories/status paper to be published in 2018 have been agreed upon and contract signed with the authors. These are on *Bt* Brinjal in Bangladesh, GM Maize in Philippines, Rice Biotechnology in Asia-Pacific region, Climate Smart Farmers' Field School as Extension Modalities for Climate Change Adaptation in Rice Farming: Bicol, Philippines, and Durian in Thailand (pending from last years).
- Since indirect/direct cost ratio presented during the November 2017 ECM was found to be high even without including the overhead, partition of budget has been done now to reduce this ratio and charge costs to the projects.
- Resource mobilization is being pursued vigorously and a resource mobilization strategy is being adopted.
- Regarding additional office space needed, space (vacated by AFMA) was acquired on the second floor in the same building w.e.f. January 2018. Contract was signed with the owner and FAO for paying the rent and administrative charges.
- A small enhancement in salaries of selected staff and increasing their tenure to five years was made during the finalization of the new contract.
- Efforts were made to scope for funding and partnership in the Pacific Island Countries (PICs). The Country Manager of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was contacted and discussions are in progress.

The Chairman invited comments and suggestions from the EC members, which were as follows:

- i. EC asked the Secretariat to expedite drafting a guideline on membership strategy to be placed before next EC or through circulation, which should enable to take decision on defaulters.
- i. EC suggested that the indicators to be developed for M&E should be both qualitative and quantitative.
- ii. EC approved the ATR and complemented the ES for presenting a comprehensive ATR and for giving due attention to the recommendations made in ECM 2/2017.

Agenda Item 6: APAARI Progress Report, January – April 2018

The ES presented the progress report to apprise the members about the progress made by APAARI during the period January to April 2018 (Annex 5). The progress report covered major events/activities undertaken by the Secretariat through APAARI programmes/projects on APCoAB, ASTI, Knowledge Management, and also on membership drive, project planning and co-organization, collaboration, participation in meetings organized by other organizations, general scoping of partnerships and new recruitments.

The ES presented an overview of the key elements and activities accomplished/taken up under the work plan. He highlighted the MoU signed with ten countries for the ASTI project, LoA signed with FAO for 2018 for next phase of the Tropical Agriculture Platform, Expert Consultation on underutilized crops and ASTI Inception Workshop held, LoA with FAO – RAP revised with additional activities, resource mobilization strategy developed, new project proposals developed and submitted, on-going discussions with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and IFPRI for taking over ASTI in Asia and on the visits made to the Indonesian Agency for Research and Development (IAARD), COA Taiwan and the International Cooperation of Development Fund (ICDF), as well as AREEO Iran for exploring and enhancing scope of partnership.

Brief project and activity-wise progress is mentioned below:

Knowledge Management

Mr Fai Collins, Coordinator, Knowledge Management (KM) highlighted on the KM strategy used by APAARI to communicate and share knowledge noting that this strategy is built on two pillars which are knowledge generation and knowledge sharing/learning. He underscored that APAARI has created a community of practice of KM focal points in member organizations to share experiences and common practices to better capture and share knowledge in agricultural research and innovation in their various institutions.

To ensure that knowledge generated is disseminated to the right target audiences for uptake and upscaling APAARI uses various tools and channels to share knowledge products to ensure that the information gets to the right target for uptake and upscaling. He noted that APAARI uses two knowledge-sharing techniques to ensure maximum effectiveness. These techniques are either documents to people or people to people.

a) In documents to people technique, knowledge is captured and shared through publications. These publications include APAARI Network Highlights, APAARI Progress Report, Bi-annual Newsletter and Success Stories (where 5 have been identified and contracted for 2018).

The second technique of document to people is the use of social media platforms. He noted that as agriculture and agri-food systems rely heavily on scientific and technological knowledge there is need to adapt to the dynamic and changing context to better inform, educate, share and disseminate knowledge and ensure a stronger engagement with peers. APAARI uses the following social media platforms such as APAARI Website, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn to both generate and share knowledge. These portals are fed with current information on agricultural innovation information from member websites and publications. These postings are fine tuned to elicit feedback/reaction from audiences to ensure a two-way communication.

b) For people to people technique of sharing knowledge, Collins indicated that APAARI uses face-to-face channel to share knowledge during workshops, conferences, seminars or webinars. These events are either APAARI organized or co-organized with partners or members. Some of these events have already taken place while a number of them are in the pipeline. These events include;

- Webinar on CD AIS to encourage universities especially in the Pacific to include functional skills in university curricular. This will be organized in September 2018
- The use of drones in agriculture co-organized with the FAO RAP at Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok from 4-8 June 2018
- E-Agriculture in the Asia Pacific in November with FAO Bangkok
- Workshop of functional skills for AIS to be organized at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in India in November 2018
- APAARI will organized a field mission with ICARDA and DOA on Mung bean in the month of August, 2018. Seven staff will be coming from ICARDA and APAARI will coordinate their field visit and lectures on the value chain of the Mung bean. This visit has been organized with assistance from the DOA

Apart from these upcoming events, APAARI has co-organized other knowledge sharing events with various stakeholders as below:

- At the International Conference on Social and Sustainability Science in ASEAN: Agri-food Systems, Rural Sustainability and Socioeconomic Transformations held at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, in January where APAARI organized a side event on functional skills in AIS and equally took part in a policy dialogue discussion on ASEAN.
- In March, APAARI co-organized an International Conference on Cryo-symposium where publications were distributed and a blog written on the subject.

Collins equally indicated that during such events, APAARI also sets up a booth which plays a dual function of showcasing and disseminating the institution's publications and bringing APAARI's visibility.

For the media component of his work, Collins indicated that he is gradually building relationship with foreign media like the BBC, RFI and France 24 for them to cover APAARI events.

Celilu Bitong, Knowledge Management Officer, presented the biennial work plan targets and accomplishments on the development and dissemination of information and knowledge through monthly report, progress report, newsletter, network highlights, website and social media. She also showed the activity status on the establishment of Community of Practice (CoP) among the KM focal points, as well as the previous and upcoming workshops regarding ICT in agri-food (e-agriculture), TAP-CDAIS and anything KM related events.

EC appreciated and endorsed the work done by KM team.

Asia-Pacific Consortium of Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources (APCoAB)

Dr Rishi Tyagi, Coordinator, APCoAB made the presentation on progress made and the work plan for 2018. He highlighted the following points:

- A Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops for Food and Nutrition Security in Asia and the Pacific was organized from November 13-15 2017 with the support of COA, WorldVeg, Crops for the Future (CFF), International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), ICARDA, Bioveristy International and Department of Agriculture (DOA) Thailand at Bangkok. The meeting was attended by 54 participants from 18 countries. The key action points that emerged included scoping for funding for investing in the subject to be explored with international organizations (CFF, CGIAR, WorldVeg, CABI, etc.) and international universities as partners; to establish a web-based open source Knowledge Portal of Potential Underutilized Crops (UUCs) for APR (to be hosted by APAARI); identify a centre of excellence for research and development (R&D) on UUCs to initiate and strengthen R&D on prioritized crops; initiate seed systems and strengthen markets for UUCs to expand their cultivation area, production and productivity. Main objective: access to quality seeds; and to develop policy briefs relevant to each country.
- An online survey was conducted on APAARI Biotechnology Communication Strategy and its Potential for Adoption as a feedback after workshop on Development of Communication Strategies for Adoption of Agri-Biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific Region held during 28-29 September 2015. The feedback will be useful to assess the level of adoption of the communication strategy by the individuals/organizations that participated in the workshop.
- Two key publications were brought out i.e. Proceedings and Recommendations of Expert Consultation on Best Practices in Agri-food Innovations in Asia and the Pacific, and Proceedings and Recommendations of Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops for Food and Nutrition Security in Asia and the Pacific. Also provided editorial support in the publication of Book of Abstracts on The Third International Symposium on Plant Cryopreservation.
- Authors and editors were contracted for publishing the success stories on Bt Brinjal in Bangladesh and GM maize in Philippines, as well as the status paper on Rice Biotechnology in Asia-Pacific region.
- Participation in meetings of other organization included: Policy Dialogue Scaling Conservation Agriculture in Regional Policy Dialogue on Scaling Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI) in South Asia; FAO Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Asia-Pacific; Sustainable Agro Food Business Forum (SABF); Workshop on Sustainable Branding – Coffee and Beyond (SBCB);

CryoSymp2018.

- A visit to COA and other organizations in Taiwan was made along with ES to discuss about further strengthening the collaboration with Taiwan and for expansion of APCoAB activities.
- A revised Work Plan of APCoAB was presented highlighting that in view of expanded scope of APCoAB, two symposia/conferences, one training, four publications, three success stories/status paper, in addition to already approved activities have been planned for the year 2018 (under APAARI-COA), subject to availability of resources.

Ms Geraldine Nemrod, Consultant, APCoAB, presented the progress concerning the redesign and updating of the APCoAB website. She apprised of the following:

- The APCoAB website was merged with the APAARI website, but with separate domain (www.apcoab.org). Some of the existing databases (Institutional Database, International Organizations, NGOs, Seed Companies) were completely updated, with accurate information for 391 entities. Other databases (Experts, Biosafety, Educational Institutions, Publications, Event Proceedings) are being updated.
- A new design was made for the APCoAB home page. A new menu and breadcrumb have also been created and implemented on the 72 pages of the website. New pages were created for the Steering Committee, News (current and archived news back to five years ago) and Events (upcoming and past).

Besides, a reconstituted Steering Committee meeting of the APCoAB steered by its Member Secretary Dr Rishi Tyagi, and Chaired by Dr Yusuz Zafar was held on the same day prior to EC meeting. It was attended by eight members of the Steering Committee, two special invitees, and eight observers including staff from the APAARI Secretariat. The proceedings will be circulated to the members after due approval of the Chairman.

The EC appreciated the efforts made under APCoAB and lauded the Expert Consultation on Under Utilized Crops which was organized so successfully and came out with good recommendations.

Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) Project

Dr. Norah Omot, Co-ordinator, ASTI, began presentation with an overview of ASTI highlighting its aim to track the funding, functioning and impact of agricultural research in order to improve efficiency, promote evidence-based decision making and demonstrate impact. The overview was then followed by introduction of the ASTI project in the Southeast Asia and the Pacific (SEAP) region, which is funded by ACIAR. The three components of the project are:

1. Data collection and reporting;
2. Analysis; and
3. Capacity engagement and outreach.

The project's objectives are to: reduce the knowledge and information gap on the inputs, performance, and outcomes of agricultural research systems in the region; and to build a solid foundation for the long-term monitoring of agricultural research investment and capacity. The project is coordinated across ten countries – Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos PDR, Vietnam, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Indonesia and Fiji – with designated Focal Points from main NARIs in these ten countries. Updates on the components made were as below:

- For the data collection component, a total of 375 individual research agencies (government, higher education, nonprofit, business) were identified as conducting agricultural research in eight countries and each were sent a survey form. Indonesia started activities in April 2018 and agencies were yet to be confirmed whilst Fiji was yet to join pending closing of their financial year in July 2018. The other eight countries made various degrees of progress and at the time of the EC meeting, Vietnam and PNG were advancing the furthest with data collection.
- For the analysis component, activities included interviews with key persons in the NARIs to examine the performance, strengths, weaknesses, and challenges of agricultural R&D in the region and interviews on research outputs.
- For the outreach component, activities included working with key persons in the NARIs to identify national-level policy influence pathways.
- The presentations concluded with information on two recent developments. Firstly, IFPRI is transferring the ASTI South Asia activities to APAARI. This is a strategy of IFPRI to regionalize ASTI in APR and for APAARI to become the long-term home of ASTI in the region. Secondly APAARI is in the process of recruiting a Research Assistant for activities on South Asia surveys.

All the EC members appreciated the work initiated effectively by APAARI. Dr Mohapatra, DG ICAR and special invitee mentioned that ASTI has been debated and discussed on how indicators will be country-specific and harmonized, whether the indicators can be developed in the region, what parameters can be developed and in what ways to utilize them.

Stakeholder Engagement and Strategy

Ms. Martina Spisiakova, Project Development Consultant at APAARI, presented the stakeholder engagement strategy based on the mapping exercise that was conducted last year.

The mapping tool was presented during the November 2017 ECM and aims to: (i) assess key stakeholders' influence over agri-food research and innovation systems (AFRIS) and their interest in APAARI's collective action classified as 'high', 'medium' and 'low'; (ii) understand stakeholders' priorities; (iii) target and prioritize key stakeholders for future partnership and activities; (iv) identify gaps within membership; and (v) recommend strategies for (re)engagement (manage closely, keep informed, keep satisfied, monitor). Highlights of her presentation were:

- Two interest/influence grids were presented to compare the level of stakeholder engagement as of November 2017 and May 2018. Significant changes were noted as some stakeholders, particularly those already disengaging from APAARI (e.g. the Bureau of Agricultural Research Philippines), showed increased interest to partner with APAARI. Other organizations (e.g. some universities) changed from neutral to more supportive engagement as they started supporting joint project development with APAARI and/or agreed to be part of pilot activities.

- The analysis of four engagement strategies associated to each member organization based on the assessment were presented.
- The stakeholder mapping has become APAARI's key tool to monitor and manage stakeholders and is part of APAARI's resource mobilization strategy. The tool that is now available as a shared document for all APAARI staff to use it, enables quick stakeholder analysis and complements the above-mentioned strategy. APAARI has developed an outline for its resource mobilization strategy that is yet to be developed into a full policy paper. The main strategy elements include members' contribution to APAARI action, competency statement, current financial situation of APAARI addressing sustainability of the Association, potential donors and broad areas to be addressed, annual targets, approach to donors, and six-monthly/annual review of the strategy implementation. The potential donors identified for APAARI's resource mobilization and their priority areas were also listed.

Resource Mobilization Strategy:

Ms Martina also presented the resource mobilization strategy that was developed in consultation with the ES. The highlights of the components covered in the strategy included APAARI's stakeholders (stakeholder map), Members' contribution to APAARI action, Competency statement, Current financial situation of APAARI, Sustainability, Potential donors and broad areas to be addressed, Annual targets, How to approach donors, Who will approach donors and Six-monthly / Annual review of the strategy implementation

Project proposals: Ms Martina also presented the efforts made to draft and submit the project proposals, the significant ones of which are:

- USAID - Seeding the Future (StF) in Feed-the-Future (FtF) Countries
- USAID - Transformation of agricultural university education to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region
- ASEAN - Mapping and assessing ASEAN higher agriculture education, research and extension to achieve SDGs in Southeast Asia (2018-2019): Preliminary Rapid Appraisal

She also highlighted on the proposals that are being developed for submission to various other donor agencies.

Internship Project

Ms Lorene Seigwart, an Intern of APAARI from SupAgro, Montpellier, France, made a presentation of her internship work carried out under the guidance of the ES. She presented her findings on the assessment of work going on under different projects on natural resources management in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with a focus on PICs. She highlighted that the impact of changing climate variables on agriculture in SIDS in the Pacific was found to focus on sustainable management of natural resources. She highlighted the gaps in the current state of progress of 26 projects in progress that are directly linked to CC adaptation in agriculture and sustainable natural resources management; and also for other 26 on-going projects that do not deal with sustainable natural resources management. Besides there are 11 on-going projects not directly linked to CC adaptation in agriculture but contribute to sustainable natural resources management.

EC appreciated the work done under internship and also the concept of inviting and/or accepting interns for working towards the mandate of APAARI.

EC endorsed the Progress Report for the period November 2017 to April 2018.

Remarks and Recommendations by the EC:

- Developments on stakeholder engagement and the strategy that was also applied along with engagement with global donors was appreciated as the need of the hour.
- APAARI should consult all its members prior to development and submission of new project proposals. Exceptions are those proposals developed at a short notice, which require a targeted approach of APAARI identifying and approaching the right members in a very short time.
- CoA mentioned that support for APAARI-CoA collaboration programme will be continued for next term also.
- The template developed by APAARI to conceptualize various project ideas should be sent to all members encouraging them to share their ideas on possible projects and partners.
- Competency statement outlining APAARI's strengths needs to be developed and be included in donor packages.
- In addition to responding to donors' calls for proposals, which may be very competitive and political, APAARI should make efforts to mobilize funding from national governments, such as India.
- APAARI should take the opportunity of the newly signed partnership agreement with FARA, and develop a joint project on South-South cooperation between Asia-Pacific and Africa.
- The stakeholder mapping tool could be further developed with help of an ICT student, who could join APAARI as an intern. The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has expressed interest to collaborate with APAARI.

Agenda Item 7: Membership and Fee Payment Status (as on 30 April 2017)

The ES presented the membership status of APAARI as on 30 April 2018 (Annex 6). There has been a good progress in receiving the membership fee to the extent of 41% per cent i.e. USD 163,500 out of total receivable USD 399,000 for the year 2018 and the remaining collection of USD 235,500 is expected to be received by 31 December 2018. The arrears of previous year amounting USD 5,000 have also been received from ICARDA for the year 2017. He mentioned that the APAARI Secretariat, its partners and stakeholders continued their efforts vigorously to mobilize and broaden membership of APAARI.

The ES highlighted the following points:

- The International Association of Agriculture Sustainability (IAAS), Singapore, and Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), India, have become Associate Members in February 2018. Mahidol University, Thailand, has become an Affiliate Member during April 2018; and Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), India has joined as a Reciprocal Member. Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU), Gujarat, India, has shifted from Associate to Affiliate Member, and EC is requested to decide about the payment of the balance fee of JAU for two years. The International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka, is not responding, and thus temporarily designated as a Reciprocal Member. CAPSA-UNESCAP,

Indonesia, expressed their inability to continue as a member of APAARI due to their transition from UN to an inter-governmental organization. Presently, the total number of members has reached 73. Besides, Crop Life Asia, Singapore, has expressed the desire to become an Associate Member and Dr YSR Horticulture University, Andhra Pradesh, India, are also considering to become Affiliate Member this year.

- BAR, Philippines membership has been pending for four years. Dr. Reynaldo V. Eborra was requested to help resolve this long pending issue. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, has also been pending for the last four years. Both have assured to review the case.
- The AREEO, Iran, had paid the pending membership fee for the previous three years through a delegate attending the Regional Expert Consultation from 13-15 November 2017. Based on the discussion separately with ICARDA and AREEO, APAARI has submitted a tripartite agreement (involving AREEO, APAARI, ICARDA) to ICARDA (Jordan office) with a copy to AREEO. Once agreed and signed by all the above, AREEO will pay its membership fee through ICARDA to APAARI in USD without banking hassles.
- There has been a good progress in receiving the membership fee to the extent of 41% per cent i.e. USD 163, 500 out of total dues as USD 399,000 for the year 2018 and the remaining collection of USD 235,500 is expected to be received by 31 December 2018. The arrears of previous year amounting USD 5,000 have also been received from ICARDA for the year 2017.
- The private sector and civil society entities (NGOs, FOs) have also expressed interest to join APAARI as members. Specific guidelines on the mechanism for accepting their membership are being developed.

The ES requested support and suggestions from EC members to help the Secretariat in further mobilization of the membership.

It was suggested by EC that IWMI should not be classified under the Reciprocal Member category, since other international agricultural research organizations have to pay membership fees as being Associate Members, having the same benefits as Reciprocal Members. It was suggested that this decision should be revisited in order to avoid other international agricultural research organizations aiming to move to this category as well.

The EC appreciated the drive of the Secretariat for getting new members and in securing the membership fee including arrears.

The EC endorsed the membership and its fee status as on 30 April 2018.

Agenda Item 8: Revised Work Plan for the Biennium 2017-2018

The APAARI Secretariat had developed a detailed Work Plan for the biennium 2017-2018, in accordance with the APAARI's Strategic Plan 2017-2022 and presented the same in the EC meeting of 14 July 2017 and of 12 November 2017. The revised plan (as agreed and suggested in the previous EC meeting of 12 November 2017) was presented.

Event to be organized or co-organized by APAARI in 2018

The ES then presented the overview of 12 key events to be organized by APAARI in different quarters of 2018 (Annex 7) and this also included those that are to be co-organized with other institutions/organizations.

The ES also highlighted other important activities that are to be taken up during 2018 such as Monitoring and Evaluation; Membership Strategy; Constitutional Amendments; and Initiating the integration of ASTI activities of South Asia into APAARI activities.

EC Members were requested to provide the comments and suggestions.

EC endorsed the revised work plan for the year 2018.

Agenda Item 9: Administrative matters

The ES presented the following key points related to the administrative matters:

- A new Knowledge Management Coordinator joined after being recruited through interviews conducted as per APAARI norms in October 2017. This was based on the vacancy created by the previous incumbent who resigned in June 2017.
- The Accounts and Administration Associate completed her two-year contract in December 2017, and the contract was renewed for a period of five years with a marginal hike in salary. Similarly, the Knowledge Management Officer also completed her two-year contract and that was renewed after following the proper procedures w.e.f. May 2018.
- The India Office of APCoAB was closed because of joining of a new full time APCoAB Coordinator in August 2017 (at Headquarters at Bangkok) who was recruited through interview conducted as per norms in June 2017. The Senior Administrative Associate who was located there was transferred to Bangkok and his salary was adjusted accordingly.
- As approved by ECM 2/2017, additional space was acquired by APAARI in the same FAO Annex building where it is housed. The annual rent for APAARI has thus increased and highlighted the need for covering the additional cost through inhouse reserve fund and additional revenues being generated.

The comments made by the EC were as follows:

- The EC perused the new recruitment and renewal of contract and closure of APAARI India office that has been effected.
- The EC appreciated the Secretariat for acquiring additional space due to manpower growth, and approved the acquisition of new space in the same FAO Annex building where APAARI is housed.

Agenda Item 10: Finance: Audit accounts 2017 and reforecast Income and Expenditure Plan for 2018)

The ES presented income and expenditure figures as compiled under various major heads summarized to have an insight into and estimates of the status and position of financial resources, as well as how these could be managed effectively for efficient functioning of APAARI. (Annex 8).

The ES highlighted the following points:

- The revised chart of accounts has been made operational from 2018. Costs are now being classified to departments, grants, member services and projects. The financial accounting software has been upgraded to the network version. Thus, facilitating financial reporting, monitoring and control. The financial system is being further refined for improved results.
- A clean audit report for 2017 was presented. The audit accounts 2017 reflected a cash deficit of USD 144,719.10 with total receipts of USD 374,538.92 and payments of USD 519,258.02. The expenditure during 2017 has now been classified by departments to facilitate comparison with Budget 2018RF1. A mismatch between revenue generated during the year and related costs were observed.
- It was reported that the balance brought forward from 2016 as on 1 January 2017 was USD 157,129. It was asked to refer to the actuals for 2017, as presented for comparison with the budget. USD 66,345.19 has been utilized during 2017 leaving a residual of USD 90,783.81 for carry forward to 2018.
- The Budget 2018 has been re-forecasted (Budget 2018RF1), based on the actual expenditure up to April 2018 and additional information available. Attempts were made to apportion the costs of operations, technical staff and facilities to projects, member services and grants, thus leading to a drop in indirect costs. Projects in pipeline have been included, though at a very conservative revenue estimate of USD 100K. (Annex 8.1)
- During the period January-December 2018 (as shown in Annex – 8.1), the reforecast budgeted revenue 2018RF1 from major sources including membership fee, contribution from ACIAR and COA, FAO and ASTI projects, unutilized budget brought forward, contribution from partners (committed and mobilized) was estimated to be USD 11,77,762.04. The estimated total direct costs were USD 898,999.23 and total indirect costs USD 2,43,220 amounting to a total expenditure of USD 11,42,219.23 with net contribution USD 35,542.81. In comparison the actual revenue up to October 2018 is USD 7,96,167.92 with direct costs USD 6,08,167.13, indirect costs USD 1,77,751.39 and net contribution USD 10,249.40.
- As more information has become available the budget 2018RF2 is now presented with near realistic estimates for 2018 with total revenue USD 10,21,052.28, direct costs USD 8,13,657.96, indirect costs USD 2,24,158.73 and net contribution USD (16764.41). It is observed that the project activity level is ASTI is lower than budgeted. However, in APCoAB direct costs are higher than budgeted (to be further verified as apparently some wrong postings have been noted in the chart of accounts) with deficit to be borne by APAARI from the other streams of income. Further we see that there is a decline in revenue from membership subscription. These unfavorable variances have resulted in lower revenue and net contribution in 2018.

- The ES also highlighted that estimates were made in the best possible way by giving all available information and factors. The finance will be strictly monitored on regular basis, and suitable adjustments will be made as APAARI proceeds with the implementation of its work plan and agenda of reforms.

The following comments were made by the EC:

- The ratio of indirect/direct cost has been greatly reduced *vis-a-vis* what was presented in EC of 12 November 2017.
- The resource mobilization strategy will be of immense use for APAARI to generate more funds, to carry out multiple activities for the partners and making APAARI a vibrant organization. The EC endorsed the audited accounts and audit report thereon for the year 2017.
- EC requested for more clarity on the deficit that was shown for 2017. ES assured to get back to the EC members with more facts and figures to make the reason for the deficit more explicit, and assured to include that in the EC proceedings. (Annex 8.9 Note on Reconciliation of Deficit in Audited Accounts 2017 and Roll over Budget)
- The EC while approving the reforecast income and expenditure plan for 2018 applauded the efforts made by the Secretariat towards improving the financial management system of APAARI.

Agenda Item 11: Session with Special Invitees

The ES highlighted that the special session was organized with a purpose of broadening the domains of membership (specially enrolling more NARS members) and addressing areas of work for APAARI. He highlighted that a number of areas including higher agricultural education sector has not been addressed adequately through APAARI. The discussions on new areas and partnerships within Asia-Pacific and across the region (such as Africa) also merited attention. This provided an opportunity for them to share their views on areas of possible collaboration to contribute to prioritization of thematic areas.

The highlights of the brief deliberations / presentation made by various special invitees are as below:

Yemi Akinbamijo, ED, Forum of Agricultural Research (FARA), Ghana: He gave a brief background on FARA as a continental apex body for agricultural research and innovation in African continent, and being the technical arm of the African Union Commission for coordination of agriculture research for development. He highlighted the need for collaboration with APAARI as the FARA-APAARI partnership has potential to become the largest alliance of food-challenged populations in the world. Both Asia-Pacific and Africa have common challenges and synergy points. Some of the key possible partnership areas he highlighted were: strengthening higher education, research and extension in Asia and Africa; mapping the relationship between university curriculum and student learning outcomes, identify gaps, and propose soft skill and development programmes to fill these gaps; and solving current socio-economic issues of youth employment, wealth and job creation. He emphasized that FARA partnership with APAARI is essential for the attainment of SDGs and related socio-political frameworks.

Trilochan Mohapatra, DG, ICAR and Secretary DARE, India: He was appreciative of the work being done by APAARI and the new initiatives taken for agricultural growth in the region. He mentioned that ICAR is the largest research institution in Asia-Pacific (second to USA at the global level) in terms of its manpower and infrastructure and also its outreach programmes. Both APAARI and ICAR need to work more closely and ICAR would be pleased to offer its facilities and infrastructure for facilitating the action plans of APAARI, particularly in the field of biotechnology, bioresources and socio-economics. He invited APAARI to organize the events jointly with ICAR in India. He also highlighted the need for scaling up of India-made innovations in the region through APAARI's platform. Assuring all kinds of support from ICAR, he highlighted the need to jointly work for South-South Cooperation and on collaborative projects in niche areas of common mandate.

Wayne Nelles, Consultant, Higher Education and Partnerships, Thailand; He highlighted the background and importance of broader APAARI Collaboration with Asia-Pacific HEIs (Expert Group on “Higher Education for Sustainable Agriculture (HESA) and Food Security in Southeast Asia” and University-based Extension Research Project – Chulalongkorn University/SIDA and partners– 2015-2018). He mentioned the following three new concepts being developed in collaboration with APAARI: (i) Mapping and Assessing Agrobiodiversity in Southeast Asia (MAASEA), 2018-2021 (submitted to AFD); (ii) Mapping and Assessing ASEAN Higher Agriculture Education, Research and Extension (HAERE) to Achieve SDGs in Southeast Asia (2018-2019): Phase One - A Preliminary Rapid Appraisal (UNESCO Lead, Submitted to ASEAN Trust Funds; and (iii) Mapping, Strengthening and Scaling-up Agroecology in Asia-Pacific Higher Education, Science and Extension to Encourage Innovation and meet SDGs, 2019-2022 for FAO's New Scaling-up Agroecology Initiative) APAARI Lead (potentially to be submitted for EU Funding).

Tin Htut, Former DG and Permanent Secretary, MOALI, Myanmar: He mentioned that Myanmar will consider becoming a member of APAARI. He requested APAARI to develop a White Paper for Agriculture Development Strategy of APAARI. APAARI should also work with member country institutions to conceive concept notes/ proposal and try to look for funding collectively to carry out the projects. APAARI can develop proposals for national governments and send proposals for regional activities. He highlighted that APAARI should draw up a project calendar proposal responsive to regional concerns and needs.

Siang Hee, ED, CropLife Asia (CLA), Singapore: He made a presentation on the needs and areas of CLA collaboration with APAARI. Some of the key areas he identified included communications, capacity building and policy formulation – supportive of plant breeding innovations, knowledge awareness or information dissemination. He also highlighted the need for carrying out joint expert consultations/meetings/conferences; trainings/workshops; database; and publications. He very succinctly elucidated the dilemma of the plant science industry and for that matter identified possible priority areas of cooperation with APAARI on support to APCoAB programme of APAARI. This is by co-organizing a technical seminar on plant breeding innovations and developing capacity building on biotech research stewardship *via* excellence through stewardship. He further mentioned the need for partnering with APAARI to achieve the phytosanitary harmonization in the region to facilitate seed movement, strengthen networks with the National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) in setting up targets for the international movement of seeds and harmonize policy measures in the region.

Cheng-I Wei, Chairman: International Association of Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), Singapore: Dr Wei expressed the satisfaction of IAAS joining the APAARI family and gave a brief background on IAAS which devotes to serving as a platform to assemble agriculture-related knowledge and methodologies, and to positively impact the economy, human health, environmental sustainability and society in the world. He highlighted the International Agriculture Innovation Conference (IAIC 2018), which IAAS is organizing in Beijing, China from 12-13 October 2018. He also explained about various activities, publications, sponsoring journals, networking and cooperation opportunities with association members for research projects and platform for sharing of research results and products. He expressed his desire to work closely with APAARI by jointly organizing academic conferences, scoping for projects in various domains of common mandate, especially in relation to value chain for inclusive development in the region, as well as joint publications.

B.S. Dhillon, Vice Chancellor, Panjab Agriculture University and Secretary Indian Agricultural University Association (IAAU), India: Dr Dhillon expressed his happiness of PAU joining APAARI as an Associate Member. He mentioned that APAARI has been run by stalwarts of agriculture of the region and India has significantly contributed. He mentioned that PAU is one of the top performing universities of the country and its association with APAARI would definitely be helpful for the staff and students particularly to fine tune their R&D agenda and through exchange of the faculty and students. He offered support to APAARI for any of its project or events to be held in India. He also highlighted that reforms in the higher education sector are one of the key areas where PAU will be pleased to partner with APAARI.

S. Agnihotri, Head, Center for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA), Indian Institute of Technology – Bombay (IITB), India: Dr Agnihotri expressed his satisfaction in attending the meeting and thanked APAARI for welcoming IITB as an Affiliate member. He gave an overview of the activities of CTARA, which aims to conceive and facilitate application of latest appropriate technologies to address the problems of rural areas. There are many areas, such as big data, where IITB may seek partnership from APAARI members and would like APAARI to facilitate internships for knowledge assimilation and sharing in such niche areas. He highlighted the need for considering scaling up of certain innovations on rural technology made at IITB to the Asia-Pacific region. He thanked APAARI for its support and for being a co- organizer with IITB of a forthcoming event on to be held at IITB, Mumbai, in December 2018.

Margaret C. Yoovatana, Policy and Planning Specialist, DOA, Thailand: She highlighted the facts that DOA needs partners like APAARI from ASEAN region and requested APAARI to approach APEC and ASEAN to develop projects on regional concerns to avoid duplications, as there is room for APAARI in these associations. ASEAN has already been working on WTO and also DOA as the regional lead on climate smart agriculture in the region and would welcome partnership with APAARI on these aspects. DOA is conducting a mapping expertise in the region to see how it can be leveraged appropriately for the region in future. He further highlighted that the projects developed by APAARI are responsive to the needs and interests of the region.

Ms. Wattanee Chamnankit, International Relations Officer, Mahidol University, Thailand (Nominee of of President, Mahidol University): She thanked APAARI for invitation to participate in the EC meeting. She informed that Mahidol University in collaboration with APAARI has already organized CryoSymp 2018 in February 2018. She emphasized that Mahidol University is keen to collaboarte with APAARI in common mandated activities like capacity building projects

on climate change, plant conservation and agricultural biotechnology.

The EC noted, perused and appreciated the suggestions given by special invitees on new areas of collaboration, and found the session very useful for broadening the horizon of work of APAARI. The Chairman requested the ES to keep the suggestions of special invitees in mind for the future action plan.

Agenda Item 12: Important Initiative - Constitutional Amendments

The ES presented during the APAARI ECM held on 12 November 2017 that current constitution has not been able to keep pace with the changing role of APAARI in the existing and emerging context of agri-food systems and the need for strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region. The EC, in meeting held on 12 November 2018, recommended that the constitutional change(s), as needed, should be undertaken in a progressive manner and presented to the first ECM of 2018.

Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Former ES, APAARI, who helped the Secretariat to look into the constitutional amendments, made the presentation. He informed that the first edition of the APAARI constitution was published in December 1991 and the constitution was amended as five editions, mainly with minor amendments; the latest being the sixth edition of March 2017. This proposed (the Seventh Edition) edition includes major amendments/updates, providing unambiguous, consistent and effective constitutional provisions for APAARI to help responding to current and emerging challenges of agriculture and agri-food systems (AFS) in Asia and the Pacific.

This proposed edition has 17 articles and 46 paragraphs covering various topics as indexed in the contents page. In this context, it was highlighted that AFSs cover farming of crops and livestock, fish, pastoralism and forestry / agro-forestry, their production systems and their associated post-harvest food value chains and service industries, with a particular focus on the needs of resource-poor smallholder producers.

Amendments were suggested in the Preamble and almost all the existing fourteen Articles except that of Article VI of Subscription, that was proposed to be taken up at a later stage. Notably in Article I the full form of APAARI was proposed as Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research and Innovation Institutions to signify the importance of innovations in agriculture and also not to change the name of acronym also. Regarding the article related to Seat, besides having Bangkok as the Headquarters it was proposed that the Asia-Pacific Region shall be specified into three sub-regions for effective operations and governance of the Association. These sub-regions shall be: i) the Pacific, ii) South-East Asia and East Asia, and iii) South Asia and West Asia. Besides, notable changes were suggested in other Articles related to objectives, functions, membership, constitution of the Executive Committee, Term of Executive Secretary and Secretariat, etc.

It was mentioned that such improved/revised amendments can be notified, as per Article XVI – Para 31 of the APAARI Constitution (Sixth Edition), to the members of the APAARI General Assembly, for the Assembly to consider these amendments for approval during the up-coming session of the General Assembly in November 2018.

Remarks and recommendations of EC

The EC reinforced the point that the Constitutional Amendments are key to meet the strategy plan requirements of APAARI. Once agreed and enforced, they will further improve the functioning of APAARI through enhanced contribution towards its members.

The EC considered the current constitution (sixth edition) and the proposals for amendment and appreciated the meticulous efforts made towards constitutional amendments.

The EC before endorsing the proposed amendments, preferred to constitute a Sub-Committee to look into the proposed amendments more objectively and to consider the arising implications and emerging recommendations. The Chairman was empowered to constitute an EC Sub-Committee on Constitutional Amendments comprising of 4-5 members with fairly balanced representations from NARS, International Institutes and Higher education sectors. It was decided that the Chairman and ES would prepare a time bound plan of action for the members of the sub-committee who would work through mails and virtual discussions (as the need be) and will come up with a Clean Draft Proposal and the final draft be then circulated to the General Assembly (GA) members at least 60 days prior to the GA meeting.

Agenda Item 13: Discussions on presentations and recommendations (including any other matters):

- The presentations made by ES and other staff members of APAARI showed a marked improvement as compared to the previous EC meeting. In a span of nine months the new team of APAARI have invested significant time and efforts on technical, financial and administrative domains to improve the visibility and function of the organization. The closure of India office (which was temporarily established earlier on need basis) and the proposal for provision of APAARI centers in the region in the constitutional amendment is a praise worthy move.
- The intensive engagements with members, the initiative taken on the agricultural education sector, development of resource mobilization strategy, strengthening of APCoAB activities and drafting of projects by responding to calls of global donors have shown a new direction for APAARI.
- The adopted drive for funding and APAARI's growth, even if at the end the desired funds are not obtained, shows the willingness and commitment to look for funding aggressively. Some caution in applying for grants or responding to calls of global donors may, however, be exercised because it is very competitive and time-consuming process, with some tenders already knowing ahead of time the projects to be advertised. Sometime it is better to let donors know APAARI's areas of competence and then offer its collaboration on projects.
- South-South Cooperation should be one of the key areas for scoping for collaboration or request for funding from member states, including from Africa. Well-targeted messages need to go to funding agencies along with APAARI's capability statement.
- Activities of APAARI should be linked to outputs and there should be clear indication of output to see whether it has been achieved at the end of cycle. It has to be seen in the long run that outputs are translated into outcomes.

Agenda 14: Concluding Remarks by the Chairman

- Based on the deliberations and discussions during the meeting and the valuable comments and recommendations by the EC members and the special invitees, Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, presented his concluding remarks. He mentioned that APAARI has become a more vibrant organization now with a large number of activities and initiatives going on despite its constrained resources. The constitutional amendment which has been proposed for some major changes will drive APAARI towards meeting its mission objectively. He profusely thanked all the participants of the EC meeting for their very active participation in the meeting and acknowledged the contributions of the APAARI Secretariat to meet the challenges in their action plan. He further mentioned that the date of next EC meeting of 2018 will be announced by the ES, and that will be organized back-to-back with one of the events that APAARI will be organizing.

Agenda 15: Vote of Thanks

On behalf of the ES, Dr Rishi Tyagi extended vote of thanks to Chairman, Vice-Chairman and all the EC members and special invitees for their participation and valuable inputs, as well as to those who helped directly/indirectly in organizing the meeting. He highlighted the continuous support and encouragement received from the Chairman during the course of action. He finally assured on behalf of ES that under the guidance of EC, APAARI will continue to grow further through partnerships and networking and work vigorously for achieving the SDGs in Asia-Pacific region.

(Submission for clarification to EC members by mail after the EC Meetings)

Note on Reconciliation of Deficit in Audited Accounts 2017 and Rollover Budget

The Audited Accounts of 2017 consisted of the Summary Receipts and Payments statement and month-wise details of receipts and payments. The accounts at APAARI are prepared based on cash basis of accounting. In the cash basis of accounting method, transactions are recorded in the books of accounts when cash is received or paid.

In the alternate, under the accrual basis of accounting method the effects of transactions and other events are recognized when they occur (and not only as cash is received or paid). The accrual basis is superior as it presents a complete and comprehensive picture of operations, enables better internal control, provides better quality information to users for economic decisions and presents a more complete and transparent view of the financial position. It enables a more effective assessment of performance and provides the necessary information for correlating the costs to revenue and outcomes. Accrual basis is generally accepted as a fundamental accounting assumption in preparation of financial statements.

We have included grants, revenue and depreciation based on accrual method, in the Contribution Statement of 2017 presented alongside the Budget 2018RF1 for comparison. Hence project revenue and grant, though not received during the year are included to match expenses incurred during the year. The reconciliation is presented below for information please:

Reconciliation of 2017 Deficit with Presentation in Budget

	USD
Deficit of 2017 as per Budget Statement	nil
Budget of 2016 utilized in 2017	66,345.19
Received in 2018 but expensed in 2017	
ACIAR (Received in 2018 for 2017)	30,000.00
LOA Rome	14,016.00
ASTI Project	25,430.77
Capital Expenditure (Computer Hardware/Software)	12,365.87
Less Depreciation taken	-3,438.73
Deficit as per Audited Accounts (Recd. USD 374,538.92-Used USD 519,258.02)	144,719.10

The carried forward/rollover budget from 2016 was USD157, 129/-. The deficit of USD 66,345.19 of 2017 based on accrual method as stated above was adjusted and balance USD 90,783.81 carried forward/rollover to 2018.



APAARI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (2/2018)
21 December, 2018
Taipei, Taiwan

Proceedings

The second Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) of APAARI for the year 2018 was held on 21 December 2018 at Activity Centre of Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. The second ECM was a relatively brief one as it was to be followed by the General Assembly Meeting (GAM) on the same day. Some of the common agenda items for ECM and GAM were proposed to be discussed in detail in GAM and hence were very briefly presented in ECM.

The Chairman APAARI Dr Yusuf Zafar (Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council), Islamabad, Pakistan was not able to attend the ECM in person due to his pressing engagements. However, Dr Zafar sent a recorded message wherein he gave opening remarks and highlighted the achievements of APAARI during the past two years. Dr Vincent Lin, Deputy Director General, Department of International Affairs, Council of Agriculture Executive Yuan, Taiwan was requested to conduct the ECM on behalf of Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman, APAARI.

Dr Ravi Khetarpal, the Executive Secretary (ES), APAARI introduced Dr Vincent Lin, the Nominated Chairman for the Purpose (NCP) to the house. Dr Vincent Lin, the NCP graciously accepted the responsibility and conducted ECM giving scope for EC members to express their views, completed ECM in scheduled time and prioritizing the agenda items as suggested by the ES. The ES responded to the suggestions/ comments of EC members and detailed the options available with APAARI. The meeting was attended by EC members or their representatives, special invitees, observers and staff of the APAARI Secretariat (Annex II).

Agenda 1: Welcome and Introduction

At the outset the NCP welcomed all members present in the house and requested Executive Committee (EC) members to cooperate in completing the EC Meeting ECM in the scheduled time. He also mentioned that detailed presentations are planned in the GAM that follows ECM and thus there will be more scope for discussions in the GAM.

Agenda 2: Opening Remarks

Dr Yusuf Zafar, Chairman APAARI through his pre-recorded video welcomed the members and highlighted the achievements of APAARI for the past two years including the reporting period of June to November 2018 for the ECM. He congratulated the ES and appreciated the whole team for putting an end to ad-hocism by making efforts for establishing systems in place systematically. Important points covered by Dr Zafar in his recorded message included fruitfulness of visit to Iran where he also accompanied, and visit of ES to China for some strategic discussions.; expressed satisfaction over securing considerable funding to APAARI e.g. ASTI. STDF/WTO projects; requested the APAARI team to put efforts for securing more funding from donor agencies e.g. BMGF; highlighted concern about development regarding FAO Recommendation to dissociate from the Regional Associations in terms of extending support services to them; wished that new EC will develop a mechanism to resolve the issue and the legal status of APAARI is ensured; highlighted the need for constitutional amendments as relevant to the current role of APAARI as per approved Strategy Plan and requested EC and GA to discuss and approve the amendments suitably; expressed gratefulness to APAARI team and donors – ACIAR, COA etc. and informed the house that PARC membership for 2019 is already approved. Dr Zafar expressed confidence that he is leaving a vibrant APAARI in a very good shape. He expressed the opinion that though there are still many more challenges but ES and the new EC will be able to overcome them and take APAARI to new heights.

The NCP then requested the ES to make presentations for other Agenda items.

Agenda 3: Approval of the Draft Agenda by the EC

The ES briefly introduced the draft agenda to the EC (Annexure III). He also highlighted that in view of limited scheduled time for EC, important issues such as technical work plan, membership strategy, constitutional amendments, and among the administrative issues including relationship with FAO now need to be taken up on priority. Certain important agenda items would be discussed in detail during the GAM soon after the ECM.

EC unanimously approved the draft agenda.

Agenda 4: Approval of the Minutes of the Last ECM

The Proceedings of the last EC Meeting (1/2018) held at Bangkok on 28 May 2018 were prepared giving full and comprehensive details of deliberations and recommendations. These were circulated

initially to the EC members and others who also attended the meeting as special invitees. A few members then suggested some minor modifications which was duly incorporated and the refined version was sent again to all members of the EC and others. Since no further comments were received, the final draft as endorsed by the Chairman, APAARI was uploaded on APAARI website and its copies were provided to all APAARI members and partners. The link was also provided. The full Proceedings of the EC Meeting with key decisions are given in Annexure IV.

EC unanimously approved the Minutes of Meeting of the previous ECM (1/2018).

Agenda 5: Action Taken Report on ECM (I/ 2018) Recommendations

The ES briefly presented the actions taken or being taken on the recommendations of ECM (1/2018) during the period May 2018 - November 2018 which was prepared agenda-wise to ensure that all points are covered. Some of the important actions taken were: Membership Strategy prepared; Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL) study and Execution of MERL Plan submitted by the Consultant; IWMI was communicated the it will not be henceforth Reciprocal member; Capability statement of APAARI prepared; Studies undertaken on stakeholder mapping and on stakeholder engagement strategy; and clarity on the deficit 2017 was given by email to all the EC members.

The contents of this agenda item provided a clear picture of the progress on recommendations made by EC on various activities for the period May 2018 – November 2018. Details of Action Taken Report is provided in Annexure V. Capability Statement is given as Annex VI.

EC unanimously approved the Action Taken Report on ECM (I/2018) recommendations and congratulated APAARI secretariat for taking up the recommendations actively.

Agenda 6: Progress Report: May 2018 - November 2018

ES presented briefly the Progress Report for the period May to November 2018. Details were provided (as given in Annexure VII) to all the members. The progress report covered major events/presentations undertaken by APAARI through its programs/projects of APCoAB, Knowledge Management and ASTI as well as information sharing, membership drive, project planning and organizing, collaborations, participation in meetings organized by members and other organizations, new recruitments, project proposals developed etc.

Salient highlights of the progress report are given below for ready reference.

APAARI Management Meetings held:

- 2018/1 APAARI Executive Committee Meeting at Bangkok, Thailand, 28 May 2018

- APCoAB 19th Steering Committee (SC) Meeting at Bangkok, Thailand, 28 May 2018

Events Organized by APAARI:

- Regional Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology - Scoping Partnership to Improve Livelihoods of Farmers in Asia-Pacific at Bangkok, Thailand, 28-30 May 2018
- Analytical Research Agenda Workshop by APAARI and IFPRI at Bogor, Indonesia, 9-10 July 2018
- Knowledge Management Workshop 2018 with NAFRI at Vientiane, Lao PDR, 18-19 October 2018
- Seminar on the ASTI project at MAF, Fiji, 29-31 October 2018
- Regional Conference on Role of Soil and Plant Health Towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in Asia-Pacific with DOA at Bangkok, Thailand, 21-23 November 2018
- Webinar with Universities on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) with TAP and GCHERA, 30 November 2018 - On line,
- International Seminar on Conservation and Prospecting of Bioresources in Asia-Pacific Region with COA at Taipei, Taiwan, 18 – 20 December 2018

Events Co-organized by APAARI with Partners/Stakeholders

- International Conference on Social and Sustainability Science in ASEAN: Agri-food Systems, Rural Sustainability and Socioeconomic Transformations at Chulalongkorn University at Bangkok, Thailand
- The 3rd CryoSymp 2018 with Mahidol University and ISHS at Bangkok, Thailand, 26-28 March 2018
- Regional Training on the use of Drones, Satellite Imagery and GIS for Agriculture with FAO & ITU at AIT at Bangkok, Thailand, 4-8 June 2018
- Regional Conference on Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture (MAYA) with TAAS, ICAR, MSSRF, ASCI, YPARD NABARD at New Delhi, India, 30 August 2018
- E-Agriculture Solutions Forum 2018 with FAO and ITU at Nanjing, China, 15-17 November 2018
- The “MAD” Conference, Managing Agriculture Digitally – Innovations for Sustainable Food with IAAS and SMU-LKCSB at SMU, Singapore, 27 November 2018
- 6th Annual South Asia Biosafety Conference (SABC) with ILSI Research Foundation, USA; BCIL; APAARI/APCoAB at Dhaka, Bangladesh, 15-17 September 2018
- 3rd International Agriculture Innovation Conference IAIC 2018 at Beijing, China, 12-14 October 2018
- IITB-APAARI-NABARD Workshop on 'Food Systems and Nutrition Security' at Mumbai, India, 6-7 December 2018

Besides, APAARI participated in in meetings, conferences and workshops during the period of May to November 2018. The key events included

- Science Week at University of Kisangani at Kisangani, Congo, 7-12 May 2018
- European Development Days EDD 2018 at Brussels, Belgium, 5-6 June 2018
- ASEAN Sustainable Agriculture and Food Forum at Bangkok, Thailand, 8 June, 2018

- Andhra Pradesh State Mega Seed Park Ltd Work Plan meeting at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India, 20-21 June 2018
- Regional Workshop on Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (CASI) at Kathmandu, Nepal, 22-23 July 2018
- APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 5 August 2018.
- The 22nd Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG) Meeting at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 7 August 2018
- ABAC Food Security Symposium, Port Moresby at Papua New Guinea, 8 August 2018
- The Sustainability Science and Development Goals meeting at Bangkok, Thailand, 20-21 August 2018
- Workshop on EU Organic Market: Export Opportunities and Challenges at Bangkok, Thailand, 27 August 2018
- 4th World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities at Penang, Malaysia, 28-30 August 2018
- The 5th International Rice Congress; (xxvi) UN agencies meeting fight against hunger and malnutrition in Asia and the Pacific in Singapore, 15-17 October 2018
- A Global Event to Accelerate the End of Hunger and Malnutrition at Bangkok, Thailand, 28-30 November 2018

Capacity building activities organized:

- Mung bean Field Study for participants nominated by ICARDA at DOA, Thailand at Bangkok, Thailand, 25-31 August 2018
- 3rd Master Class in Agricultural Research Leadership and Management at Penang, Malaysia, 11-16 November 2018

Some Important Visits:

- Country visits (China, Iran, Indonesia, Cambodia, Myanmar) for pursuing memberships.
- Visit to ACIAR for discussions and presentation on APAARI initiatives and challenges.

ES further highlighted that the APAARI website is updated regularly on news from partners, publications, events and opportunity announcements. It is an interactive version accessible on tablets and mobile phone, and with social media integration of applications like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Blogger. APAARI is currently active in updating its social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Blogger and Slideshare. Up to date APAARI Facebook has 792 Likes (with 819 who follows); Twitter has 412 followers; 236 connections for its LinkedIn account and

Blogger has four blog posts written by APAARI staff on various topics. The SlideShare, on the other hand, has 70 slide presentations uploaded with the presentations. APCOAB website has a new look with updates related to Biotechnology and Bioresources in Asia and the Pacific. The news section is updated on a regular basis. With its latest social media engagement through Facebook, the purpose is to expand the information sharing related to APCoAB activities in the region. APAARI signed an LoA with FAO-RAP (Bangkok) for knowledge management activities.

APAARI has been following up on its participation in the European Development Days 2018, where it was actively advocating the role of the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) and the need for transformation in agricultural education systems as a pre-condition for effective agricultural innovation systems. EU-based partners were identified and APAARI is currently exploring inclusion in the already existing consortia to extend the scope of already developed project concepts to Asia and the Pacific.

An initial discussion between FARA and APAARI identified the need for partnership to address issues of mutual interest confronting the agricultural sector in the two continents. This discussion has led to the drafting of a Partnership Agreement that sets the scope of the operationalization frame to work together and foster synergistic actions and partnerships.

Strengthening Knowledge and Capacity for Agricultural Innovation Systems in the Asia-Pacific Tropics is a new project developed by APAARI and submitted for funding of the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) and Council of Agriculture (COA) Taiwan, worth USD 6.9 million.

Memoranda of Understanding were signed between APAARI and International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), Italy and APAARI and Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL) to collaborate in capacity building in areas of agricultural biotechnology.

Drafted an APAARI component for a concept note on Mapping and Assessing ASEAN Higher Agriculture Education, Research and Extension (HAERE) To Achieve SDGs in Southeast Asia (2018-2019) and a preliminary concept note on Mapping, Strengthening and Scaling- up Agroecology in Asia-Pacific Higher Education, Science and Extension to Encourage Innovation and meet SDGs, 2019-2022.

Details of visits, events, partnerships, publications etc as part of the Progress Report are included in Annexure VII.

The NCP invited for comments or suggestions from the EC members. There were no specific suggestions and EC unanimously appreciated the dedicated commitments of the APAARI Secretariat in carrying out the e plethora of activities taken up in such a short span of time for the benefit of APAARI members.

Agenda 7: Membership and Fee Payment Status (as on 30 Nov 2018)

ES highlighted that APAARI Secretariat not only actively communicated with all current and potential members of APAARI but also personally contacted whenever possible with a special focus on NARS, higher education Institutions, and advanced research institutions/AIRCA/CG Centers.. Support of APAARI well-wishers and stakeholders at large was also sought. ES apprised the house that at present, APAARI has 21 members under the NARS category; 28 members under the associate category (number increased by 1 from that of 27 in 2016); 13 under the affiliate category (4 additions); and 15 under the reciprocal membership category (4 additions). Thus, the total membership now stood at 78 (as on 30 November, 2018), an increase of 8 members over the year 2016.

Recently, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan; and Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (Jammu) India, joined as Affiliate Members and Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) as Reciprocal Member. There has been a good progress in receiving the membership fee to the extent of 80 per cent (USD 324,500) out of total receivable USD 405,000 including some arrears) for the year 2018. Full details of Membership and Fee Payment Status are provided in Annexure VIII.

Discussions on the Agenda

ACIAR paid membership fee for 2018, which is not reflected in the status presented (Dr Mellissa).

Associated membership status is not updated for 2018 (Dr Marco).

Provision to deal with nonpaying members with long pending dues may be incorporated in the constitution (Ms Brigitta).

There was also a suggestion on highlighting benefits extended to its members by APAARI (Dr Bhujarbaruah and Dr Sarial). APAARI need to explore routing of membership fee of Iran through ICARDA (Dr Padhee). It was generally felt that APAARI may also consider using virtual platforms for events or meetings instead of physical meetings in person.

The ES responded that anomaly in membership fees paid by will be verified including the Associate membership fee. Routing membership fee of Iran through ICARDA was explored and pursued

actively by drafting a tripartite MoU among APAARI, AREEO and ICARDA, but that could not be materialized. Benefits of APAARI to members were briefly explained in terms of expenditure made on regularly participating members which often exceeds the fee paid in addition to non-tangible benefits of knowledge and technology transfer. APAARI agenda is demand driven and accordingly members' needs are captured to prepare the work plan. APAARI has started conducting Webinars and Skype meetings. Recently a webinar platform was also purchased. Suggestion for enhancing use of virtual platforms was appreciated and Secretariat will take due note of this for implementing the same whenever feasible. Provisions of dealing with the members with outstanding arrears of last few years will be discussed in GAM considering the reasons for nonpayment including natural calamities.

ES profusely thanked the members for their suggestions/ questions / comments and assured that all of them will be suitably addressed.

EC appreciated the progress made in enhancing the membership base and also collection of membership fee due to the extent of 87% from the members.

EC Recommendations

- APAARI Secretariat shall verify the records and the updated status of membership fee received be circulated.
- APAARI should develop a mechanism to ensure that as far as possible all the members are benefitted appropriately.

Agenda 8 : Work Plan for the Biennium 2019-20

The ES briefly presented APAARI indicative Work Plan for the biennium 2019-2020 prepared in line with APAARI's Strategic Plan 2017-2022.

The Work Plan 2019 included activities to be undertaken under various thematic areas, programs and projects of APAARI and also the actions to be taken towards strengthening strategic partnerships. This included websites updates, webinars on thematic needs, publications (Newsletters, APAARI Network highlights), success stories, strategy for Mega Seed Park, strategy for the Asia Pacific Knowledge Hub on SPC Capacity, Expert consultations on new genome manipulation techniques and biosecure and biosafe APR, Development and maintenance of online tools, Data collection, ASTI survey management systems, ASTI Data validation, Data analysis of

agricultural R&D in the region, Development of event proceedings, training manuals, ASTI country publications, Analytical work of agricultural innovation systems, Workshop on vegetable seed technologies, Enhancing small farmer income and livelihoods and Integration of innovative learning and knowledge sharing under Knowledge Management. Under the head of Capacity Development, strengthening KM and biotechnology capacities of member institutions, value chain in vegetable crops and on Leadership and management. Development of new membership and partnerships and strengthening existing partnerships; Policy influence pathways and to develop outreach plans, ASTI evidence in agricultural policy and online campaigns under Advocacy. Under the head Women and Youth, implementation plan of MAYA, building capacity and strengthening and engagement of women and youth in APAARI supported meetings and trainings were planned. As part of APAARI Governance work plan include securing Legal status to APAARI, implementation of MERL conducting ECMs and GAM as required under Constitution, conduct of APCoAB Steering Committee meeting, new recruitment plan, implementation of resource mobilization strategy, integration of key strategies and implementation of management of reforms. In view of expanded scope of APCoAB, two Workshops/Trainings, four publications, in addition to already approved activities have been planned for 2019 and 2020, subject to the availability of resources.

The details of work plan is provided as Annexure X following the structure of APAARI's key program and projects (including APCoAB, ASTI) - Knowledge Management, Partnership and Networking, Capacity Development, Advocacy, Women and Youth, and APAARI Governance and Development.

The NCP invited the members to comment up on the Work Plan 2019-20 developed by APAARI Secretariat.

Discussions on the Agenda

Following comments and suggestions were made by EC members:

- In future a questionnaire may be circulated to all the members prior to finalizing the Work Plan, sensitizing the members and to consider their needs particularly in the areas of Capacity Development and Innovation (Ms Jintawee).

The other non EC members who also attended the meeting made the following comments :

- India has well developed infrastructure, expertise, to impart the trainings and organize workshops etc. and will be happy to organize events of APAARI (Dr Kuldeep singh).

- Quantum of work for PCAARRD, Philippines needs a review since several activities are listed, which needs to be revised based on funding secured (Dr Reynold Ebora).
- APAARI shall focus on technology transfer to improve livelihoods of poor farmers. Agriculture domain is very vast and agricultural education may not necessarily be the priority for APAARI. (Dr N Shah).
- Participation and knowledge sharing through Consultative workshops, Conferences etc. organised by APAARI in the last one year has been a very satisfying experience (Dr Siva Kumar).
- APAARI may also plan to facilitate student and scientist exchange to enhance members participation (Dr Ashok Sarial).
- Access to World Bank funds to link CGIAR Centres or through Agricultural Universities (eg. NAHEP) may be explored to work in the area of agricultural education. New partnerships with the University sector is need of the hour (Dr Wayne).
- Impact of NARS funded objectives be studied rather than CGIAR funded activities. An out of box approach is needed to serve NARS (Dr Gary).
- APAARI may consider steps to attract investors with 'Agriculture' as a platform and also consider contributing not only towards MAYA (Motivating and Attracting Youth in Agriculture) but also towards ARYA (Attracting Rural Youth to Agriculture) projects in India (Dr Bujarbaruah);

ES while responding to comments and suggestions highlighted that all members are requested to consider the APAARI communications in detail and also can update themselves with APAARI website to take advantage of technical participation and knowledge sharing. APAARI is generally requesting all members to give their suggestions as what APAARI can do for them and how it should be moving forward as that is critical for its Work Plan. Certain members are already providing their inputs and requirements which are duly factored. However, APAARI will make more efforts to pursue the members to provide inputs and refine the work plan for their benefit based on funding available and secured.

The offer from India will be positively considered by the EC for conducting APAARI training workshops/ events etc. The proposals of student exchange and access to World Bank funds through universities will be duly considered by EC in forthcoming meetings.

Responding to the contrary opinions of APAARI involvement in higher education in agriculture ES informed that FAO appreciated the initiative of APAARI on linking higher education with SDGs and APAARI intends to further strengthen the mainstreaming of education sector for achieving its mission holistically. ES further mentioned that a workshop is also planned in

TNAU, India on higher education in the third week of January 2019. Impact studies on APAARI work are part of 'Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning' (MERL) and a detailed MERL work plan will be presented in the GAM by the appointed consultant. appreciated the lively discussion on various points and assured the house that all the concerns of members are duly noted and will be appropriately addressed by APAARI and suitable modifications will be done in the Work Plan as discussed.

ES also highlighted that APAARI has co-organized a MAYA event and also working with various universities and research institutes as NARS members to work together and access national funding.

EC Recommendations

- APAARI to refine the work plan as per suggestions received and funding available.
- Work Plan 2019-2020 is approved in principle.
- Further modifications in Work Plan, if any based on discussions in GAM, may be submitted to the next EC for ratification.

Agenda 9 Administrative Matters

ES presented the efforts made by the Secretariat on the Administrative Matters for effective functioning of APAARI. He highlighted that FAO-RAP informed on its recent policy on discontinuing the support services being provided to APAARI (and also to other FAO-led Associations). FAO had approached APAARI in October, 2018 regarding its new policy on Support to Associations established under the Auspices of FAO RAP whereby it is going to discontinue its services for APAARI too. APAARI does not have the legal status in Thailand. A meeting was held by ES with Senior Admin Officer of FAO, followed by a meeting with Dy Representative FAO RAP Mr Jong-Jin Kim who further highlighted the need for completely detaching FAO from APAARI which was created way back in 1990 by FAO who drafted its first constitution also. The highlights of the meeting have been incorporated in the **Annexure**. ES highlighted to FAO-RAP that APAARI is a membership-based organization and the important decisions are taken collectively by APAARI EC and GA meetings. APAARI is discussing the matter internally and has initiated the process of looking for options with Thailand Government and others and will get views of members during these EC and GA meetings. He also mentioned that FAO will continue providing the services for the interim period but insisted that APAARI may seek the legal status as soon as possible.

The administrative matters on recruitment of Research Assistant in ASTI Project, resignation of Knowledge Management Coordinator and the updated status (as on 30th November 2018) have been included in the Annexure XI.

The EC members were requested by NCP to consider and approve the administrative changes, and give guidance to the Secretariat on modus-operandi for obtaining the legal status.

Discussion on the Agenda

Discussions covered a range of items that include legal status, securing more funds, hiring a legal consultant and participating in youth programs of member countries etc. Suggestions/ comments made by the members are:

- Securing legal status is most important as it has many implications for existence of APAARI e.g. securing funding etc. and APAARI should hire a legal consultant with defined TOR (Dr Marco);
- Independent legal status for APAARI has lot of implications, Pros and cons shall be carefully weighed prior to considering of joining hands with any international agency or institute and need to review donor status, staff, independent management policies etc. (Dr Melissa).
- MOU between APAARI and DOA is under process. DOA will be pleased to have collaboration with APAARI and will take up the matter with the Government of Thailand. FAO may be approached for negotiation for continuing legal status of APAARI (Jintawee).

ES thanked the members for their concern and suggestions. He explained various options being explored to obtain legal status. ES mentioned that he vigorously pursued with FAO on continuing its support till alternative arrangements are made, which was agreed up on in principle. In order to have an International Organization status in Thailand, a draft MOU is already submitted to DOA in December 2017 and the response is still awaited. Other options being explored with Kasetsart University, Thailand; ICRISAT, India, NARS of member countries such as Nepal, Vietnam etc. are in various stages and viable options will be carried forward. ES also emphasized that as a priority all out efforts will be continued to complete the process of pursuing vigorously the MOU with DOA and simultaneously with Government of Thailand for its legal status as an International Organization.

Administrative changes such as new recruitments and resignation in APAARI were approved unanimously by EC.

EC Recommendations

- APAARI shall continue to put efforts with amenable organizations and with FAO support to obtain legal status at the earliest
- APAARI may engage Consultants as needed to hasten the process of obtaining legal status

Agenda 10 Audit/ Finance (Interim Audit Report of 2018 & Expenditure Plan for 2019)

ES presented the highlights of the budget and the interim audit report.

APAARI External Auditor – the GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd, carried out audit of APAARI financial statements for the period 2017 also carried out an interim audit from 1st January to 30th October 2018. The carried forward/rollover budget from 2016 was USD157,129/-. The deficit of USD 66,345.19 of 2017 based on accrual method was adjusted and balance USD 90,783.81 carried forward/rollover to 2018. The method of accounting has been changed from cash to mercantile basis. Since 2018 USD is introduced as functional currency in replacement to THB used earlier. The aforesaid introduced changes have aided in effective financial oversight, reporting, proper disclosure and control. As per audited accounts from Jan-Oct 2018 the total revenue earned is USD 796, 168 (USD 394,931 for the period May-Oct 2018) with the reforecast marginally exceeding USD 1 Million for 2018. The significant reasons for revenue expansion in 2018 was attributed to the timely realization of membership subscription, added memberships and addition of a new revenue income stream from projects. A project of about USD 372,000 was awarded by IFPRI (funded by ACIAR) in December 2017 with revenue overflowing into 2018. In the budget of 2018 the Secretariat speculated on a project of USD100,000, for which efforts are ongoing till date. The revenue inflow from Jan-April 2018 was USD 401,237 as compared to USD 394,931 during the period May-Oct 2018. Thus due to the timing of inflows there was a higher gross revenue during Jan-April and total costs lower with high residual net contribution.

APAARI secured USD 34,454 as project preparation grant, from WTO – STDF and this will commence in December 2018 and is to be completed by mid-2019. It is expected that USD 250,000, for a period of two years is likely to be received as a Knowledge Consortia Partner of Mega Seed Park Project to be executed in Andhra Pradesh, India to be initiated in 2019. In comparison to 2018, a significantly higher estimated total revenue of USD 1.5 million is expected in 2019.

Among the few project proposals submitted, a high value proposal (> USD 6 million) on various components of APAARI activities has been submitted to ICDF in Taiwan through COA and a discussion on the same has been called for by the donor.

During 2017 and earlier, consolidated annual revenue budgets were prepared. Since 2018 consolidated revenue budget is classified into direct and indirect costs, department budgets and project budgets are now being prepared. In addition two reforecasts (Budget RF1 and Budget RF2) are being prepared as more relevant information and outcomes would become available during the year. The Interim Audit Report scanned copies of the audit reports and audited financial statements for 2017 and from 1 January to 30 October 2018 are given in Annex XII.

The NCP invited comments/ suggestions from the members.

Discussion on the Agenda

Discussion centered around the need for simplistic budget presentation, recruitment of a Finance staff for APAARI, and the need for withdrawal of funds from Fixed Deposits.

Suggestions/ comments received from the members were:

- Budget presentation should be simplified for ease of understanding, The table on Gross Project Contribution is hard to understand and cannot tell the full story, budget for 2019 with an outlay of USD 330,000 appears to be very optimistic.
- There is a huge improvement in overall budget management and it was emphasized that it is right time now to recruit a Finance Manager/ Coordinator for APAARI (Dr Marco).

ES thanked the EC members for their guidance and constructive criticism, which helped APAARI in not only improving the financial resources but also in transparent management. He also thanked the house for the approval of USD100,000 towards expenses in the early 2019 and for payment of the expenses made in later part of 2018. He assured that budget management, and presentations will be further improved once a trained Finance staff is recruited.

EC endorsed and approved the Interim Audit Report from 1 January to 30 October 2018 and the Financial Statements for the year 2018.

EC Recommendations

- A Finance Manager/ Coordinator may be appointed on priority

- The request for withdrawal of USD 100 K from the Fixed Deposits of APAARI to meet expenses made in late 2018 and early 2019 was approved.

Agenda 11 Constitutional Amendments

ES briefly presented the proposed Constitutional Amendments that was further taken up as per the guidance of the ECM (1/2018).

He highlighted that the Current constitution has not been able to keep pace with the changing role of APAARI in the existing and emerging context of agri-food systems and the need for strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region. Dr Raghunath Ghodake, Former ES, APAARI, who helped the Secretariat to look into the constitutional amendments, made the presentation in ECM held on 28 May 2018. The EC agreed to carry on the Constitutional Amendment agenda (Agenda 12 – Important Initiative) through a Sub-Committee framed by the Chairman. The Sub-Committee deliberated on various provisions of the existing Constitution and the recommendations were sent to all the members giving proper time and notice to comment upon.

The proposed Seventh Edition has 17 articles and 46 paragraphs covering various topics as indexed in the contents page. Amendments were suggested in the Preamble and almost all the existing fourteen Articles except that of Article VI of Subscription, that was proposed to be taken up at a later stage. Companion Document - Explanatory Notes on Response / Rationale / and Concluding Recommendations (as yellow Highlighted) on the Suggested Amendments and Master Copy of the Constitution- Clean Version of 10 August 2018 (as in Red) based on further responses/considerations of the Comments by the EC Sub-Committee on Constitutional Amendments were provided as Annexures (Annexure XIII -Sixth Edition and Clean Version of proposed amendments) to all EC members.

The NCP opened the agenda for discussions and invited suggestions/ comments on the presentation:

Discussions on the Agenda

Discussions were made on the presence of few original EC members (as rest were representatives) and the important role of ECM in the approval of Constitutional amendments (Dr Marco). And also supported by Dr Albert, COA. Later Ms Brigitta suggested that EC may endorse it as a 'First draft' for presenting in GAM subject to discussions.

NCP clarified that need for amendment of the existing APAARI constitution was approved and these amendments are proposed by the sub-committee constituted for the purpose by the Chairman, APAARI. He further emphasized the fact that proposed amendments were circulated 60 days in advance to all the members as per constitutional provision and very few comments and suggestions were received from members. Members may now point out only major concerns, if any on the amendments. Further, Ms Brigitta was requested to help APAARI by looking at the revised constitution from legal and suggest for refinement.

ES thanked the members for their comments/ suggestions. He further mentioned that NARS member representatives are present in the house and the issue of quorum for the constitutional amendments is not relevant to ECM as the power for amendment lies with GAM. However, APAARI noted all the suggestions and concerns expressed by the members, which will get considered in GAM.

EC Recommendations

- Proposed Constitutional Amendments as Seventh Edition is endorsed as first draft to table it before GAM for discussion
- Ms Brigitta may help looking at the constitutional amendments from legal angle and help APAARI in this matter.

Agenda 12 Membership Strategy

ES highlighted that Membership strategy is for management and mobilization of APAARI members. One of the important and unique aspect of APAARI strength is its membership. It is crucial that its membership base needs to be expanded in terms not only of number of members but also of having diversity in membership from various kinds and types of constituencies. It appeared crucial that in expanding APAARI membership the Association should have a membership strategy with systematic approaches, methods and procedures that can be objectively adopted in the process of membership expansion and management. Therefore, the APAARI Secretariat, with the help of Senior Adviser Dr Raghunath Ghodake, undertook an exercise of developing APAARI Membership Strategy. An advanced documentation of this strategy has been separately provided to the members (Annexure XIV).

The main areas covered in the proposed strategy are: Background in terms of APAARI establishment and importance of its membership in growth of APAARI; Key attributes of APAARI membership, such as a) role and contribution of APAARI members, b) benefits to APAARI members, c) incentives/encouragements to APAARI members/stakeholders, and d) knowledge-sharing as basic support to members/ stakeholders; Need and scope for expanding APAARI membership and for making it effective in APAARI performance; Specificities of managing membership; Restructuring of membership categorization and subscription levels, and Suggesting strategic expansion/ mobilization of membership by targeting the country core membership and by assessing the primary stakeholders of APAARI. The data and information assessed and presented; considerations accounted for; and guiding principles and rationalization used, are seen to be an excellent basis for the Association to design and apply key practicing strategies (ways and processes) for effective management and mobilization of APAARI membership, thereby enhancing the performance of the Association. The designing of practicing strategies can be in a systematic, interactive, and progressive manner and such strategies can be reflected through a management standard on APAARI membership.

Due to discussions on certain very important technical and administrative agendas Membership Strategy could not be prioritized for presentation and discussions within the time available for EC. Further, it was felt that election of New Executive Committee for 2019-2020 was to be taken up immediately as some of the members had travel plans to leave early in the afternoon GAM session. Chairman thus requested to present the Membership Strategy to the 15th GAM meeting in the later part of the day, if time permits and seek suggestion and comments there.

Agenda 13 Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning

APAARI contracted SEE4D on 28 July 2018 to develop the MERL Plan. SEE4D was represented by Ms Joanne Roberts (Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant) and Mr Ted Rowley (Senior Strategic Management Consultant). An Impact Pathway and Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (IPMERL) Plan and a Toolkit for the IPMERL Plan has since been developed and submitted to APAARI at the end of November, 2018. Important recommendations from the Consultants are: The Impact Pathway as highlighted in the IPMERL Plan, be used as the structure for reporting annually and quarterly for APAARI and projects; Alignment of APAARI outcomes and investment priorities for APAARI be based on an annual participatory Impact Pathway Analysis review by the staff, executive and assembly.; APAARI staff undertake an annual review of the

APAARI Impact Pathway to align income earning opportunities and APAARI activities planned to the 5-year outcomes of the Impact Pathway; Completed Stakeholder analysis be used to build an engagement and communications plan; APAARI Secretariat to have a set of investment/opportunity decision making criteria documented in their corporate approach to provide a rationale for decisions made to participate, or not, in an opportunity and APAARI to have a position documented in their corporate approach to decision making that complexity be considered. In view of the time limitation for the EC Meeting and the most important agenda items were to be taken up in GAM, it was decided that MERL presentation will be taken up in GAM.

The details of implementation plan were provided as Annexure XV to EC members.

Agenda 14: Discussions on presentations and recommendations (including any other matters)

NCP thanked all the contributors to the discussions on the Agenda Items. No additional points on presentations or recommendations was brought up by the members including any other matter.

NCP informed the house that there will be scope for further discussion in GAM.

Agenda 15: Concluding Remarks by the NCP

NCP appreciated the presentation made by the ES Dr Ravi Khetarpal and the valuable contributions made by his team Coordinators and other Secretarial staff. He also profusely thanked all the EC members, special invitees and observers for their valuable suggestions and for agreeing on discussing in detail some major agenda items in the GAM, which he highlighted is the ultimate decision taking body of APAARI.

Agenda 16: Vote of Thanks by the Executive Secretary

The ES immensely thanked the NCP for carrying out the meeting within the time available and also to all the EC members for their contributions on each of the Agenda items presented. He assured that APAARI will certainly consider each point made by the members and will enhance the quality of services further to the members as per mandate and approved Strategy Plan 2017-2022. He also mentioned that date for next EC (1/2019) will be decided by discussing with new Chairperson and Vice Chair who are going to be elected/nominated in the GAM meeting to be held on the same day. He profusely thanked the NCP for conducting the ECM most efficiently and also for providing all the facilities for conducting the APAARI meetings. He expressed his gratefulness to the Chairman, APAARI for his valuable Opening Remarks (recorded message) even though he could not attend the meeting in person. He also thanked all the special invitees and observers (non EC members) who participated in the meeting.



Annexure V – Agenda 5

**Agenda Item 5 APAARI MEMBERSHIP AND FEE
PAYMENT STATUS**

FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sub: APAARI Membership and Fee Payment Status as on 30 November 2018

A. PURPOSE

1. To apprise the Assembly on the status of APAARI membership and their contributions (fee payments) as on 30th November 2018;
2. To seek the Assembly's suggestions/comments on the membership and their fee payment status; and
3. To seek the Assembly's understanding and appreciation of the progress and status.

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. Efforts by APAARI Secretariat were undertaken in not only formally writing to all current and potential members of APAARI but also personally contacting them and many others. We also used our well wishers and stakeholders at large to seek their support. Focus was given on NARS, universities, and advanced research institutions/CG Centers.
2. Annex 1 to this submission provides updated status (as on 30th November 2018) of the APAARI membership as categorised into the four main groups such as NARS members, associate members, affiliate members and reciprocal members. As at present, APAARI has 21 members under the NARS category; 28 members under the associate category (number increased by 1 from that of 27 in 2016); 14 under the affiliate category (number increased by 4 from that of 9 in 2016); and 15 under the reciprocal membership category (number increased by 4 from that of 11). Thus, the total membership stood at 77, an increase of 8 over the year 2016.
3. Recently, National Chung Hsing University; and Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (Jammu) joined as an Affiliate Members and Association for Asia and the Pacific (AFMA) as Reciprocal Member.
4. Annex 2 gives summary of updated status (as on 30th November 2018) of payments of membership fees by the APAARI members. There has been a good progress in receiving the membership fee to the extent of 80 per cent (USD 324,500) out of total receivable USD 405,000) for the year 2018 (including some arrears).
5. There is also an interest expressed by the private sector and civil society entities (NGOs, FOs) to join APAARI as members and we will need to have guidelines to decide on how to go about accepting their membership.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the Assembly:

1. Consider and peruse the Status of the APAARI membership and their contributions (fee payments) as on 30th November 2018;
2. Provide suggestions/comments on the membership and the fee payment; and
3. Endorse the progress and the status as on 30th November 2018.

Status of Membership and fees Received as of 30 November 2018

Annex 4: Status of Membership and fees Received as of 30 November 2018				
Membership Category	Number	Total to be Received (USD)	Fees Received (USD)	Yet to be received (USD)
1. NARS	21	210,000	178,000	32,000
2. Associate	28	165,000	136,000	29,000
3. Affiliate	13	30,000	10,500	19,500
4. Reciprocal	15			
Total	77	405,000	324,500	80,500
Percent			80%	20%

Annexure V contd.

Status of Membership Payment
Contributions by NARS Members (21)
As on 30 November 2018

S.No	Country	Payment										
		Category	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	ACIAR – Australia	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.		
2	AREEO – Iran	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.			Rec.	
3	BAR – Philippines	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
4	BARC – Bangladesh	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.		
5	SLCARP – Sri Lanka	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
6	COA – Chinese Taipei	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
7	DOA – Bhutan	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
8	DOA – Thailand	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
9	IAC – New Caledonia	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
10	ICAR – India	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.		
11	JIRCAS – Japan	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
12	MoA – Fiji	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
13	MARD/VA AS-Vietnam	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	

S.No	Country	Payment										
		Category	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
14	MARDI - Malaysia	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
15	MAF – Samoa	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec. **
16	NARC – Nepal	III	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	*	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
17	NARI – Papua New Guinea	II	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
18	PARC – Pakistan	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
19	PCAARR D - Philippines	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
20	RDA – Republic of Korea	I	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
21	NAFRI - Lao PDR	III							Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	

* Waved off on account of earthquake calamity

**MAF, Samoa has paid membership fee for 2019 as an advance.

Annexure V contd.

Status of Contribution by Associate Members (28)
As on 30 November 2018

S.No	Associate Members	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	The World Vegetable Center (AVRDC), Chinese Taipei	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
2	Bioversity International, Rome, Italy	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
3	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Mexico	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
4	International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Syria	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
5	International Crops Research institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
6	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), USA	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
7	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Kenya	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
8	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila, Philippines	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
9	PNG University of Technology, Papua New Guinea	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	*	Rec.
10	SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Bangladesh	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
11	CABI South Asia, India				Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
12	The World Fish Center, Malaysia	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
13	Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA), India		Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
14	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
15	Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture Technology & Sciences (SHIATS), India				Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.

16	Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)						Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
17	Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal, India						Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
18	International Potato Center (CIP) Peru						Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
19	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Nepal						Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
20	Crops For the Future (CFF), Malaysia						Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
21	Assam Agricultural University (AAU), India						Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
22	Kamdhenu University, Gujarat, India							Rec	**	Rec.
23	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University							Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
24	Uttarakhand University of Horticulture & Forestry							Rec.		
25	Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU), India								Rec.	Rec.
26	Dr Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, India								Rec.	
27	Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), India									Rec.
28	International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), Singapore									Rec.
	Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU), Gujarat, India						Rec.	***	***	***

* UniTech expressed their inability to pay for 2017 due to austerity measures taken by the Government

** Due to some budgetary restrictions they will not be able to pay the membership fee for the year 2017

*** GAM to decide on the balance fee for two years now shifted to Affiliate member

Annexure V contd.

Status of Contribution by Affiliate Members (11)

As on 30 November 2018

S. No.	Affiliate Members	Years								
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Anand Agricultural University (AAU), India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
2	Agriculture Research Institute of Afghanistan (ARIA), Afghanistan				Rec.	Rec.	Rec.			
3	Navsari Agricultural University – NAU, Gujarat, India	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.			
4	Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
5	CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Himachal Pradesh, India		Rec.	Rec.			Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
6	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, India			Rec.	Rec.	Rec.				
7	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, India						Rec.	Rec.	Rec.	
8	Sardarkrushinagar (SDAU) Dantiwada Agricultural University							Rec.	Rec.	Rec.
9	India Institute of Technology, Mumbai								Rec.	
10	Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU), Gujarat, India*									
11	Mahidol University, Thailand									Rec.
12	National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan									Rec.
13	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (Jammu)									Rec.

*Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU), Gujarat, India expressed to withdraw membership

Annexure V contd.

**Reciprocal Members (15)
(No Fee - Mutually waived)
As on 30 November 2018**

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



Annexure VI – Agenda 6

Agenda 6. Audit Reports and Financial Statements for the Biennium 2017-2018

FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sub: Audit Reports and Audited Financial Statements: Financial Years 2018 (up to Oct 2018, for Endorsement)

A. PURPOSE

1. To present interim audit report and audited financial statements for the financial year 2018 (up to Oct 2018) as provided by the APAARI's External Auditor;
2. To seek the Assembly's comments/suggestions on the audit reports and audited financial statements; and
3. To seek the Assembly's endorsement/ approval of the reports and the financial statements for the financial year 2018 (up to Oct 2018)

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. APAARI External Auditor – the GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd (appointed in 2015) who carried out audit of APAARI financial statements for the period 2017 also carried out an interim audit from 1st January to 30th October 2018. The scanned copies of the audit reports and audited financial statements are given in Annex I. The report was unqualified and satisfactory in all respects, with concluding remark that the statements of funds received and the comparing statements between budget and actual used up to Oct 2018 are presented correctly and reasonably, as they should be and comply with generally accepted accounting principles.
2. We have included grants, revenue and depreciation based on accrual method, in the Contribution Statement of 2017 presented alongside the Budget 2018RF1 for comparison. Hence project revenue and grant, though not received during the year are included to match expenses incurred during the year. The reconciliation is presented below for information please:

Reconciliation of 2017 Deficit with Presentation in Budget

	USD
Deficit of 2017 as per Budget Statement	Nil
Budget of 2016 utilized in 2017	66,345.19
Received in 2018 but expensed in 2017	
ACIAR (Received in 2018 for 2017)	30,000.00
LOA Rome	14,016.00

ASTI Project	25,430.77
CAPEX Expenditure	12,365.87
Less Depreciation taken	-3,438.73
Deficit as per Audited Accounts	144,719.10

- The carried forward/rollover budget from 2016 was USD157,129/-. The deficit of USD 66,345.19 of 2017 based on accrual method as stated above was adjusted and balance USD 90,783.81 carried forward/rollover to 2018.

Audited Accounts Jan-Oct 2018 and Budget 2018RF2

- Keeping in view the information needs of both internal and external stakeholders, the chart of accounts was revised in November 2017 and cost elements classified into direct and indirect costs to enable financial reporting and negotiation of indirect cost rate with donor agencies. Direct costs can now be identified and matched with revenue to monitor progress and submit reports as per donor contracts. Further indirect costs have been classified to departments - secretariat, operations, technical and facilities. The method of accounting has been changed from cash to mercantile basis. Since 2018 USD is introduced as functional currency in replacement to THB used earlier. The aforesaid introduced changes have aided in effective financial oversight, reporting, proper disclosure and control.
- As per audited accounts from Jan-Oct 2018 the total revenue earned is USD 796, 168 (USD 394,931 May-Oct 2018) with the reforecast marginally exceeding USD 1 Million for 2018. The significant reasons for revenue expansion in 2018 are the timely realization of membership subscription, added memberships and addition of a new revenue income stream from projects.
- A project of about USD 372,000 was awarded by IFPRI in December 2017 with revenue overflowing into 2018. In the Budget of 2018 we speculated on a project of USD100,000, for which efforts are ongoing till date.
- It is observed that the project activity level is ASTI is lower than budgeted. However, in APCoAB direct costs are higher than budgeted (to be further verified as apparently some wrong postings have been noted in the chart of accounts) with deficit to be borne by APAARI from the other streams of income. Further we see that there is a decline in revenue from membership subscription. These unfavorable variances have resulted in lower revenue and net contribution in 2018.
- The revenue inflow from Jan-April 2018 was USD 401,237 as compared to USD 394,931 during the period May-Oct 2018. Thus due to the timing of inflows there was a higher gross profit during Jan-April and total costs lower with high residual net contribution.
- In comparison during the period May-Oct 2018 there is a negative net contribution. However, when the period Jan-Oct is considered, we see the timing differences even out. It is observed that the project activity level is ASTI is lower than budgeted. However in APCoAB direct costs are higher than budgeted with deficit to be borne by APAARI. Further we see that there is a decline in revenue from membership subscription. These unfavorable variances have resulted in lower revenue and net contribution in 2018.

10. We are glad to inform that USD 250,000, for a period of two years has been awarded by IOWA State University, USA and will commence in 2019. We have also secured USD 34,454 project proposal preparation grant, from WTO – STDF this will commence in Dec 2018 and to be completed by mid-2019. In comparison to 2018, a significantly higher estimated total revenue of USD 1.5 million is expected in 2019.
11. Among the few project proposals submitted, a high value proposal (> USD 6 million) on various components of APAARI activities has been submitted to ICDF in Taiwan through COA and a discussion on the same has been called for by the donor on 22nd December. We are confident that all this will well be achieved with the continued dedicated efforts of the staff, support from the members and the Executive Committee.

Budgets 2018 and Onward

During 2017 and earlier, consolidated annual revenue budgets were prepared. Since 2018 consolidated revenue budget is classified into direct and indirect costs, department budgets and project budgets are now being prepared. In addition two reforecasts (Budget RF1 and Budget RF2) are being prepared as more relevant information and outcomes become available during the year.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the Assembly:

1. Consider and peruse the audit reports and audited financial statements for the financial year 2018 (Up to Oct 2018) as provided by the APAARI's External Auditor;
2. Provide suggestions/comments on the audit reports and audited financial statements; and
3. Provide endorsement of the reports and the financial statements 2018 (up to Oct 2018).

Annexure VI contd.

Audit Reports for 2017 and for the period from 1st January to 30th October 2018

PUAL AUDITING

Pual Auditing CO., LTD.
289/125 Ratchapattana road, Ratchapattana, Saphanvong, Bangkok,
10240
Mob : +66 (0) 81 4418762

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Executive Committee of **Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**,

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at October 31, 2018, and the statement of income then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of **Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**, as at October 31, 2018, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Thai Financial Reporting Standards (TFRSs) for Non-Publicly Accountable Entities (NPAEs).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Thai Standards on Auditing (TSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of **Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**, in accordance with Federation Accounting Profession (FAP) under H.M. patronage, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the other Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Thai Financial Reporting Standards (TFRSs) for Non-Publicly Accountable Entities (NPAEs), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the auditing of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Thai Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Thm/h

PUAL AUDITING

Pual Auditing CO., LTD.
289/125 Ratchapattana road, Ratchapattana, Saphanveng, Bangkok,
10240
Mob : +66 (0) 81 4418762

As part of an audit in accordance with Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

We exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

► Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control..

► Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.

► Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

► Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

► Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

(Mr. Pramual Kotcharat)
Certified Public Accountant (Thailand)
Registration No.7823

Office Pual Auditing Co., Ltd.
289/125 Ratchapattana road, Ratchapattana, Saphanveng, Bangkok
Date November 15, 2018

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

Summary of cash on hand and cash at bank

As at October 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017

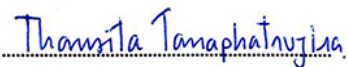
	Unit : US dollars	
	Actual 31/10/2018	Actual 31/12/2017
Cash on hand and cash at bank		
Amount in fixed account (U.S.Dollars)	919,330.66	991,741.57
Amount in saving account (U.S.Dollars)	42,314.84	1,646.96
Amount in current account (THB)	5,687.75	958.97
Amount in saving account (THB)	1,018.38	14.31
Cash on hand (USD & THB)	987.51	1,048.14
	<u>969,339.14</u>	<u>995,673.80</u>

Exchange rate as at December 31, 2017 1 US\$: 35.92 THB

Exchange rate as at October 31, 2018 1 US\$: 32.44 THB



Dr. Ravi Khetarapl
Executive Secretary



Ms. Thansita Tanaphatrujira
Accountant



Mr. Pramual Kotcharat
External auditor

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

Statements of Income

For the period, ended October 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

	Project								Unit : US dollars		
	Membership	LOA FAO Rome	APCOAB-COA	APCOAB-ACIAR	FAO RAP BKK	ASTI	Other	Total	Acutal 31/10/2018	Budget 31/12/2018	Actual 31/12/2017
Income											
Membership & subscription	314,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	314,000.00	314,000.00	399,000.00	256,000.00
Grants and donation	-	-	-	75,000.00	-	-	-	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	15,000.00
Project income	-	35,602.12	73,000.00	-	58,439.00	145,509.40	-	312,550.52	312,550.52	605,978.23	168,559.23
Interest income	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,088.59	3,088.59	3,088.59	4,000.00	4,426.46
Unutilised Budget brought forward	-	-	-	-	-	-	90,783.81	90,783.81	90,783.81	90,783.81	66,345.19
Miscellaneous income	-	-	-	-	-	-	745.00	745.00	745.00	3,000.00	-
Total Income	314,000.00	35,602.12	73,000.00	75,000.00	58,439.00	145,509.40	94,617.40	796,167.92	796,167.92	1,177,762.04	510,330.88
Direct cost											
Members	188,731.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	188,731.20	188,731.20	262,836.00	83,304.55
Grants and Donations	-	-	-	42,048.42	-	-	-	42,048.42	42,048.42	75,000.00	-
Staff Costs-Projects	-	10,450.00	62,340.00	-	5,225.00	54,389.45	-	132,404.45	132,404.45	193,640.00	52,926.64
Direct Costs - Projects	-	21,591.91	92,176.57	-	47,370.10	83,844.48	-	244,983.06	244,983.06	367,523.23	116,200.73
Publications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total direct cost	188,731.20	32,041.91	154,516.57	42,048.42	52,595.10	138,233.93	-	608,167.13	608,167.13	898,999.23	252,431.93
Gross profit	125,268.80	3,560.21	(81,516.57)	32,951.58	5,843.90	7,275.47	94,617.40	188,000.79	188,000.79	278,762.81	257,898.95
Indirect costs											
Directorate	-	-	-	-	-	-	101,916.53	101,916.53	101,916.53	130,320.00	108,048.03
Technical Staff	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,945.90	6,945.90	6,945.90	37,275.00	81,507.52
Administration and Finance	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,024.75	7,024.75	7,024.75	3,200.00	29,623.57
Facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	58,425.88	58,425.88	58,425.88	83,200.00	35,281.10
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,438.73	3,438.73	3,438.73	4,500.00	3,438.73
Total indirect cost	-	-	-	-	-	-	177,751.79	177,751.79	177,751.79	258,495.00	257,898.95
Net profit	125,268.80	3,560.21	(81,516.57)	32,951.58	5,843.90	7,275.47	(83,134.39)	10,249.00	10,249.00	20,267.81	0.00

Certified that true and correct


Dr. Ravi Khetarapl
Executive Secretary

APAARI 15th GAM - General Assembly Meeting

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

Details of direct costs

For the period, ended October 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

	Project							Unit : US dollars
	Membership	LOA FAO Rome	APCOAB-COA	APCOAB-AQAR	FAO RAP BIK	ASTI	Other	Actual 31/10/2018
Direct costs:								
Sponsorship for capacity building	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000.00
Consultancy fee	20,078.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,078.62
Workshop, conferences and training	36,878.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,878.15
Publication	4,896.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,896.25
Promotional material	-	5,990.50	663.17	-	-	-	-	6,653.67
Computer Hardware & software	-	-	137.00	-	-	-	-	137.00
Total direct cost	63,853.02	5,990.50	800.17	-	-	-	-	70,643.69

Certified that true and correct



Dr. Ravi Khetarapl
Executive Secretary

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

Details of indirect costs

For the period, ended October 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

Unit : US dollars

Project								Unit : US dollars
	Membership	LOA FAO Rome	APCOAB-CDA	APCOAB-ACIAR	FAO RAP BSK	ASTI	Other	Actual
Indirect cost/administrative expenses								31/10/2018
Salary cost & contribution to provident fund	69,710.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	69,710.11
Technical Staff Costs	-	-	-	42,048.42	-	-	-	42,048.42
Staff cost project	-	10,450.00	62,340.00	-	5,225.00	54,389.45	-	132,404.45
Direct Costs								
Grants and Donations	-	-	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	2,000.00
Sponsorship for Capacity Building	-	-	3,000.00	-	-	-	-	3,000.00
Consultancy	-	-	10,280.00	-	33,265.00	5,727.00	-	49,272.00
Workshops, Conferences and Trainings	-	5,423.57	552.84	-	1,571.00	24,845.53	-	32,392.94
Travel and Subsistence	-	-	-	-	10,102.46	-	-	10,102.46
Hospitality	-	-	2,580.89	-	35.24	71.00	-	2,687.13
Courier	-	-	448.31	-	64.29	-	-	512.60
Printing and Stationery	-	-	10,594.90	-	138.10	114.34	-	10,847.34
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	295.53	-	-	295.53
Miscellaneous Expenses	-	-	-	-	222.79	-	-	222.79
Project Work in Progress	-	-	-	-	1,675.69	-	-	1,675.69
Travel and subsistent ex-country	-	9,282.84	18,910.29	-	-	13,112.55	-	41,305.68
Expert Consultation and Other meetings	-	-	38,978.72	-	-	-	-	38,978.72
External Collaborators								
Consultancy	-	435.00	-	-	-	37,000.00	-	37,000.00
Staff amenities and welfare	-	460.00	-	-	-	1,459.00	-	1,919.00
Telephone	-	-	308.75	-	-	-	-	308.75
General communication	-	-	209.18	-	-	367.11	-	576.29
Travel in-country	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel and subsistent ex-country	26,697.79	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,697.79
Local transport	-	-	701.54	-	-	217.82	-	919.36
Accommodation lease costs	-	-	-	-	-	160.00	-	160.00
Utilities	-	-	213.11	-	-	-	-	213.11
Photocopying	-	-	12.68	-	-	-	-	12.68
Directorate								
Salary costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	89,500.00	89,500.00
Contribution to Provident Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,100.00	4,100.00
Employer Insurances	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,582.44	1,582.44
Staff Costs Recharges to Project Direct Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	-	678.86	678.86
General Communication	-	-	-	-	-	-	243.48	243.48
Travel and Subsistence	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,470.68	5,470.68
Local Transport	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.69	34.69
Conference Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-	-	187.56	187.56
Printing & Stationery	-	-	-	-	-	-	75.16	75.16
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	43.66	43.66
Subscription and Books	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

Details of indirect costs

For the period, ended October 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

	Project							Unit : US dollars
	Membership	LOA FAO Rome	APCOAB-COA	APCOAB-ACIAR	FAO RAP BKK	ASTI	Other	Actual 31/10/2018
APT - Technical Staff								
Salary costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	177,238.00	177,238.00
Contribution to Provident Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,154.80	8,154.80
Consultancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employer Insurances	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,130.27	5,130.27
Internships	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staff Costs Recharges to Project Direct Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	132,404.45	132,404.45
Staff Costs Recharges to Member Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,069.80	16,069.80
Staff Costs Recharges to Grants & Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,048.42	42,048.42
Staff Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	-	26.95	26.95
General Communication	-	-	-	-	-	-	213.15	213.15
Travel and Subsistence	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,517.56	3,517.56
Local Transport	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.85	28.85
Printing & Stationery	-	-	-	-	-	-	800.00	800.00
Computer Hardware & Software Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,840.48	1,840.48
Website Maintenance and Server Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	306.38	306.38
Conference Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Courier	-	-	-	-	-	-	52.13	52.13
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-	-	128.00	128.00
Computer Hardware and software	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.00	32.00
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
APO - Administration and Finance								
Salary costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,818.82	30,818.82
Contribution to Provident Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,157.08	1,157.08
Employer Insurances	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,849.96	1,849.96
Staff Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Consultancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,464.73	17,464.73
Internship	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,849.72	3,849.72
Staff Costs Recharges to Member Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	55,140.31	55,140.31
Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	-	291.28	291.28
General Communication	-	-	-	-	-	-	227.59	227.59
Travel and Subsistence	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,670.09	3,670.09
Local Transport	-	-	-	-	-	-	748.55	748.55
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-	-	66.54	66.54
Printing and Stationery	-	-	-	-	-	-	278.35	278.35
Equipment Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.06	45.06
Computer Hardware and Software	-	-	-	-	-	-	871.55	871.55
Staff Welfare and Amenities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	136.77	136.77
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	688.97	688.97

APAARI 15th GAM - General Assembly Meeting

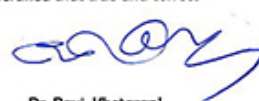
Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

Details of indirect costs

For the period, ended October 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

	Project							Unit : US dollars	
	Membership	LOA FAO Rome	APCOAB-COA	APCOAB-ACIAR	FAO RAP BKK	ASTI	Other	Total	Actual 31/10/2018
ADP - Facilities									
Salary Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	977.53	977.53	977.53
Honoraria	-	-	-	-	-	-	61.31	61.31	61.31
Staff Amenities and Welfare	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,573.03	1,573.03	1,573.03
Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,501.02	1,501.02	1,501.02
General Communication	-	-	-	-	-	-	561.94	561.94	561.94
Local Transport	-	-	-	-	-	-	729.32	729.32	729.32
Building Lease Costs (including security)	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,443.85	25,443.85	25,443.85
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,758.52	2,758.52	2,758.52
Travel and Subsistence	-	-	-	-	-	-	364.15	364.15	364.15
Printing and Stationery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,960.18	1,960.18	1,960.18
Photocopying	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,028.73	2,028.73	2,028.73
Office Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,161.01	2,161.01	2,161.01
Security	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,919.85	3,919.85	3,919.85
Building Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,418.95	5,418.95	5,418.95
Equipment Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,691.22	1,691.22	1,691.22
Computer Hardware and Software Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,611.10	4,611.10	4,611.10
Website Maintenance and Server Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workshops, Conferences and Trainings	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,070.35	1,070.35	1,070.35
Executive Committee and Other Meetings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Assembly Meeting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Courier	-	-	-	-	-	-	223.69	223.69	223.69
Subscriptions and Books	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal and Professional Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	109.98	109.98	109.98
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-	-	213.18	213.18	213.18
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,046.97	1,046.97	1,046.97
Executive committee and other meeting	28,470.28	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,470.28	28,470.28
Conference fee	-	-	880.00	-	-	-	-	880.00	880.00
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-	360.32	-	360.32	360.32
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-	1,705.19	-	-	409.81	-	2,115.00	2,115.00
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,438.73	3,438.73	3,438.73
Total indirect costs	124,878.18	26,051.41	153,716.40	42,048.42	52,595.10	138,233.93	190,315.43	727,838.87	814,646.87

Certified that true and correct



Dr. Ravi Khetarapl

Executive Secretary

Audit Report for 2017

SUMMARY ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF APAARI

01 January 2017 – 31 December 2017


(Amount in US Dollars)

ITEMS	RECEIVED	DISBURSEMENTS		BALANCE
		Budget	Actual Used	
Amount B/F				1,140,129.05
Carryover expenditure				
1. NARS Membership Fee & ACIAR Support	144,000.00			
2. Associate Membership Fee	110,000.00			
3. Affiliate Membership Fee	12,000.00			
4. Funds from (GFAR,FAO, Symposium Co-sponsor & etc.)				
4.1 Receipts and Refunds	40,894.37			
4.2 Profit and Loss on Bank Transfers	(6,781.91)			
5. Interest Income/Other Income	74,426.46			
6. APAARI Secretariat Support:		121,962.00		
6.1 Salary			221,120.89	
7. Operation cost		124,000.00		
7.1 Publications			10,344.24	
7.2 Office Stationery, Postage & Communication			5,223.03	
7.3 Miscellaneous			39,218.92	
8. Consultancy/Travel/SSA/Honorarium			82,949.18	
9. Training/Selected Research Projects/Network Support			5,000.00	
10. Meetings				
10.1 Expenses for Strategic Planning Meeting			21,503.06	
10.2 Expenses for Executive Committee Meeting & Expert Consultation			115,094.66	
10.3 Expenses spent by APAARI on behalf of LoA			18,804.04	
TOTAL	374,538.92	245,962.00	519,258.02	
				995,409.95


Exchange Rate: 1 US\$ = 35.92 Baht

Amount in Fixed Account (U.S.Dollar)
 Amount in Saving Account (U.S.Dollars)
 Amount in Saving Account (U.S.Dollars)-APCoAB
 Amount in Current Account (Baht: 34,446.34)
 Amount in Saving Account (Baht:514.04)
 Cash in hand (Usd 784.29+Baht 9,477.44)


US\$ 991,741.57
 US\$ 74.43
 US\$ 1,572.53
 US\$ 958.97
 US\$ 14.31
 US\$ 1,048.14
TOT:\$995,409.95



Dr. Ravinder Kumar Khetarpal
 Executive Secretary APAARI



Ms. Thansita Tanaphatrujira
 Accountant APAARI



MR. Rattanachai Dumnernsawat
 External Auditor

STATEMENT OF FUNDS RECEIVED in 2017
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Description	16 Rcvd	17 Rcvd	18 Rcvd	Rev'd :Bht	Eqv. to US\$*	Total Rev'd :USD
1/1/17	Amount in Fixed Dollar A/C						988,051.20
	Amount in Saving Dollar A/C						142,412.29
	Amount in Saving Dollar A/C-APCoAB						1,571.41
	Amount in Current Baht A/C (63,259.37)						1,761.12
	Amount in Saving Baht A/C (110,762.16)						3,083.58
	Amount in India Office						3,144.01
	Cash in hand (usd 52.59+Baht 1,898.54)						105.44
	Balance Amount 2016c/f						1,140,129.05
	<u>1. NARS Membership Fees & ACIAR Support</u>						
4/1/17	COA, India		10,000.00				
3/2/17	MOAF, Bhutan		3,000.00				
21/2/17	BARC, Bangladesh	6,000.00					
28/2/17	VASS, Vietnam		3,000.00				
28/2/17	JIRCAS, Japan		10,000.00				
1/3/17	MOA, Fiji		6,000.00				
3/3/17	NARI-Papua New Guinea		6,000.00				
6/3/17	NAFRI, Loa PDR		3,000.00				
7/3/17	COA, Chinese Taipei		10,000.00				
22/3/17	CORRB, Bhutan		3,000.00				
17/4/17	PARC - Pakistan		10,000.00				
3/5/17	NARC-Nepal		3,000.00				
8/6/17	SCARP - Sri Lanka	3,000.00	3,000.00				
7/7/17	PCAARD, Philippines		10,000.00				
29/8/17	AVRDC, Taiwan		10,000.00				
29/8/17	COA, Chinese Taipei		10,000.00				
31/8/17	MAFFM, Samoa			3,000.00			
11/10/17	RDA, Korea		10,000.00				
12/10/17	DOA-Thailand		10,000.00				
25/10/17	IAC, New Caledonia		6,000.00				
22/11/17	BARC, Bangladesh		6,000.00				
	Sub Total Membership Fees:	9,000.00	132,000.00	3,000.00	-	-	144,000.00
	<u>2. Associate Membership Fee:</u>						
7/3/17	AVRDC, Taiwan		5,000.00				
10/3/17	CIMMYT, Mexico		5,000.00				
10/3/17	ILRI, Kenya		5,000.00				
10/3/17	CIFOR, Indonesia		5,000.00				
14/3/17	Bioversity International, Italy		5,000.00				
14/3/17	CFFRC, Malaysia		5,000.00				
21/3/17	TNAU, India		5,000.00				
21/3/17	SAARC, Bangladesh		5,000.00				

STATEMENT OF FUNDS RECEIVED in 2017
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Description	16 Rcvd	17 Rcvd	18 Rcvd	Rev'd :Bht	Eqv. to US\$*	Total Rev'd :USD
23/3/17	The Word Fish Center, Malaysia		5,000.00				
27/3/17	IFPRI, USA		5,000.00				
31/3/17	CIP, Peru		5,000.00				
3/4/17	CAU, India		5,000.00				
4/4/17	PJSAU, India		5,000.00				
7/4/17	ICIMOD, Nepal		5,000.00				
12/4/17	IAUA, India		5,000.00				
12/4/17	AAU, India		5,000.00				
18/4/17	SHIATS - India		5,000.00				
5/5/17	ICRAF, India		5,000.00				
5/5/17	DBSKKV, India		5,000.00				
31/5/17	IRRI - Philippines		5,000.00				
14/7/17	ICRISAT, India		5,000.00				
25/8/17	CABI, India		5,000.00				
Sub Total Contributions:		-	110,000.00	-	-	-	110,000.00
3. Affiliate Membership Fee:							
9/3/17	SDAU, India		1,500.00				
10/3/17	CAPSA-USA		1,500.00				
10/4/17	UPM, Malaysia		1,500.00				
22/6/17	DHARWAD, India		1,500.00				
23/6/17	CSK-India		1,500.00				
8/8/17	UPM, Malaysia	1,500.00					
3/11/17	AAU, India		1,500.00				
6/11/17	IIT, India		1,500.00				
Sub Total Affiliate fee:		1,500.00	10,500.00	-	-	-	12,000.00
4. Fund							
a) Fund support							
17/3/17	Balance for Expert Consultation		2,394.37				
15/8/17	1st Installment from FAO-TAP		6,000.00				
20/9/17	Sponsors for Expert Consultation-ICARDA		5,000.00				
22/9/17	Sponsors for E-Agriculture Forum-ICRISAT		5,000.00				
25/9/17	Sponsors for Expert Consultation-CFFRC		5,000.00				
28/9/17	1st installment for LOA/RAP/2016/61		15,000.00				
27/10/17	Sponsors for Expert Consultation-BIO		2,500.00				
Sub Total fund support:			40,894.37	-	-	-	40,894.37
Total Fund		-	40,894.37	-	-	-	40,894.37

STATEMENT OF FUNDS RECEIVED in 2017
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Description	16 Rcvd	17 Rcvd	18 Rcvd	Rev'd :Bht	Eqv. to US\$*	Total Rev'd :USD
	4.2 Profit/loss on Transfer from \$ S/A to B A/C						
1/2/17	From saving USD				(9,400.00)		
28/2/17	From saving USD				(11,700.00)		
27/4/17	From saving USD				(15,400.00)		
27/4/17	From saving USD				(7,550.00)		
8/6/17	From saving USD				(10,100.00)		
21/7/17	From saving USD				(12,600.00)		
30/8/17	Exchange petty cash from USD to Baht				(7,900.00)		
5/9/17	Exchange petty cash from USD to Baht				(1,268.00)		
7/9/17	From saving USD				(14,750.00)		
7/9/17	From saving USD				(29,500.00)		
20/10/17	From saving USD				(14,800.00)		
30/10/17	From saving USD				(14,100.00)		
9/11/17	From saving USD				(59,000.00)		
22/11/17	From saving USD				(33,000.00)		
22/12/17	From saving USD				(7,326.00)		
31/12/17	From saving USD				(6,540.00)		
20/12/17	Transfer petty cash Baht to saving USD				5,407.95		
25/12/17	Refund Advance for rental condominium-Dr.Norah				5,920.00		
	Sub Total Profit/loss on Transfer:	-	-	-	(243,606.05)	(6,781.91)	(6,781.91)
	5. Interest Income:						
25/6/17	Interest from saving baht account				188.73		
30/6/17	Interest from USD saving		40.59				
25/12/17	Interest income from saving baht				229.20		
31/12/17	Interest from USD saving		31.48				
31/12/17	Interest for fixed USD		4,341.63				
31/12/17	Interest for USD saving		1.12				
	Sub Total Interest Income:	-	4,414.82	-	417.93	11.64	4,426.46
	5.1 Other Income						
30/5/17	Support to APCoAB Activities form COA		70,000.00				
	Sub Total Interest Income:	-	70,000.00	-	-	-	70,000.00
	total Interest Income/other Income	-	74,414.82	-	417.93	11.64	74,426.46
GRAND TOTAL RCVD in 2017 up to 31/12/2017		10,500.00	367,809.19	3,000.00	(243,188.12)	(6,770.27)	374,538.92

Comparing Statement between Budget and Actual Used
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Items	Budget for 2017 (USD)	Actual Used			
			USD	Baht	Equiv. to USD*	Total
	6.. APAARI Secretariat Support					
	6.1) Salary	121,962.00				
25/01/17	Salary for Jan. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
25/01/17	CPF for Jan.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
25/01/17	Salary for Jan.2017 of Ms.Martina		5,840.00			
25/01/17	CPF for Jan.2017 of Ms.Martina		250.00			
25/01/17	Salary for Jan.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
25/01/17	CPF for Jan.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
25/01/17	Monthly housing for Dec.2016-Jan.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		1,000.00			
25/01/17	Salary for January 2017 (Ms.Thansita Tanaphatrujira)			40,000.00		
25/01/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for January 2017			2,000.00		
31/01/17	Salary of Mr. Vishwanath Kumar Sah for Jan.17		365.45			
31/01/17	Insurance and Medical bill for staff		173.89			
24/02/17	Salary for Feb. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
24/02/17	CPF for Feb.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
24/02/17	Monthly housing for Feb.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		500.00			
24/02/17	Salary for Jan.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
24/02/17	CPF for Jan.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
24/02/17	Payment salary for Feb.17-Mr.Thansita			40,000.00		
24/02/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for Feb.17			2,000.00		
28/02/17	Salary for Feb.2017 of Ms.Martina		5,840.00			
28/02/17	CPF for Feb.2017 of Ms.Martina		250.00			
28/02/17	Refund of Martina accommodation for 5 months in year 2016		(1,600.00)			
28/02/17	Salary of Mr. Vishwanath Kumar Sah for Feb.17		370.77			
09/03/17	Insurance for the year 2017-Ms.Thansita			31,561.00		
24/03/17	Salary for Mar. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
24/03/17	CPF for Mar.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
24/03/17	Monthly housing for Mar.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		500.00			
24/03/17	Salary for Mar.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
24/03/17	CPF for Mar.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
24/03/17	Salary for Mar.2017 of Ms.Martina		5,840.00			
24/03/17	CPF for Mar.2017 of Ms.Martina		250.00			
24/03/17	Refund of Martina accommodation for 5 months in year 2016		(1,600.00)			
24/03/17	Payment salary for Mar.17-Mr.Thansita			40,000.00		
24/03/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for Mar.2017			2,000.00		
31/03/17	PROV. For 2017		2.88			
27/04/17	Salary for Apr. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
27/04/17	CPF for Apr.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
27/04/17	Salary for Apr.2017 of Ms.Martina		5,840.00			
27/04/17	CPF for Apr.2017 of Ms.Martina		250.00			
27/04/17	Enhancement salary for Jan-Mar.2017 of Mr.Sah		521.40			
27/04/17	Salary for Apr.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
27/04/17	CPF for Apr.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
27/04/17	Monthly allowances for Apr.2017		30.00			
27/04/17	Salary for Apr.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
27/04/17	CPF for Apr.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
27/04/17	Monthly housing for Apr.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		500.00			
27/04/17	Payment salary for April 2017			40,000.00		
27/04/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for February 2017			2,000.00		

Comparing Statement between Budget and Actual Used
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Items	Budget for 2017 (USD)	Actual Used			
			USD	Baht	Eqv. to USD*	Total
02/05/17	Medical Insurance of Mr.Sah for the year 2017		93.41			
23/05/17	Salary for May. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
23/05/17	CPF for May.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
23/05/17	Salary for May.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
23/05/17	CPF for May.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
23/05/17	Monthly allowances for May.2017		30.00			
23/05/17	Salary for May.2017 of Ms.Martina		5,840.00			
23/05/17	CPF for May.2017 of Ms.Martina		250.00			
23/05/17	Salary for May.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
23/05/17	CPF for May.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
23/05/17	Monthly housing for May.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		500.00			
23/05/17	Salary on May 2017			40,000.00		
23/05/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for May 2017			2,000.00		
31/05/17	Salary of Mr. Vishwanath Kumar Sah		384.87			
6/17	Salary for Jun. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
27/06/17	CPF for Jun.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
27/06/17	Salary for Jun.2017 of Ms.Martina		5,840.00			
27/06/17	CPF for Jun.2017 of Ms.Martina		250.00			
27/06/17	Salary for Jun.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
27/06/17	CPF for Jun.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
27/06/17	Monthly housing for Jun.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		500.00			
27/06/17	Payment salary for June 2017			40,000.00		
27/06/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for June 2017			2,000.00		
27/06/17	Insurance for Ms.Celilu Bitong			25,425.00		
11/07/17	Salary for Jun.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
11/07/17	CPF for Jun.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
11/07/17	Monthly allowances for Jun.2017		30.00			
25/07/17	Salary for Jul. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
25/07/17	CPF for Jul.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
25/07/17	SSA for Ms.Martina aftersign contact		1,500.00			
25/07/17	Payment salary for July 2017			40,000.00		
27/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for Jul.17			2,000.00		
31/07/17	Salary for Jul.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
31/07/17	CPF for Jul.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
31/07/17	Salary for Jul.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
31/07/17	CPF for Jul.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
31/07/17	Monthly allowances for Jul.2017		30.00			
24/08/17	Salary for Aug. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
24/08/17	CPF for Aug.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
24/08/17	Salary for Aug.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
24/08/17	CPF for Aug.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
24/08/17	Monthly allowances for Aug.2017		30.00			
24/08/17	Salary for Aug.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		6,000.00			
24/08/17	CPF for Aug.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		300.00			
24/08/17	Monthly housing for Aug.2017 of Dr.Bhag Mal		500.00			
24/08/17	Salary for Aug.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		8,200.00			
24/08/17	CPF for Aug.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		410.00			
24/08/17	Monthly housing for Aug.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		750.00			
24/08/17	Setting allowance for Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		500.00			
24/08/17	Salary for Aug.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		4,368.00			

Comparing Statement between Budget and Actual Used
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Items	Budget for 2017 (USD)	Actual Used			
			USD	Baht	Eqv. to USD*	Total
24/08/17	CPF for Aug.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		218.40			
24/08/17	Monthly housing for Aug.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		504.00			
24/08/17	Setting allowance for Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		500.00			
24/08/17	Payment Salary for August 2017			40,000.00		
24/08/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for August 2017			2,000.00		
13/09/17	Settingout allowance for Martina		500.00			
21/09/17	Remuneration of personal vehicle services for Sep.17		100.00			
25/09/17	Salary for Sep.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		5,200.00			
25/09/17	CPF for Sep.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		260.00			
25/09/17	Monthly housing for Sep.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		600.00			
25/09/17	Salary for Sep.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		8,200.00			
25/09/17	CPF for Sep.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		410.00			
25/09/17	Monthly housing for Sep.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		750.00			
25/09/17	Salary for sep.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
25/09/17	CPF for Sep.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
25/09/17	Monthly allowances for Sep.2017		30.00			
25/09/17	Salary for Sep. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
25/09/17	CPF for Sep.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
25/09/17	Salary for Sep.17-Tarathip Sanboonkrong			12,000.00		
25/09/17	Salary for Sep.17 (Thansita Tanaphatrujira)			40,000.00		
25/09/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for Sep.17			2,000.00		
29/09/17	Bupa Health insurance for Dr.Ravinder Kumar Khetarpal			46,248.50		
29/09/17	Bupa Health insurance for Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi			38,570.30		
24/10/17	Remuneration of personal vehicle services for Oct.17		100.00			
24/10/17	Salary for Oct.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		5,200.00			
24/10/17	CPF for Oct.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		260.00			
24/10/17	Monthly housing for Oct.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		600.00			
24/10/17	Salary for Oct.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
24/10/17	CPF for Oct.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
24/10/17	Monthly allowances for Oct.2017		30.00			
24/10/17	Salary for Oct. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
24/10/17	CPF for Oct.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
24/10/17	Salary for Oct.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		8,200.00			
24/10/17	CPF for Oct.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		410.00			
24/10/17	Monthly housing for Oct.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		750.00			
24/10/17	Salary for Oct.17 Ms.Thansita			40,000.00		
24/10/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for Oct.17-Ms.Thansita			2,000.00		
24/10/17	Salary for Oct.17 (Tarathip Sanboonkrong)			12,000.00		
31/10/17	GPAI for 2017-V K Sah		5.56			
07/11/17	Deposit for rental Bobae Apartment for Mr.Sah			10,000.00		
16/11/17	Deposit of Bobae apartment for Mr.Sah			5,000.00		
16/11/17	Overtime for staff for Saturday -4 Nov.17			4,700.00		
23/11/17	Overtime afterwork 7.30-00.00 am for EC Meeting			500.00		
24/11/17	Salary for Nov.2017 of Dr.Norah Omot		3,272.00			
24/11/17	CPF for Nov.2017 of Dr.Norah Omot		164.00			
24/11/17	Monthly housing for Nov.2017 of Dr.Norah Omot		500.00			
24/11/17	Setting allowance for Dr.Norah Omot		500.00			
24/11/17	Remuneration of personal vehicle services for Nov.17		100.00			
24/11/17	Salary for Nov.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		5,200.00			
24/11/17	CPF for Nov.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		260.00			

Comparing Statement between Budget and Actual Used
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Items	Budget for 2017 (USD)	Actual Used			
			USD	Baht	Equiv. to USD*	Total
24/11/17	Monthly housing for Nov.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		600.00			
24/11/17	Salary for Nov.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
24/11/17	CPF for Nov.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
24/11/17	Monthly allowances for Nov.2017		30.00			
24/11/17	Monthly housing for Nov.2017 of Mr.Sah		300.00			
24/11/17	Salary for Nov. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
24/11/17	CPF for Nov.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
24/11/17	Salary for Nov.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		8,200.00			
24/11/17	CPF for Nov.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		410.00			
24/11/17	Monthly housing for Nov.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		750.00			
24/11/17	Payment salary for Ms.Tarathip-Nov.17			12,000.00		
24/11/17	Payment salary for Ms.Thansita-Nov.17			40,000.00		
24/11/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for Nov.17			2,000.00		
21/12/17	Salary for Ms.Tarathip Sanboonkrong Of Dec.17			12,000.00		
12/17	Salary for Ms.Thansita of Dec.17			46,726.50		
21/12/17	Contributory provident fund (CPF) for Dec.17			2,336.25		
25/12/17	Remuneration of personal vehicle services for Dec.17		100.00			
25/12/17	Salary for Dec.2017 of Mr.Sah		740.00			
25/12/17	CPF for Dec.2017 of Mr.Sah		37.00			
25/12/17	Monthly housing for Dec.2017 of Mr.Sah		300.00			
25/12/17	Salary for Dec.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		8,200.00			
25/12/17	CPF for Dec.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		410.00			
25/12/17	Monthly housing for Dec.2017 of Dr.Ravi Khetarpal		750.00			
25/12/17	Salary for Dec. 2017 of Ms.Celilu		1,140.00			
25/12/17	CPF for Dec.2017 of Ms.Celilu		57.00			
25/12/17	Salary for Dec.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		5,200.00			
25/12/17	CPF for Dec.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		260.00			
25/12/17	Monthly housing for Dec.2017 of Dr.Rishi Kumar Tyagi		600.00			
25/12/17	Salary for Dec.2017 of Dr.Norah Omot		4,500.00			
25/12/17	CPF for Dec.2017 of Dr.Norah Omot		225.00			
25/12/17	Monthly housing for Dec.2017 of Dr.Norah Omot		500.00			
	Sub Total :		201,046.63	721,067.55	20,074.26	221,120.89
	7. Operational cost	124,000.00				
	7.1) Publications					
02/02/17	Cost of book printing "Regional Gender strategy and Action Plan Size4			66,000.00		
02/02/17	Book Desing "Gender strategy" Size4			14,000.00		
28/02/17	Cost of printing APAARI Newsletter Vol.25 no.2		600.40			
24/03/17	Cost of printing flyer for the year 2017			18,297.00		
10/04/17	Cost of printing the constitution 2017			10,165.00		
13/09/17	Cost of printing book and APAARI Newsletter Jun.2017.no.1		5,040.00			
17/11/17	Cost of printing APAARI Three Publications Design & Layout			60,500.00		
	Sub Total :		5,640.40	168,962.00	4,703.84	10,344.24

Comparing Statement between Budget and Actual Used
During the period of 1 January - 31 December 2017

Date	Items	Budget for 2017 (USD)	Actual Used			
			USD	Baht	Eqv. to USD*	Total
	7.2) Office Stationery & Postage & Communication					
	a) Office Stationery & Equipment					
31/01/17	Toner cost		292.02			
31/01/17	Rental toshiba copy machine for Dec.16			3,304.83		
07/03/17	Stationary cost			1,682.00		
27/04/17	Stationary cost			802.00		
03/05/17	Rent Toshiba copy machine for Mar.17			4,821.00		
19/05/17	Stationary cost			2,639.00		
23/05/17	Rental toshiba copy machine for Apr.17			2,942.43		
30/06/17	Rental Toshiba copy machine for Jan.17			2,675.00		
30/06/17	Rental Toshiba copy machine for Feb.17			2,675.00		
30/06/17	Rental Toshiba copy machine for May.17			2,971.00		
24/07/17	Stationery cost			4,362.00		
17/17	Rental toshiba copy machine for Jun.17			3,018.86		
27/07/17	Rental toshiba copy machine for Jul.17			4,128.68		
22/08/17	Rental toshiba copy machine for Aug.17 (15/7-14/8/2017)			4,406.15		
29/09/17	Rental Toshiba copy machine for Sep.17			3,054.84		
16/11/17	Stationary cost			910.00		
22/11/17	Stationary cost			390.00		
24/11/17	Rental Copy Machine on Oct.17			3,403.67		
28/11/17	Stationery for workshop Asti on 12-14 December 2017			1,430.00		
25/12/17	Rental Copy Machine for Nov.17			3,511.06		
25/12/17	Rental Copy Machine for Dec.17			6,762.94		
	Sub Total :		292.02	59,890.46	1,667.33	1,959.35
	b) Telecommunication & Postage					
25/01/17	Renewal domain APAARI.INFO		105.96			
31/01/17	Server service for Jan.17-Jan.18		1,506.15			
31/01/17	Telephone and internet bills for Nov.16-Jan.17		80.88			
02/17	Telephone cost for Nov.-Dec.16			2,870.92		
24/02/17	Cat International Telephone (16/1/2017-15/2/2017)			874.85		
28/02/17	Telephone and internet bills for Dec.16-Jan.17		21.81			
28/02/17	Telephone cost for Jan.17			2,650.47		
07/03/17	Web template plug in APAARI		249.00			
07/03/17	Telephone cost for Feb.17			1,113.71		
27/04/17	Telephone cost for Feb.-Apr.17			2,782.13		
19/05/17	Telephone cost for Mar.17			1,100.50		
19/05/17	Internet cost for Feb-Mar.17-Martina			1,780.74		
19/05/17	International call bill for May.17			232.00		
30/06/17	Telephone cost for June 2017			2,862.85		
24/07/17	Telephone cost for Jun.17			1,261.64		
31/08/17	Mobile phone for Ms.cel and Ms.Thansita in Aug.17			408.74		
31/08/17	Wifi aircard for Dr.Ravi			1,605.00		
31/08/17	Cat telecom for Jul.17and			700.00		
15/09/17	Wifi aircard for Dr.Rishi			1,990.00		
22/09/17	Telephone bill for Jul.-Aug.17			3,019.80		
03/10/17	Telephone cost for Sep.17			2,259.74		
16/11/17	Telephone for Sep.17			2,260.00		

Financial Statement Reports for 2017 and for the period from 1st January to 30th October 2018

APAARI								
Contribution Statement								
	Actual December 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual Jan-April. 2018	Actual May-Oct. 2018	Actual up to Oct. 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Revenue income								
Membership Subscription	256,000.00	334,221.00	399,000.00	166,500.00	147,500.00	314,000.00	344,000.00	410,000.00
Grants and Donations	15,000.00	200,000.00	75,000.00	75,310.92	-310.92	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
Invoiced Project Income	168,559.23	390,000.00	605,978.23	158,649.27	153,901.25	312,550.52	497,268.47	1,023,933.76
Interest on Deposits	4,426.46	4,000.00	4,000.00	31.48	3,057.11	3,088.59	4,000.00	4,000.00
Unutilised Budget brought forward	66,345.19	161,624.00	90,783.81		90,783.81	90,783.81	90,783.81	
Miscellaneous Income			3,000.00	745.00		745.00	10,000.00	500.00
Gross Revenue	510,330.88	1,089,845.00	1,177,762.04	401,236.67	394,931.25	796,167.92	1,021,052.28	1,513,433.76
Direct costs								
Members	83,304.55	165,000.00	262,836.00	26,823.00	161,908.20	188,731.20	279,403.96	237,263.74
Grants and Donations		141,300.00	75,000.00	24,375.00	17,673.42	42,048.42	60,000.00	40,000.00
Staff Costs-Projects	52,926.64	106,500.00	193,640.00	41,463.00	90,941.45	132,404.45	179,985.00	334,640.00
Direct Costs - Projects	116,200.73	220,100.00	367,523.23	39,973.62	205,009.44	244,983.06	294,269.00	646,421.00
Publications		10,000.00						
Total Direct Costs	252,431.92	642,900.00	898,999.23	132,634.62	475,532.51	608,167.13	813,657.96	1,258,324.74
Gross Contribution	257,898.96	446,945.00	278,762.81	268,602.05	-80,601.26	188,000.79	207,394.32	255,109.02
Indirect Costs								
Directorate	108,048.03	140,770.00	130,320.00	42,415.13	59,501.40	101,916.53	125,820.00	97,866.66
Technical Staff	81,507.52	59,240.00	22,000.00	7,223.99	-278.49	6,945.50	7,950.00	21,750.00
Administration and Finance	29,623.57	91,200.00	3,200.00	509.23	6,515.52	7,024.75	3,850.00	6,600.00
Facilities	35,281.10	138,800.00	83,200.00	31,845.09	26,580.79	58,425.88	83,100.00	106,700.00
Depreciation	3,438.73		4,500.00	839.73	2,599.00	3,438.73	3,438.73	4,500.00
Total Indirect Costs	257,898.95	430,010.00	243,220.00	82,833.17	94,918.22	177,751.39	224,158.73	237,416.66
Net Contribution (Surplus/(Deficit))	0.00	16,935.00	35,542.81	185,768.88	-175,519.48	10,249.40	-16,764.41	17,692.36
Total head count	6	10	9	8	9	9	9	9

APAARI								
Members Subscription and Costs								
(in USD)								
Membership	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual up to Sept 2018	Actual Oct 2018	Actual up to Oct 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Membership Subscription	256,000.00	334,221.00	399,000.00	311,500.00		314,000.00	344,000.00	410,000.00
Total	256,000.00	334,221.00	399,000.00	311,500.00	0.00	314,000.00	344,000.00	410,000.00
Member Costs								
Technical and Secretariat Staff Costs			77,836.00	64,975.90	4,734.21	69,710.11	106,403.96	72,263.74
Sponsorship for Capacity Building	19,212.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	2,000.00		2,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Consultancy		35,000.00	35,000.00	19,078.62	1,000.00	20,078.62	25,000.00	30,000.00
Workshops, Conferences and Trainings	2,807.89	120,000.00	100,000.00	9,588.76	27,289.39	36,878.15	40,000.00	40,000.00
Travel and Subsistance				15,052.92	11,644.87	26,697.79	30,000.00	30,000.00
Publications & Promotion Material	3,957.07	10,000.00	10,000.00	4,310.55	585.70	4,896.25	8,000.00	10,000.00
Executive Committee and Other Meeings	53,013.48		10,000.00	28,470.28		28,470.28	35,000.00	40,000.00
General Assembly Meeting	4,314.11		10,000.00				30,000.00	
Sponsorships to Members & Stakeholders			15,000.00					10,000.00
Total	83,304.55	175,000.00	262,836.00	143,477.03	45,254.17	188,731.20	279,403.96	237,263.74

APAARI						
Grants and Donations						
(in USD)						
Grants and Donations	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual up to Oct 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Revenue Grant						
Australian Centre for Agricultural Research (ACIAR)		75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
COA-Taiwan		70,000.00				
Other Grants		55,000.00				
Total	0.00	200,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
Grant Expenses						
Technical Staff Costs		141,300.00	60,000.00	42,048.42	60,000.00	
APCoAB Project Expenses			15,000.00			
Sponsorship for Capacity Building						5,000.00
Travel & Subsistance						
Sponsorship for Capacity Building						
Courier						
Travel & Subsistance						
Local Transaport						
Workshops, Conferences and Trainings						20,000.00
Hospitality						
Advocacy						5,000.00
Promotional Material						
Publications						10,000.00
Other Charges						
Total	0.00	141,300.00	75,000.00	42,048.42	60,000.00	40,000.00

APAARI											
Gross Project Contribution											
(in USD)											
Project Code	Project Title	Status		Invoiced Sales	Total	External Collaborators	Net Revenue	Staff Costs	Direct Costs	Total	Gross Project Contribution
GU1001	LOA RAP	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	58,439.00	58,439.00		58,439.00	5,225.00	47,370.10	52,595.10	5,843.90
			Budget 2018RF1	105,000.00	105,000.00		105,000.00	20,000.00	74,500.00	94,500.00	10,500.00
GU1002	LOA Rome	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	35,602.12	35,602.12		35,602.12	10,450.00	21,591.91	32,041.91	3,560.21
			Budget 2018RF1	31,000.00	31,000.00		31,000.00	14,770.00	13,425.00	28,195.00	2,805.00
AB1001	APCOAB-COA	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	73,000.00	73,000.00		73,000.00	62,340.00	92,176.57	154,516.57	-81,516.57
			Budget 2018RF1	146,079.00	146,079.00		146,079.00	76,400.00	69,679.00	146,079.00	0.00
PA1001	ASTI	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	145,509.40	145,509.40	37,000.00	108,509.40	54,389.45	46,844.48	101,233.93	7,275.47
			Budget 2018RF1	223,899.23	223,899.23	101,600.00	122,299.23	82,470.00	28,319.23	110,789.23	11,510.00
	Projects in Pipeline	Bid submitted	Budget 2018RF1	100,000.00	100,000.00		100,000.00		80,000.00	80,000.00	20,000.00
Total			Actual Oct 31, 2018	312,550.52	312,550.52	37,000.00	275,550.52	132,404.45	207,983.06	340,387.51	-64,836.99
			Budget 2018RF1	605,978.23	605,978.23	101,600.00	504,378.23	193,640.00	265,923.23	459,563.23	44,815.00

APAARI											
Gross Project Contribution											
(in USD)											
Project Code	Project Title	Status		Invoiced Sales	Total	External Collaborators	Net Revenue	Staff Costs	Direct Costs	Total	Gross Project Contribution
GU1001	LOA RAP	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	58,439.00	58,439.00		58,439.00	5,225.00	47,370.10	52,595.10	5,843.90
			Budget 2018RF2	105,000.00	105,000.00		105,000.00	20,000.00	74,500.00	94,500.00	10,500.00
GU1002	LOA Rome	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	35,602.12	35,602.12		35,602.12	10,450.00	21,591.91	32,041.91	3,560.21
			Budget 2018RF2	35,602.00	35,602.00		35,602.00	10,450.00	21,592.00	32,042.00	3,560.00
AB1001	APCOAB-COA	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	73,000.00	73,000.00		73,000.00	62,340.00	92,176.57	154,516.57	-81,516.57
			Budget 2018RF2	168,577.00	168,577.00		168,577.00	76,400.00	92,177.00	168,577.00	0.00
PA1001	ASTI	Secured and Started	Actual Oct 31, 2018	145,509.40	145,509.40	37,000.00	108,509.40	54,389.45	46,844.48	101,233.93	7,275.47
			Budget 2018RF2	179,089.47	179,089.47	37,000.00	142,089.47	73,135.00	60,000.00	133,135.00	8,954.47
	WTO-STDF	Secured not Started	Budget 2018RF2	9,000.00	9,000.00		9,000.00		9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00
Total			Actual Oct. 31, 2018	312,550.52	312,550.52	37,000.00	275,550.52	132,404.45	207,983.06	340,387.51	-64,836.99
			Budget 2018RF2	497,268.47	497,268.47	37,000.00	460,268.47	179,985.00	257,269.00	437,254.00	23,014.47

APAARI						
Directorate						
(in USD)						
APD - Directorate	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual up to Oct 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Salary costs	97,250.00	107,400.00	107,400.00	89,500.00	107,400.00	112,770.00
Contribution to Provident Fund	4,150.00	5,370.00	4,920.00	4,100.00	4,920.00	4,920.00
Employer Insurances	1,287.54	1,100.00	1,300.00	1,582.44	1,600.00	1,600.00
Staff Costs Recharges to Project Direct Costs						-36,423.34
Telephone		300.00	200.00	678.86	900.00	900.00
General Communication	44.68	100.00	200.00	243.48	300.00	300.00
Travel and Subsistance	5,315.81	22,000.00	15,000.00	5,470.68	10,000.00	12,000.00
Local Transport		1,000.00	300.00	34.69	200.00	300.00
Conference Fee		500.00				500.00
Hospitality		2,000.00	1,000.00	187.56	500.00	1,000.00
Printing & Stationery				75.16		
Bank Charges				43.66		
Subscription and Books						
Miscellaneous Expense		1,000.00				
Total	108,048.03	140,770.00	130,320.00	101,916.53	125,820.00	97,866.66

APAARI										
Technical Staff										
								(in USD)	(in USD)	
APT - Technical Staff	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual up to Aug 2018	Actual Sept 2018	Actual up to Sept 2018	Actual Oct 2018	Actual up to Oct 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Salary costs	85,565.86	244,800.00	248,904.00	141,602.00	18,168.00	159,770.00	17,468.00	177,238.00	248,904.00	261,349.20
Contribution to Provident Fund	2,662.80	12,240.00	11,191.00	6,598.00	778.40	7,376.40	778.00	8,154.40	12,445.20	13,067.46
Consultancy	44,250.00		16,000.00						5000.00	10000.00
Employer Insurances	1,955.50	6,600.00	6,600.00	5,130.27		5,130.27		5,130.27	6,600.00	6,600.00
Internships		2,000.00	7,200.00						7200.00	7200.00
Staff Costs Recharges to Project Direct Costs	-52,926.64	-247,800.00	-208,915.00	-110,507.23		-132,404.45		-132,404.45	-179,985.00	-298,216.66
Staff Costs Recharges to Member Expenses			-20,980.00	-6,672.00	-7,661.40	-14,333.40	-1,736.40	-16,069.80	-40,164.20	
Staff Costs Recharges to Grants & Donations			-60,000.00	-36,151.00		-37,471.17		-42,048.42	-60,000.00	
Staff Training		3,000.00								5000.00
Telephone		3,000.00	1,500.00	26.95		26.95		26.95	1,000.00	2,000.00
General Communication		2,400.00	500.00	160.84	52.31	213.15		213.15	500.00	750.00
Travel and Subsistance		24,000.00	18,500.00	3,213.61	303.95	3,517.56		3,517.56	6,000.00	10,000.00
Local Transport		2,000.00	500.00	28.85		28.85		28.85	200.00	1,000.00
Printing & Stationery				800.00		800.00		800.00		
Computer Hardware & Software Maintenance				1,840.48		1,840.48		1,840.48		
Website Maintenance and Server Costs				306.38		306.38		306.38		
Conference Fee		4,000.00	500.00							1000.00
Courier				52.13		52.13		52.13		
Hospitality		2,000.00	500.00	128.00		128.00		128.00	250.00	1,000.00
Computer Hardware and software				32.00		32.00		32.00		
Miscellaneous Expense		1,000.00								1000
Total	81,507.52	59,240.00	22,000.00	6,589.28	11,641.26	-4,986.85	16,509.60	6,945.50	7,950.00	21,750.00

APAARI										
Administration and Finance										
										(USD)
APO - Administration and Finance	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual up to Aug	Actual Sept 2018	Actual up to Sept 2018	Actual Oct 2018	Actual up to Oct 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Salary costs	23,886.11	68,000.00	33,843.00	24,987.82	2958	27,945.82	2,873.00	30,818.82	36,418.82	40,060.70
Contribution to Provident Fund	1,189.79	3,400.00	1,513.00	1,032.27	124.09	1,032.27	124.81	1,157.08	1,820.94	2,003.04
Employer Insurances	972.06	3,300.00	2,200.00	1,849.96		1,849.96		1,849.96	2,000.00	2,200.00
Staff Training		3,000.00	2,000.00					0.00		2,000.00
Consultancy	2,200.00		18,000.00	14,464.73	1500	15,964.73	1,500.00	17,464.73	18,000.00	20,000.00
Internship				3,116.89	732.83	3,849.72		3,849.72	6,000.00	6,000.00
Staff Costs Recharges to Member Expenses			-56,856.00	-45,451.67		-50642.50		-55,140.31	-66,239.76	-72,263.74
Telephone	11.38	1,500.00	500.00	208.55	82.73	291.28		291.28	500.00	500.00
General Communication		1,500.00	200.00	218.34		218.34	9.25	227.59	250.00	300.00
Travel and Subsistance	1,364.23	9,000.00	1,000.00	2,835.47	834.62	3,670.09		3,670.09	4,000.00	4,000.00
Local Transport		1,000.00	500.00	548.55	200	748.55		748.55	1,000.00	1,000.00
Hospitality			300.00	42.56		42.56	23.98	66.54	100.00	300.00
Printing and Stationery				278.35		278.35		278.35		
Equipment Maintenance				45.06		45.06		45.06		
Computer Hardware and Software				871.55		871.55		871.55		
Staff Welfare and Amenities								0.00		
Bank charges				136.77		136.77		136.77		
Miscellaneous Expense		500.00		497.02	88.84	585.86	103.11	688.97		500.00
Total	29,623.57	91,200.00	3,200.00	5,682.22	6,521.11	6,888.41	4,634.15	7,024.75	3,850.00	6,600.00

APAARI										
Facilities										
(in USD)										
APF - Facilities	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual up to Aug 2018	Actual Sept 2018	Actual up to Sept 2018	Actual Oct 2018	Actual up to Oct 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Casual Wages		500.00	2,000.00					977.53	1000.00	2000.00
Honoraria		1,000.00		61.31		61.31		61.31	200.00	1,000.00
Consultancy		40,000.00								
Recruitment Advertising and Allied Costs	5,797.10	1,500.00								3,000.00
Staff Amenities and Welfare	955.57	5,000.00	4,000.00	1,573.03		1,573.03		1,573.03	2,000.00	3,000.00
Telephone	2,200.07	3,000.00	2,000.00	1,241.97	66.32	1,308.29	192.73	1,501.02	2,000.00	3,000.00
General Communication	465.74	6,000.00	2,000.00	446.69	50.96	497.65	64.29	561.94	800.00	1,000.00
Local Transport	1,942.94	1,000.00	2,000.00	729.32		729.32		729.32	800.00	1,500.00
Building Lease Costs (including security)	4,008.91	5,000.00	40,000.00	20,222.47	5221.38	25,443.85		25,443.85	40,000.00	40,000.00
Utilities	1,605.78	2,300.00	5,000.00	2,082.87	415.78	2,498.65	259.87	2,758.52	3,500.00	4,000.00
Travel and Subsistence				364.15		364.15		364.15		
Printing and Stationery	340.06	10,000.00	4,000.00	1,905.46		1,905.46	54.72	1,960.18	3,000.00	5,000.00
Photocopying	1,619.29	2,400.00	1,000.00	1,434.66	195.15	1,629.81	398.92	2,028.73	2,500.00	4,000.00
Office Cleaning	1,100.49	500.00	2,500.00	1,517.88	359.53	1,877.41	283.60	2,161.01	2,500.00	2,500.00
Security	2,779.50	3,500.00		3,919.85		3,919.85		3,919.85	4,500.00	5,000.00
Building Maintainance	1,081.50	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,418.95		5,418.95		5,418.95	5,500.00	6,000.00
Equipment Maintainance	281.46	1,000.00	1,500.00	1,691.22		1,691.22		1,691.22	2,000.00	2,000.00
Computer Hardware and Software Maintainance	1,866.12	1,500.00	4,000.00	2,530.02		2,530.02	2,081.08	4,611.10	7,500.00	9,000.00
Website Maintainance and Server Costs		2,000.00	500.00						500.00	1,000.00
Workshops, Conferences and Trainings				1,070.35		1,070.35		1,070.35		
Executive Committee and Other Meeings		22,000.00								
General Assembly Meeting		10,000.00								
Courier	1,022.96	5,000.00	1,000.00	223.69		223.69		223.69	400.00	1,500.00
Subscriptions and Books		100.00	200.00							200.00
Legal and Professional Charges		5,000.00	2,000.00						2,000.00	8,000.00
Bank Charges	4,598.48	500.00	3,000.00	109.98		109.98		109.98	500.00	500.00
Hospitality					192.71	192.71	20.47	213.18	400.00	1,000.00
Miscellaneous Expense	3,615.13	5,000.00	1,000.00	923.59		923.59	123.38	1,046.97	1,200.00	2,000.00
Exchange Rate Gain/loss			500.00						300.00	500.00
Total	35,281.10	138,800.00	83,200.00	47,467.46	6,501.83	53969.29	3,479.06	58,425.88	83,100.00	106,700.00

APAARI						
Depreciation						
(in USD)						
APD - Depreciation	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	Budget 2018RF1	Actual up to Oct 2018	Budget 2018RF2	Budget 2019
Depreciation on Equipment			700.00			
Depreciation on Computer Hardware and software	3,438.73		3,800.00	3,438.73	4,500.00	5,500.00
Total	3,438.73	0.00	4,500.00	3,438.73	4,500.00	5,500.00



Annexure VII - Agenda 7

Agenda 7. Administrative Matters
FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

D. PURPOSE

1. To apprise the Assembly on the Administrative Matters in the Biennium 2017-2018;
2. To seek the Assembly's suggestions/comments/ options on the Administrative Matters; and
3. To seek the Assembly's understanding, appreciation and approval of the Administrative matters

E. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. Efforts by APAARI Secretariat were undertaken in placing before the General Assembly and seek guidance on the Administrative Matters for effective functioning of APAARI
2. Annex 1 to this submission provides updated status (as on 30th November 2018) of the Administrative Matters

F. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the Assembly:

1. Consider and peruse the Administrative Matters in APAARI in the Biennium 2017-2018;
2. Provide suggestions/comments and guidance on the administrative matters and
3. Endorse the the guidance on administrative matters from the GA, APAARI for the Biennium 2017-18

Annexure VII contd.***New Appointments*****Executive Secretary**

The position of Executive Secretary had fallen vacant when the previous Executive Secretary, announced his decision in the General Assembly meeting (GAM) held in Taiwan on 3 November 2016 to conclude his tenure on 31 December 2016 due to health reasons. The Interim Executive secretary took over the charge on 1 January 2017. The announcement for recruitment of Executive Secretary was made on 4 January 2017. A total of 27 applications were received out of which 7 applications were rejected due to non-fulfillment of specified qualification and experience. Based on critical assessment and evaluation, five candidates were short listed for personal face-to-face interview by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee was constituted in consultation with the Chairman, APAARI and the interview was held on 3 June 2017. The Selection Committee unanimously recommended the appointment of Dr. Ravinder Kumar Khetarpal, Regional Advisor (Strategic Science Partnerships) CABI South Asia – India, for the position of Executive Secretary, APAARI. The appointment letter has been issued to Dr Ravinder Kumar Khetarpal and he has accepted the offer and joined APAARI on August 2017.

APCoAB Coordinator

The position of APCoAB Coordinator had fallen vacant in January 2016 when the previous Coordinator resigned. Announcement for recruitment of Coordinator was first issued on 23 December 2016. Fourteen applications were received, based on evaluation of which four candidates were short-listed for personal interview by the Selection Committee. The letter was constituted by the Interim Executive Secretary, APAARI in consultation with Chairman, APAARI and the interview was held on 31 May 2017. The Selection Committee unanimously recommended the appointment of Dr. Rishi Kumar Tyagi, Principal Scientist, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi, for the position of APCoAB Coordinator. The appointment letter has been issued to Dr Rishi Kumar Tyagi and he has accepted the offer and joined APAARI on August 2017.

ASTI Coordinator /Economist

Dr. Norah Omot has been appointed as Coordinator/Economist, ASTI and joined APAARI on 10 November 2017.

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Mr. Fai Collins Dzernyuy, from Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Cameroon, has been appointed as Knowledge Management Coordinator. He joined APAARI on 15 January 2018.

Consultant/Intern/Research Assistant

APAARI appointed Dr. Raj Paroda, Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, Ms. Martina Spisiakova, Ms. Geraldine Nemrod, Dr. Wayne Nelles, Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam Mondal, Carlo G. Custodio Jr., Dr. Nagendra Kumar Singh and Dr. K.S. Varaprasad as consultants for need based activities

Intern

APAARI accepted Ms. Lorene Siegwart from SupAgro, Montpellier, France as Intern for 4 months with effect from 2nd April 2018.

Research Assistant

APAARI recruited a Research Assistant Nguyen Thi Pham, a Vietnamese national, to assist Norah Omot with the current ASTI project with IFPRI. The staff's responsibilities include checking database, follow-ups with the focal points and updating agencies' information in the online system. Analysing the country reports and assistance to all APAARI workshops, training, meeting is also part of her duties. She joined APAARI effective 7 July 2018.

Project/Administrative Assistant

APAARI recruited a Project /Administrative Assistant Tarathip Sanboonkrong to assist in project and administrative activities

Outgoing Staff

Knowledge Management Coordinator

Ms. Martina Spisiakova has worked as APAARI's Knowledge Management Coordinator since December 2015. She has made a major contribution to APAARI's strategic planning, through the development of the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-2022, Work Plan for the biennium 2017-2018, Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy, as well as stakeholder mapping. Martina also coordinated the implementation of APAARI's Knowledge Management Programme, particularly the development of a new APAARI website; introduction of a new communication tool – APAARI Network Highlights; enhancement of APAARI's presence and knowledge sharing on Social Media through Facebook, Twitter, Linked In, and Slideshare; improvement of APAARI's outreach and advocacy through enhanced communication materials (publications and posters); and strengthened partnership with APAARI members, partners, and other stakeholders, particularly collaboration with FAO. All these activities have become critical pillars of APAARI's future operations and will be pursued by the APAARI Secretariat. Martina left APAARI at the end of June 2017 for personal reasons but continues her involvement with APAARI on a consultancy basis.

Mr. Fai Collins, Knowledge Management Coordinator has submitted his resignation with effect from 31 December 2018.

Contract Renewal

- The Accounts and Administration Associate completed her two-year contract in December 2017, and the contract was renewed for a period of five years with a marginal hike in salary. Similarly, the Knowledge Management Officer also completed her two-year contract and that was renewed after following the proper procedures w.e.f. May 2018.
- The India Office of APCoAB was closed because of joining of a new full time APCoAB Coordinator in August 2017 (with Headquarters at Bangkok) who was recruited through

interview conducted as per norms in June 2017. The Senior Administrative Associate who was located there was transferred to Bangkok and his salary was adjusted accordingly.

Additional space in the Building

As approved by ECM 2/2017, additional space was acquired by APAARI in the same FAO Annex building where it is housed. The annual rent for APAARI has thus increased and highlighted the need for covering the additional cost through inhouse reserve fund and additional revenues being generated.

Recent Status of FAO Support

FAO approached APAARI in October, 2018 regarding discontinuing its Support to Associations established under the Auspices of FAO RAP. APAARI does not have the legal status in Thailand and FAO is questioned by the Government on providing services such as visa, stay permit etc to APAARI. A meeting was held by Executive Secretary with Senior Admin Officer of FAO, followed by a meeting with Dy Representative FAO RAP Mr Jong-Jin Kim and later with Ms Kundhavi Kaderesan, FAO-RAP. The details for APAARI to find a way forward in obtaining its proper status in Thailand will be discussed.

Developments with FAO

FAO approached APAARI in October regarding its new policy on Support to Associations established under the Auspices of FAO RAP whereby it is going to discontinue its services for APAARI too. APAARI does not have the legal status in Thailand. A meeting was held by Executive Secretary with Senior Admin Officer of FAO, followed by a meeting with Dy Representative FAO RAP Mr Jong-Jin Kim who further highlighted the need for completely detaching FAO from APAARI which was created way back in 1990 by FAO who drafted its first constitution also. The highlights of the meeting were drafted by APAARI and later modified by FAO which is given below:

Highlights of FAO - APAARI Meeting held at FAO RAP on 9th November, 2018

Present: Dr Jong Jin Kim (Dy Reg. Rep FAO), Dr.Ravi Kumar Khetarpal (Executive Secretary, APAARI), Mr.Gilmozzi Dario (SAO, FAO), Ms.Thansita Tanaphatrujira (operational Associate, APAARI)

FAO

- FAO values the long-term partnership with APAARI. However, the establishment of APAARI was only recommended by FAO and not created by FAO, and was to be managed by its members. This forms the basis of the discussion.
- Due to pressures to FAO RAP from Thailand Government and from finance and legal cell of Headquarters) FAO has requested APAARI (which does not have any FAO officer, or legal agreement with FAO or the Government) to be delinked from FAO. Later

on FAO and APAARI can explore the possibility of having a strengthened technical partnership.

- APAARI to initiate the process of registration in Thailand with immediate effect and FAO may discontinue its services (visa, etc) from January 2019. FAO ready to fully support in providing any sort of document needed by APAARI to get its legal status in Thailand.

APAARI

- Thankful to FAO for all its support so far, and highlighted the APAARI constitution that was developed by FAO.
- APAARI informed that to the best of its knowledge APAARI was created by FAO, and to this effect it will look at the past documents again and get back to FAO with related documents.
- APAARI desired to have a proper provision under which FAO has taken the decision. Agreed that since long there is no FAO officer in APAARI, but FAO and APAARI had been working closely for various activities and APAARI enjoyed FAO's ISBN number for its publications, and is also housed in FAO Annex Building with a renewed agreement for three years since December, 2017.
- APAARI is a membership-based organization and the important decisions are taken collectively by APAARI Executive Committee (EC) and General Assembly (GA) meetings. APAARI is discussing the matter internally and has initiated the process of looking for options with Thailand Government and others and will get views of members during the EC and GA meetings to be held in December, 2018.

Way Forward:

- The discussions above will be briefed to Ms Kundhavi Kadiresan (FAO RAP) on 15th November when APAARI has an appointment with her.
- Since APAARI has initiated the process as requested it does need time which can not be speculated at present, but will keep FAO duly informed of the progress.
- FAO will continue providing the services for the interim period till APAARI gets the legal status.
- FAO has a Strategy for partnership with various stakeholders and that needs to be looked into to have a renewed FAO - APAARI partnership

Recently a meeting was also held with Ms Kundhavi Kadiresan, FAO RAP, ADG (Asia-Pacific) who also highlighted the same facts but assured to have a stronger partnership with APAARI in terms of activities and projects once we have our clear legal status.

The GA will be requested to consider and finally endorse the proposed Administrative Matters.

Annexure VII contd.

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Organisation des
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Продовольственная и
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Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Agricultura y la
Alimentación

Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Mallwan Mansion, 39 Phra Atit Rd
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Tel. (+662) 697-4000

FAX: (+662) 697-4445

E-Mail: FAO-RAP@FAO.ORG

Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

Dear Dr Khetarpal,

Subject: Support to Associations established under the auspices of FAO RAP

I would like to refer to recent discussions between yourself and Mr Dario Gilmozzi, Senior Administrative Officer in this office.

As you are aware, for many years the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO RAP) has been providing assistance and support to your Association, in particular with regard to the issuance of permits-to-stay and re-entry visas for Thailand for the international staff, as well as other services.

FAO RAP has recently received inquiries from the Department of Treaties and Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, requesting a clarification on the status of these associations. As there is no formal legal relationship between FAO and Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), and following a consultation with the Ministry, we would like to inform you that, as of 1 January 2019, FAO RAP may no longer be able to provide these services. From that date, requests for issuance of permits to stay or re-entry visas for Thailand for the international staff should be submitted by your Association directly to the relevant authorities. Similarly, please note that, as of the same date, FAO RAP will not be able to provide certificates of employment, ESCAP Ground Passes, and vaccination arrangements, considering the lack of a contractual ground for the provisions of those services by FAO RAP to the staff of your Associations.

It is our current understanding that, in order for you to be able to apply for permits to stay or re-entry visas for Thailand for the international staff, you must be registered as an Association in Thailand, and that the Association must be registered with the Department of Employment of the Ministry of Labour. We suggest that you start the necessary process as soon as possible.

A./Z.

Dr Ravi Khetarpal
Executive Secretary
Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)
202/1 Larn Luang Road, Klong Mahanak Sub-District,
Pomprab Sattrupai District, Bangkok 10100, Thailand

Annexure VIII -Agenda 8



Agenda 8. Amendments to APAARI Constitution

FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sub: Amendments to the APAARI Constitution

A. PURPOSE

1. To propose and present some key basic modifications/amendments to the current Constitution of APAARI (as in the Sixth Edition of 2017) so as to help enhancing the Association's effectiveness in its management, development and governance;
2. To seek the General Assembly's queries, comments, and suggestions on the proposed amendments so as to help the APAARI Secretariat, refining the structures and contents of the amendments; and
3. To seek the General Assembly's approval of the proposed amendments, subject to any further modifications/ refinements, as per Article XVI – Para 30 of the APAARI Constitution (as in the Sixth Edition),

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. APAARI was established in 1990 at the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and several National Agricultural Research Institutions (NARIs) and National Agricultural Research Organizations (NAROs) of the Asia-Pacific Region.
2. Since the first edition of the APAARI Constitution published in December 1991, the Constitution went through five editions, mainly with minor amendments with respect to movements/changes in APAARI's membership organizations across membership categories, the latest being the sixth edition of March 2017 (as presented in Annex VIII A.)
3. The current Constitution, however, has not been able to keep pace with the changing role of APAARI in the existing and emerging context of agri-food systems and the need for strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region. Often the constitutional provisions are seen to be ambiguous, inconsistent and inadequate in the effective management, development and governance of APAARI.
4. The above concerns have been prominently noticed and pointed out in the APAARI Strategic Plan 2017-22. Such concerns have also been raised during the APAARI Executive Committee meeting of November 2017, resulting in the recommendation that the constitutional modifications/changes, as needed, should be undertaken and taken through the ECMs during 2018 to the approval of the General Assembly Meeting in December 2018.

5. In the light of this, APAARI Secretariat undertook a review of the current provisions in the APAARI Constitution (as contained in its Sixth Edition of March 2017), especially by focusing on the changed context of agri-food systems and the need for effectiveness of APAARI in strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region. Based on these, some key/ basic amendments / modifications to the APAARI constitution were suggested so that the constitutional provisions became unambiguous, consistent and effective in the overall performance and impact of APAARI. The draft amendments were presented at the Executive Committee Meeting held on 28th May 2018
6. The Executive Committee had reinforced the point that the Constitutional Amendments were key to meet the strategy plan requirements of APAARI and would further improve the functioning of APAARI through enhanced contribution towards its members. The EC before endorsing the proposed amendments had preferred to constitute a Sub-Committee to look into the proposed amendments more objectively and to consider the arising implications and emerging recommendations. The Chairman of the EC was empowered to constitute an EC Sub-Committee on Constitutional Amendments comprising of 6-7 members with fairly balanced representations from NARS, International Institutes and Higher education sectors. The Sub-Committee was thus formed comprised of the following members.
 - i) Chair - Dr Yusuf Zafar (representing South Asia/West Asia),
 - ii) Vice Chair - Dr Birte Komolong (representing The Pacific),
 - iii) EC Member - DG COA/ Taiwan (representing South-East Asia and East Asia),
 - iv) EC Member - Dr Marco Wopereis (representing IARCs),
 - v) EC Member - Dr B. S. Dhillon (representing Higher Education Sector),
 - vi) Dr Raghunath Ghodake (Ex Executive Secretary) – Co-opted member to support APAARI Secretariat, and
 - vii) Executive Secretary Ravi Khetarpal – Member Secretary of the Committee
7. The Sub-Committee worked through mails and virtual discussions and had come up with a final Clean Draft Proposal.
8. As per the above process, the Final Draft Clean Version for Notification of GA-APAARI Constitutional Amendment (Cleared by EC Sub-Committee) along with a copy of Sixth Edition of APAARI Constitution (as the reference document), and draft proceedings of APAARI ECM 28 May 2018 were circulated to the General Assembly on 18 September 2018, giving 60 days' notice prior to the planned GA Meeting of 21 December 2018. This communique also requested the members of the General Assembly to provide any comments/suggestions/ queries on the contents and structures of these amendments to reach the APAARI Secretariat by 18th October 2018. Some responses in terms of queries, comments and suggestions were received.
9. With the suggested amendments, the advanced draft of Seventh Edition of the Constitution (as given in Annex VIII B) has 17 Articles and 45 paragraphs. The major areas of suggested amendments are highlighted as below.

- i) Preamble explicitly states the changing context of agri-food systems and the APAARI's pivotal role in strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems, requiring the Association to be appropriately recognized with status as a regional organization for strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- ii) Besides research, "the Name" deliberately focuses on innovation for sustainable agricultural development. The characteristics, especially emphasizes APAARI as a membership-based, non-profit, apolitical and multi-stakeholder regional organization.
- iii) Provision has been made that APAARI shall be appropriately recognized as a regional organization for strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- iv) Besides recognizing Bangkok as its seat (head office), further options of having sub-regional offices in the sub-regions - i) South Asia and West Asia, ii) Southeast Asia and East Asia, and iii) the Pacific - are provided as possibilities.
- v) The principle objectives and main functions are explicitly and clearly stated to provide focused guidance and directions to the Association and its partners.
- vi) Membership categories, organizations and subscription fee levels are rationalized and articulated with clear conditions, roles and authorities. These provisions do have adequate flexibilities for future changes, as a dynamic and responsive Association. However, a separate management standard on APAARI membership would be ideally needed.
- vii) Funding sources are broadened and explicitly stated for the Association to be empowered with necessary revenue while retaining its characteristics as a non-profit entity.
- viii) General Assembly's role, responsibility and democratic way of functioning have been explicitly mentioned. Care is taken to provide voting right to members in membership categories I and II, while members in membership categories III (Affiliate) and IV (Reciprocal) do not have voting right at the GAMs.
- ix) The Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, would serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, at the General Assembly meetings. This provision is unambiguously and clearly made.
- x) Key duties of the General assembly in terms of roles and responsibilities are specified.
- xi) As APAARI needs to be a multi-stakeholder and inclusive organization for decision making, active participation and good governance; appropriate additional provisions are made to expand the Association's membership to CSOs, including NGOs, FOs, women and youth organizations, the private sector, donor/funding agencies, The Executive Committee is accordingly expanded to have equity and participation at the

- policy and governance level. This expansion process may continue and could grow further in future.
- xii) A provision has been made in the constitution to co-opt as special invitee/member, on the Executive Committee, any such individual with specific expertise, skills and experience.
 - xiii) Duties of officers (the Chair, the Vice-chair and the Executive Secretary and members of the Executive Committee) are re-specified and improved with clarity and expectations.
 - xiv) The Chair and the Vice-Chair come from the country core membership category.
 - xv) Executive Secretary is to be appointed/nominated by the Executive Committee for a maximum tenure of four years. Such appointment can be renewed for one term based on the performance assessment by the Executive Committee.
 - xvi) Rules, regulations and management standards are specifically stressed to be framed by the Executive Committee and are to be approved/ amended by the General Assembly for effective performance of APAARI.
 - xvii) Amendments to the rules, regulations and management standards may be adopted by a simple majority vote at any meeting of the General Assembly.
 - xviii) Articles on quorum, amendment and dissolution remain unchanged, retaining the country core members' authority and major say in these decisions/areas.
 - xix) It is provided that amendment of the constitution shall only be considered by the General Assembly if such agenda and the content of the amendment are supported and have a prior approval of the Executive Committee by a simple majority of the votes.
- 10. The above amendments are to help rationalize those basic provisions of the Constitution and make them effective. However, there is an adequate scope to progressively review, assess and make further changes/refinements to the constitution.
 - 11. This constitutional review and amendments also allows to derive relevant implications and recommendations for APAARI's collective actions to be undertaken in medium to long terms.
 - 12. In response to queries, comments and suggestions received from members of the General Assembly, a statement of corrections and modifications has been prepared, as given in Annex 3, for refinement of the amendments.
 - 13. The General Assembly at its 15 Meeting on 21 December 2018 is, requested by the Executive Committee, to consider the current constitution (sixth edition) as in Annex VIII A, peruse the proposed amendments as in Annex 2, and statement of refinements to amendments (as

given in Annex 3), and approve the amendments, subject to any further modification/refinements, as per Article XVI – Para 30 of the APAARI Constitution (Sixth Edition).

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the General Assembly:

1. Consider and peruse key basic modifications/amendments to the current Constitution of APAARI (as in the Sixth Edition of 2017) so as to help enhancing the Association's effectiveness in its management, development and governance;
2. Provide queries, comments, and suggestions on the proposed amendments so as to help the APAARI Secretariat, refining the structures and contents of the amendments; and
3. Approve the proposed amendments, subject to any further modifications/ refinements, as per Article XVI – Para 30 of the APAARI Constitution (as in the Sixth Edition).

Annexure VIII A

Please note that the Sixth Edition (of March 2017) materials are given here for the reference.

The Constitution

First Edition:	December 1991
Second Edition:	September 1994
Third Edition:	February 2003
Fourth Edition:	January 2009
Fifth Edition:	January 2015
Sixth Edition:	March 2017

<p>The constitution of APAARI was adopted in December 1990 by the General Assembly in its second meeting held at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand.</p>

For copies please write to:

The Executive Secretary
Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)
FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road
Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100
Thailand

Tel: +66 (02) 282 2918
Fax: +66 (02) 282 2919
e-mail: apaari@apaari.org
<http://www.apaari.org>

The Constitution

APAARI Large Logo here

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1, Larn Luang Road
Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100
THAILAND

March 2017

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ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

APAARI CONSTITUTION

The constitution of APAARI was adopted in December 1990 by the General Assembly in its second meeting held at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand.

First edition of the Constitution was published in December 1991, second in September 1994, third in February 2003, and fourth in January 2009. It has 17 articles and 32 paragraphs covering name, seat, objectives, functions, members, membership subscription, other sources of funds, the general assembly, duties of general assembly, executive committee, duties of the executive committee, executive secretary and secretariat, duties of officers, rules and regulations, quorum, amendment of the constitution and dissolution.

PREAMBLE

1. The agricultural research institutions in the Asia-Pacific Region being:

- Aware of the problems and challenges facing the development of agriculture in the region;

- Conscious of the responsibilities which they must assume if they are to contribute to the process of social and economic development in the region; and
- Convinced that the role and impact of the respective institutions can be enhanced through effective collaboration and consultation among them; and
- Have decided to establish a neutral and apolitical regional association of agricultural research institutions in the pursuit of their common objectives (under the sponsorship of FAO).

Article I: NAME

2. The name of this Association shall be “Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions”, and the acronym will be ‘APAARI’, hereinafter referred to as the Association.

Logo: The logo of the Association comprises of two hands opening sideways and with the full name of the Association arched over them, forming an umbrella. A grain earhead in the middle of the logo is in recognition of the strength that agriculture provides in sustenance of the region. The green color of the hands and the grain earhead symbolizes prosperous agriculture.

Article II: SEAT

3. The Association shall have its seat at Bangkok, Thailand.

Article III: OBJECTIVE

4. The Association is a non-profit organization with an overall objective to foster the agricultural research and development in the Asia-Pacific Region so as to help address the concerns of hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and sustainability of agricultural production.
5. More specifically, the objectives of the Association shall be
 - i) Promote the exchange of scientific and technical know-how and information in agriculture;
 - ii) Encourage the establishment of appropriate co-operative research and training programmes in accordance with identified regional, bilateral or national needs and priorities;
 - iii) Assist in prioritizing NARS/regional needs; strengthening of research organizational and management capabilities of member institutions including information and communication technology;
 - iv) Strengthening cross-linkages between national, regional and international research centres and organizations, including universities, through involvement in jointly planned research and training programmes; and
 - v) Promote collaborative research among member institutions, including need based support to regional research networks.

Article IV: FUNCTIONS

6. In pursuance of the above objective, the Association may undertake one or more of the following activities:

- i) Convene General Assembly to discuss the Association's administration, general programme, policies, and priorities;
- ii) Organize working groups, meetings and seminars to discuss specific problems or sponsor technical studies, training courses and workshops;
- iii) Collect, collate and disseminate research information;
- iv) Maintain links with agencies, institutions, or organizations and other entities undertaking similar activities within and outside the region including donor institutions; and
- v) Promote collaborative research among member institutions.

Article V: MEMBERSHIP

7. Membership shall be open to national agricultural research institutions/ councils/ organizations/universities from countries of the region, ARD fora in other regions, etc. In countries where agricultural research is handled directly by a government department, the relevant unit/bureau will be eligible to become member of the Association. Membership in the Association may be sought by submitting an application to the Executive Secretary and approved by the Chairman of the Association. The members are classified as:

- i) Regular members: NARS in the region.
- ii) Associate Members: IARCs/CG Centres/ARIs/Agricultural Universities having an interest in the region.

- iii) Reciprocal members: Other regional/global ARD fora that recognize APAARI also as their member with condition of mutual waiver of any membership fee.
- iv) Affiliate Members: Agricultural universities and research institutions beside NARS, but with no voting right.

8. Any member institution desiring to withdraw from the Association shall notify the Executive Secretary in writing, and such withdrawal shall take effect three months from the date of receipt of the notice by the Executive Secretary.

Article VI: MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

9. For the purpose of determining annual subscription by member institutions, the countries where they are located shall be deemed to be categorized as follows:

- Category I: Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, India, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Thailand.
- Category II: Bangladesh, DPR Korea, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran, The Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka.
- Category III: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Cook Islands, Cambodia, Federated States of Micronesia, French Polynesia, Guam, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Republic of Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Island, Tahiti, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Vietnam.
- Category IV: Associate membership is for the regional Institutions /IARCs/CG Centers/ARI/the Private Sector ARD organizations.
- Category V: Reciprocal Membership.

- Category VI: Affiliate Membership.

The annual subscription from each member institution shall be as follows:

Member institution falling in	Annual subscription
Category I	US\$ 10,000
Category II	US\$ 6,000
Category III	US\$ 3,000
Category IV	US\$ 5,000
Category V	No Fee (Mutually waived)
Category VI	US\$ 1,500

The subscription falls due on 1st January every year.

Article VII: OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS

10. In addition to the annual membership subscription, other sources of funds shall consist of:

- i) Grants and donations from governments, national, regional or international organizations, donor institutions, and development banks and others;
- ii) Proceeds from the sale of publications issued by the Association; and
- iii) Fees, if any, collected from participants of any technical meeting organized by the Association.

Article VIII: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

11. There shall be a General Assembly of the Association, in which each member institution shall be represented by one delegate.
12. The General Assembly shall meet at least once every two years.
13. Each regular member organization of the Association shall have one vote at the General Assembly for voting at ordinary or extraordinary meetings. The Chairman shall allow some time for mutual consultation among members prior to voting on any issue.
14. All decisions shall be taken by a simple majority vote, except for those decisions relating to amendments to the Constitution, and those related to the dissolution of the Association. In the case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

Article IX: DUTIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

15. In fulfilment of its objectives, the General Assembly shall determine the policy of the association, approve the programme of work and budget formulated and put up by the Executive Committee, review progress, and shall exercise other powers conferred upon it under the Constitution.

Article X: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16. The Association shall have a 14 member Executive Committee, composed of: Six members representing NARS – two each from the Pacific, South-East Asia and South-West Asia sub-regions; One ex-officio member – the incumbent Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR); One *ex-officio* member represented by one of the CGIAR

Center Directors General being associate members on rotational basis; Two members from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) – one from regional farmers’ associations and one from NGO’s associations/communities; One representative of the private sector; one member representing the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA); one member representing the Higher Education Sector (Universities); and the incumbent Executive Secretary of APAARI as *ex-officio* member. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and other members shall be elected/nominated by the General Assembly from among the regular member institutions at the biennial meeting and they shall hold the office for two years and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office. However, the outgoing Chairman will continue as a member for the next term to ensure continuity and needed guidance.

The Executive Secretary of APAARI shall be appointed according to Article XII, Paragraph 22. No country NARS members will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee.

17. If any one of the offices of Chairman or Vice-Chairman becomes vacant for any reason, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall elect one of its own members to fill the vacancy. A position of member of the Executive Committee which falls vacant shall be filled by the next candidate who has the highest number of votes in the election of the Executive Committee at the preceding General Assembly. Persons who become members of the Executive Committee under this provision will remain in office until the next Session of the General Assembly.

Article XI: DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

18. The Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of the Association in accordance with this Constitution and the policies and directives adopted by the General Assembly.

19. The Executive Committee shall report to the Assembly on the implementation of the approved programme of work and the progress made in fulfilling the objectives of the Association.

20. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once every year and shall be convened by the Executive Secretary.

Article XII: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND SECRETARIAT

21. Secretariat of the Association shall be headed by the Executive Secretary.

22. The Executive Committee shall appoint/elect/nominate the Executive Secretary, either on honorary or payment basis for a given tenure of two years, renewable each time based on performance assessment by the Executive Committee and approval by General Assembly, with suitable experience and acknowledged leadership in agricultural research. He/she will be supported by a minimal technical and administrative staff in the secretariat office.

Article XIII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

23. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee.

24. The Vice-Chair shall perform all duties of the Chairperson in the absence of the latter, and such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Chairperson.

25. The Executive Secretary shall be the chief of the Secretariat of the Association. He/she shall be responsible for the affairs of the Association and execution of all activities approved by the General Assembly, including

preparation of programme of work and budget, monitoring of progress, and arrangement for meetings of the General Assembly and Executive Committee. He/she shall collect and disseminate information pertaining to the activities of the Association. He/she shall prepare the minutes for the Assembly and Executive Committee meetings, and arrange for the publication, distribution and maintenance of the reports and proceedings of all meetings of the Association. He/she shall receive annual subscriptions and any other financial contributions to the Association, account for all money received and make payments in accordance with policies established by the General Assembly and the Executive Committee, and he/she shall submit audited accounts to the biennial General Assembly meeting.

Article XIV: RULES AND REGULATIONS

26. The General Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations shall be prepared by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly of the Association. Amendments to the Rules and Regulations may be adopted by a simple majority vote at any session of the General Assembly.

27. The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for utilization of the approved budget of the Association and shall maintain full accounts, records and documents. Duly audited accounts shall be presented to the General Assembly.

Article XV: QUORUM

28. The quorum shall be 50 per cent of the membership at all General Assembly and the Executive Committee meetings.

Article XVI: AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION

29. Amendments of the Constitution shall be considered only at a meeting of the General Assembly.

30. The Association may amend this Constitution by a two-third majority of the votes cast, provided that such majority is more than half of the countries from which the membership of the Association is drawn.

31. No proposal for the amendment of the Constitution shall be included in the agenda of any General Assembly unless notice thereof has been dispatched by the Executive Secretary to members at least 60 days before the opening of the meeting.

Article XVII: DISSOLUTION

32. The Association can only be dissolved by a resolution approved at a General Assembly. The procedure to be followed for the dissolution of the Association shall be the same as detailed in paragraphs 30 and 31 under Article XVI.

Annexure VIII B

Final Draft Clean Version of 10 August 2018 (as in **Red) based on further responses/considerations of the Comments and Cleared by the EC Sub-Committee on Constitutional Amendment**

The Constitution

First Edition*: December 1991
Second Edition: September 1994
Third Edition: February 2003
Fourth Edition: January 2009
Fifth Edition: January 2015
Sixth Edition: March 2017
Seventh Edition**: February 2019

(* The constitution of APAARI was adopted in December 1990 by the General Assembly in its second meeting held at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand. The First Edition was published in December 1991.)

(**The Seventh Edition is based on a comprehensive review. It got substantially amended/ updated during 2018 and was approved by the General Assembly in November 2018 as per the provision of Article XVI of the Constitution.)

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was established in 1990 at the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and several National Agricultural Research Institutions (NARIs) and National Agricultural Research Organizations (NAROs) of the Asia-Pacific Region.

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For copies please write to:

The Executive Secretary

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research and Innovation Institutions (APAARI)

FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road

Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100

Thailand

Tel: +66 (2) 282 2918

Fax: +66 (2) 282 2919

e-mail: apaari@apaari.org

<http://www.apaari.org>

The Constitution

APAARI Large Complete Logo including modified name of the Association

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research and Innovation Institutions
FAO RAP Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Luang Road
Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100
THAILAND

February 2019

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ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

APAARI CONSTITUTION

Since the first edition of the APAARI constitution published in December 1991, the constitution went through five editions, mainly with minor amendments; the latest being the Sixth Edition of March 2017. This (the Seventh Edition), however, includes major amendments/ updates, providing unambiguous, consistent and effective constitutional provisions for APAARI to help responding to current and emerging challenges of agriculture and Agri-Food Systems (AFS)⁷ in the Asia-Pacific Region (APR). This Edition has 17 articles and 45 paragraphs covering various topics as indexed in the contents page.

PREAMBLE

APAARI, since its establishment in 1990 has been promoting and strengthening agricultural research for development (AR4D) so that the concerned research institutions/organizations in the Asia-Pacific Region enhance their effectiveness in addressing constraints and challenges of agricultural development, and thereby contribute to alleviating hunger, poverty, and environmental degradation in the region.

With existing and emerging challenges of climate change, depleting resources, hunger and malnourishment and of complex production and supply chains, small and resource- poor farmers need to innovate in responding to the changing market demands and competition. This changing context of agri-food systems in the APR requires a renewed focus of agricultural research and innovations to help addressing the current and emerging challenges of sustained development.

Therefore, APAARI, as key regional organization, requires appropriately reformed management and governance to respond effectively to the changing scenario and thereby contributing to the realization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the region. This (Seventh) Edition, as presented here, provides improved and amended constitutional provisions for APAARI's effective functioning and performance.

Article I: NAME AND CHARACTER

⁷ In this context, agri-food systems cover farming of crops and livestock, fish, pastoralism and forestry/agro-forestry, their production systems and their associated post-harvest food value chains and service industries, with a particular focus on the needs of resource-poor smallholder producers.

1. The name of this Association shall be “Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research and Innovation Institutions”, and the acronym will be ‘APAARI’, hereinafter referred to as the Association.
2. APAARI is a membership-based, non-profit, apolitical and multi-stakeholder regional organization in the Asia-Pacific Region. It promotes and strengthens agriculture and Agri-Food Research and Innovation Systems (AFRIS)⁸ through collaboration, partnership and networking, capacity development and advocacy for sustainable agricultural development in the APR.
3. The logo of the Association comprises of two hands opening sideways and with the full name of the Association arched over them, forming an umbrella. A grain earhead in the middle of the logo is in recognition of the strength that agriculture provides in sustenance of the region. The green color of the logo symbolizes prosperous agriculture.
4. APAARI shall be appropriately recognized as a regional organization for strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Article II: SEAT

5. The Association shall have its seat (head office) in Bangkok, Thailand, while it may have sub-offices in sub-regions of the Asia-Pacific Region.
6. The Asia -Pacific Region shall be specified into three sub-regions for effective operations and governance of the Association. These sub-regions shall be: i) South Asia and West Asia, ii) Southeast Asia and East Asia, and iii) the Pacific.

Article III: OBJECTIVES

7. The Association shall have an overall objective to promote and strengthen agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems so as to help accomplish sustainable agricultural development and thereby contributing to the realization of the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific.
8. The specific objectives of the Association shall be to:
 - i) Strengthen agri-food research and innovation systems to be more effective in knowledge management and information exchange so as to make agriculture and agri-food systems more knowledge intensive in the Asia-Pacific Region; and

⁸ In APAARI's case, agri-food research and innovation systems that are comprised of interconnected and interdependent components such as NARIs, NAROs, CGIAR, AIRCA, ARIs, Higher Education, Extension, CSOs (NGOs, FOs), the private sector, development organizations (national, regional and global and intergovernmental), women, youth, farmers and rural communities, including those involved in agri-food production systems and their associated post-harvest food value chains and service industries.

- ii) Develop and strengthen strategic partnership, cross-linkages and networking for technical and scientific cooperation among a) agri-food research and innovation systems in the region, and b) national, sub-regional, regional and global multi-sector research and development organizations/agencies; and
- iii) Contribute to the development of institutional arrangements, organizational capacities; including technical, scientific and managerial competencies of AFRIS for effective planning, management and delivery of research and innovations; and
- iv) Contribute to the improved understanding and awareness of the role and importance of, and investment in AFRIS for improving AFS and socio-economic development in the APR; and
- v) Assist in facilitating appropriate and fair representation of women and youth in AFRIS and their participation in policy and decision making in AFS; and
- vi) Manage, develop, and govern APAARI with high level of transparency and accountability so as to be effective in sustained strengthening of AFRIS in the APR.

Article IV: FUNCTIONS

9. In pursuance of the above objectives, the Association shall undertake some or all of the following functions:

- i) Convene General Assembly of the Association and establish and operate Executive Committee to deliberate and decide on APAARI management, governance, work programme and progress, finances, policies, and strategies and other related matters; and
- ii) Develop, implement, monitor and report on vision, strategy, and operational plans/activities of the Association; and
- iii) Initiate, co-ordinate, collaborate and deliver on technical and scientific projects/programmes, and necessary research and innovation activities among APAARI members, AFRIS and their partner organizations, including at national, sub-regional, regional and global levels; and
- iv) Organize, co-host and sponsor scientific, technical, policy related conferences, workshops, dialogues, meetings, seminars, webinars, on-line discussions and such other events in pursuit of the Association's objectives; and

- v) Organize, participate and support institutional, organizational and human resource capacity development activities such as training programmes, staff exchange, mentoring, attachments, secondment; and
- vi) Develop, manage and implement knowledge management/exchange and necessary tools, processes and ICTs such as websites, data-bases, social media tools, technical and scientific publications and standards; and
- vii) Mobilize, generate and manage necessary financial, human and partnership resources for effective management and governance of the Association; and
- viii) Provide priority support for developing competencies, capacities and resources to research and innovation systems in small-island and mountainous countries of the APR.

Article V: MEMBERSHIP

10. Membership shall be open to organizations/ institutions engaged in and responsible for agricultural research and innovations, concerning about development of the Asia-Pacific Region. Such organizations fall in the following categories/ sub categories:

Membership Category/ Sub-Category	Organizations/Countries/Territories
Category I (Country Core Members)	National agricultural research institutions (NARI), national agricultural research organizations (NARO), national agricultural research councils (NARC), national departments/ministries of agriculture and extension from the countries of the region.
- Sub- Category I (A) Countries*	Australia, China, India, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and the Philippines.
- Sub- Category I (B) Countries*	Bangladesh, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, and Sri Lanka.
- Sub- Category I (C) Countries*	Afghanistan, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, French Polynesia, Guam, Laos, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niue, Palau, PDR Korea, Republic of Kiribati, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Island, Tahiti, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Vietnam.
Category II (Associate Members)	International agricultural research centers/ CG Centers, Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA) members, sub-regional, regional and global research and development organizations, agricultural universities, the private sector associations and donor/funding organizations.
Category III (Affiliate Members)	Agricultural universities, civil society organizations (non-government organizations [NGO], farmer organizations [FO]), women's organizations, and youth organizations from the region.
Category IV (Reciprocal Members)	Regional and global agricultural research and development fora/bodies, inter-governmental development agencies. These represent on a reciprocal basis and have no voting right at APAARI General Assembly.

* List of countries as per categories in the APR given here includes such countries that are either current members or potential members of APAARI. This list is evolving.

- i) Membership in the Association may be sought by submitting an application to the Executive Secretary and as approved by the Chair of the Executive Committee.

- ii) Any member organization, desiring to withdraw its membership from the Association, shall notify the Executive Secretary in writing, and such withdrawal shall take effect three months from the date of receipt of the notice by the Executive Secretary.

Article VI: MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

11. The annual subscription from each member organization shall be as follows:

Membership Category/ Sub-Category	Membership Subscription (USD/ Annum)
Category I (Country Core Members)	As given under sub-categories
Sub- Category I (A) Countries	10,000
Sub- Category I (B) Countries	6,000
Sub- Category I (C) Countries	3,000
Category II (Associate Members)	5,000
Category III (Affiliate Members)	1,500
Category IV (Reciprocal Members)	These organizations do not pay any fee (mutually waived).

- i) Annual membership fee falls due in January every year.
- ii) If any member organization fails to pay its membership subscription consecutively for three years, the APAARI Executive Committee may decide continuation or otherwise of such membership based on merit.

Article VII: OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS

12. Besides the annual membership subscriptions, other sources of funds shall consist of:

- i) Grants and donations from governments, national, regional or international organizations, donor/aid organizations/agencies, philanthropic bodies, development banks, and the private sector, and others; and
- ii) Funds contributed from partners/collaborators and sponsors in APAARI organized meetings, events, networks, and projects; and
- iii) Proceeds from the sale of publications issued, goods tendered, consultancy services provided by the Association; and

- iii) Fees collected from participants of any technical meetings, training programmes, etc. organized by the Association; and
- iv) Interest incomes and returns from reserve funds/deposits and royalties from intellectual properties, etc.

Article VIII: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

13. There shall be a General Assembly of the Association, in which each member organization/institution shall be represented by one delegate.
14. The General Assembly shall meet at least once every two years.
15. Each member organization under Membership Category I and II shall have one vote at the General Assembly meetings. Member organizations under Category III (Affiliate Members) and Category IV (Reciprocal Members) shall not have voting right at the General Assembly Meetings.
16. The Chair shall allow adequate time for mutual consultation among members prior to voting on any issue/matter. In the case of equality of votes, the Chair shall have a casting vote.
17. All decisions shall be taken by a simple majority vote, except for those decisions relating to amendment to the Constitution, and those relating to dissolution of the Association.

Article IX: DUTIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18. In fulfilment of the objectives of the Association, the General Assembly shall be responsible for performing the following roles and responsibilities:
- i) Pursue and endorse reports presented by the Executive Committee on the plans, programmes, progresses and the overall management and governance of the Association; and
 - ii) Pursue and accept annual and biennial work plans, projects and collective actions of the Association; and
 - iii) Pursue and accord consent to the work progress and the performance of collective actions of the Association; and
 - iv) Peruse and approve corporate plan, policies, strategies, rules of procedures, regulations and management standards for effective functioning and governance of the Association; and

- v) Peruse and ratify publications, income expenditure plan, status report of finances, annual audited financial statements, appointment of staff and any other matters closely relevant and concerning to the management and governance of the Association; and
- vi) Compose and put up the Executive Committee, appoint any special purpose committee(s), delegate any required authority to the Executive Committee, and exercise other powers/ duties as conferred upon the General Assembly under this Constitution; and
- vii) As and if needed, consider and approve amendments to the Constitution for enhancing the performance and effectiveness of APAARI.

Article X: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

19. The Association shall have an Executive Committee, composed of the following 17 seats:

- i) Six members representing the Category I of Country Core member organizations – two from the South Asia/ West Asia sub-region, two from the South-East Asia / East Asia sub-region, and two from the Pacific sub-region. The out-going Chair shall be one of these six members, who will continue as a member for the new term to ensure continuity and needed guidance to the new Executive Committee; and
- ii) One member – the incumbent Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR); and
- iii) One member, representing CGIAR - as represented by one of the CGIAR Center Directors General; and
- iv) One member, representing the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA); and
- v) One member, representing the Higher Education Sector (universities); and
- vi) One member, representing farmers' organizations (FOs); and
- vii) One member, representing non-government organizations (NGOs); and
- viii) One member, representing women's organizations; and
- ix) One member, representing youth organizations; and
- x) One member as representative of the private sector organizations; and
- xi) One member, representing donor/funding agencies/organizations; and

xii) The incumbent Executive Secretary of APAARI as *ex-officio* member.

20. The above members shall be elected/nominated by the General Assembly in its biennial meeting from among the respective groups of member organizations. No member organization will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee.

21. If for any reason, any of the seat(s) on the Executive Committee do not get filled-in during the General Assembly meeting, such seat(s) will be nominated and filled-in by the Executive Committee.

22. Chair of the Executive Committee shall be elected/nominated from among the six Executive Committee members [as in para 19 (i)], representing the Country Core Members, by the Country Core members present at the General Assembly.

23. The Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee shall be elected/nominated from among the six Executive Committee members [as in para 19 (i)], representing the Country Core Members, by the Country Core members present at the General Assembly.

24. The Chair, Vice-Chair and members of the Executive Committee shall hold the office for two years and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.

25. The Executive Secretary of APAARI shall be appointed according to Article XII, Paragraph 34.

26. The Executive Committee may co-opt as special invitee/member on the Executive Committee any such individual with specific expertise, skills and experience.

27. If any of the offices of the Chair or Vice-Chair becomes vacant for any reason, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall elect one of its own members to fill the vacancy.

28. If any seat of member of the Executive Committee falls vacant, such seat shall be filled-in by the Executive Committee in consultation with the member organization to which the original member belonged. Persons who become members of the Executive Committee under this provision will remain in office until the next biennial meeting of the General Assembly.

Article XI: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

29. The Executive Committee shall oversee the affairs of the Association in accordance with this Constitution and the policies and directives adopted/given by the General Assembly. The specific duties of the EC shall be as follows:

- i) The Executive Committee shall report to the General Assembly on the plans, programmes, progresses and the overall management and governance of the Association; and

- ii) Design and approve annual and biennial work plans, projects and collective actions of the Association; and
- iii) Review and report on the work progress and the performance of collective actions of the Association to the General Assembly; and
- iv) Design and develop corporate plan, policies, strategies, directives, rules of procedures, regulations and management standards for approval by the General Assembly; and
- v) Help design and endorse publications, income expenditure plan, status report of finances, annual audited financial statements, appointment of staff including the Executive Secretary, and any other matters closely relevant and concerning to the management and governance of the Association; and
- vi) Propose to the General Assembly the composition of the Executive Committee, formation of any special purpose committee(s), delegation of any required authority to the Executive Committee, and suggest any other powers/ duties of the General Assembly as conferred upon under this Constitution; and
- vii) As and if needed, design and propose amendments to the Constitution for enhancing the performance and effectiveness of APAARI.

30. The Executive Committee members shall participate in any special purpose committee (s), as formed from time to time, by the Executive Committee and/or General Assembly.

31. The Executive Committee members, as and when required, shall represent the Association at internal and external meetings, forums, events in fulfilling the objectives of the Association.

32. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice every year and such meetings shall be convened by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chair.

Article XII: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND SECRETARIAT

33. Secretariat of the Association shall be headed by the Executive Secretary.

34. The Executive Committee shall appoint the Executive Secretary, either on honorary or payment basis, for a tenure of maximum up to four years, renewable once based on performance assessment by the Executive Committee. The person appointed should have suitable qualification, experience and acknowledged leadership in agricultural research, innovation and development. He/she will be supported by an optimal number of technical and administrative staff in the Secretariat office.

Article XIII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

35. The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee; and represent, as and when required, the Association at internal and external meetings, forums, events in fulfilling the objectives of the Association.

36. The Vice-Chair shall perform all duties of the Chair in the absence of the latter, and such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Chair.

37. The Executive Secretary shall be the chief of the Secretariat of the Association and shall be responsible for the affairs of the Association. Under the general guidance of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly, the Executive Secretary shall perform the following duties:

- i) Plan and organize the General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings, prepare the proceedings, arrange their publication and distribution, follow up on decisions taken and matters arising, and maintain records of the reports and proceedings of all meetings of the Association; and
- ii) Prepare the Association's work plan and budget, monitor progress of activities, propose new projects/programmes in collaboration with national, regional and international organizations, and ensure coordination of activities among the members of the Association; and
- iii) Mobilize and manage the financial resources of APAARI, in particular, collect annual membership subscriptions and receive any other financial contributions, make payments/ utilize funds in accordance with approved budget, maintain full accounts, and submit audited accounts for endorsement to the Executive Committee/ General Assembly during their respective meetings; and
- iv) Oversee overall delivery on a) APAARI programmes/ projects, b) corporate plans, strategies and operational plans, c) partnership meetings/conferences/ dialogues/ training events/activities, d) human resource development and management, and e) corporate and public relationship; and
- v) Publish APAARI Newsletter, proceedings of conferences/ meetings consultations/ brainstorming sessions and other technical policy reports; and
- vi) Line manage all the staff of APAARI, conduct their annual appraisal, and ensure new recruitments or replacements as and when desired / approved by the Executive Committee; and

- vii) Undertake any additional duties as entrusted by the Executive Committee in pursuit of the Association's objectives.

Article XIV: RULES AND REGULATIONS

38. General rules of procedure, regulations and financial and necessary management standards shall be prepared/proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly.

39. Amendments to the rules, regulations and standards may be adopted by a simple majority vote at any meeting of the General Assembly.

Article XV: QUORUM

40. The quorum shall be fifty per cent (50%) of the members with voting right at any General Assembly meeting and fifty per cent (50%) of the Executive Committee members at any Executive Committee meeting.

Article XVI: AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

41. Amendment of the Constitution shall be considered only at a meeting of the General Assembly.

42. No proposal for the amendment of the Constitution shall be included in the agenda of any General Assembly meeting unless notice thereof has been dispatched by the Executive Secretary to members at least 60 days before the opening of the meeting.

43. Amendment of the Constitution shall only be considered by the General Assembly if such agenda and the content of the amendment are supported and have a prior approval of the Executive Committee by a simple majority of the votes.

44. The Association may amend this Constitution by a two-third majority of the votes cast, provided that such majority is more than half of the countries from which the country core membership of the Association is drawn.

Article XVII: DISSOLUTION

45. The Association can only be dissolved by a resolution approved at a General Assembly meeting. The procedure to be followed for the dissolution of the Association shall be the same as detailed in paragraphs 41 to 44 under Article XVI.

THE END

Annexure VIII C

A statement of corrections and modifications for further Refinements to the Amendments

In response to queries, comments and suggestions received from members of the General Assembly, a statement of corrections and modifications, for further refinement to the amendments, has been given below.

Query 1: Article V: Membership

Para 10. Table: The word “countries” is better be replaced by other words such as “countries/regions”, as the list contains obvious non-country region such as Guam. (Same in Para 11)

Response 1: As pointed out, there are non-country areas such as Guam (US Territory), and also some other territories are French Polynesia (French Territory), New Caledonia (French Territory), and Tokelau (New Zealand Territory) in the Asia-Pacific region. Therefore, the term “Countries/Territories” at necessary strategic places will be used as further refinement of the amended version.

Query 2: Para 10. Table: Can the change of naming of “Chinese Taipei” to “Taiwan” be a major obstacle for inviting Chinese (mainland) institutions? If not, sufficient explanation is needed.

Response 2: This is a matter of concern. APAARI is currently in dialogue with both the countries - mainland China and Taiwan – so as to try and resolve this issue amicably for both to be APAARI members as APAARI is an apolitical organization. However, this matter will be put up to the ECM on 21st December for further course of action to come to a logical conclusion.

Query 3: Para 10. Table: The remark on the voting right of Category IV better be removed. Or, the same remark should be added for Category III. (See Para 15)

Response 3: As the currently amended version has mentioned the voting right matter under Para 15, this remark on voting right will be removed for Category IV.

Query 4: Article VIII: General Assembly

Para 16. The term “the Chair” may cause some confusion. The definition of “the Chair” (the Chair of the Executive Committee) is better be specified somewhere.

Response 4: As the term “the Chair” is “the Chair of the Executive Committee”, and the Chair presides over the General Assembly Meetings, so it is essential to clarify and establish this understanding before the term “The Chair” is used first time in the context of presiding over the General Assembly Meeting. This will be reflected in Para 14 Article VIII as below.

Modified Para 14

14. The General Assembly shall meet at least once every two years. The General Assembly Meeting (GAM) shall be presided over the Chair of the Executive Committee.

Query 5: Article X: Executive Committee

Para 19. viii) and ix) How about the status (voting rights etc.) of these members at the Executive Committee, as they have no voting right at the General Assembly? (See also if Para 40 is adequate.)

Response 5: All members of the Executive Committee will have voting right in the Executive Committee meeting, irrespective of whether such member organization(s) have or have not voting right in the General Assembly meeting. This will be explicitly stated under Article X, Para 26. The modified Para 26 will be as follows.

Modified Para 26

26. The Executive Committee may co-opt as special invitee/member on the Executive Committee any such individual with specific expertise, skills and experience. While the nominated/elected representatives on the Executive Committee shall have voting right at the Executive Committee meeting, any special invitee/member on the Executive Committee shall not have voting right at the Executive Committee meeting.

Query.6: Para 27. This election process looks vague in comparison with the process in Para 22.

Response 6: Yes, it is a bit vague. The provision of para 27 is supposed to provide for managing the short-run situation while the EC meeting is under preparation or going-on. So the reworded Para 27 will be as follows. The Para 28 will also be reworded as below to make it applicable to the replacement of seats of the Chair and the Vice-Chair.

Modified Para 27

27. If for any reason, any of the Chair or the Vice-Chair or both of them are not available for the planned or on-going EC meeting, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall nominate/ elect one or two of its own members to preside over the meeting as Chair and Vice-Chair.

Modified Para 28

28. If any seat of member, including that of the Chair or the Vice-Chair, of the Executive Committee falls vacant, such seat shall be filled-in by the Executive Committee in consultation with the member organization to which the original representative belonged. Persons who become members of the Executive Committee under this provision will remain in office until the next biennial meeting of the General Assembly.

Query 7: Article XIII: Duties of Officers

Para 37. i) Change “natters” to “matters”

Response 7: The typo-graphical error will be corrected as “matters” under Para 37. (i).

Annexure IX – Agenda 9



Agenda 9

DEVELOPMENT OF KEY STRATEGIES:

**STAKEHOLDER MAPPING, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT,
RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP STRATEGY
FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

A. STAKEHOLDER MAPPING STRATEGY

Sub: APAARI Stakeholder Mapping: Strategic Considerations and Guiding Principles for Management and Mobilization of APAARI Membership

D. PURPOSE

E. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

F. RECOMMENDATIONS

Annexure: Stakeholder Mapping Tool (Excel Sheet)

B. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Sub: APAARI Stakeholder Mapping: Strategic Considerations and Guiding Principles for Management and Mobilization of APAARI Membership

A. PURPOSE

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

Annexure IX contd.

APAARI Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy 2017-2022

Making agri-food systems more knowledge intensive

Contents

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Executive Summary ***to be prepared once the main text is finalized***

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What is Knowledge Management?

Knowledge Management and Agri-food Systems

Why does APAARI need a Knowledge Management Strategy?

APAARI's Knowledge Management Strategies

Methodology

SWOT Analysis

Knowledge Management Approach

Target Audience

Communication and Outreach

Measuring Progress

Conclusion

Appendix 1: Work Plan for 2017-2018 and Performance Framework

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
AFRIS	Agri-food research and innovation systems
AFS	Agri-food systems
AIRCA	Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture
AIS	Agricultural Innovation Systems
ANH	APAARI Network Highlights
APAARI	Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
APARIS	Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Information System
AR4D	Agricultural research for development
ASTI	Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators
CD	Capacity development
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
COA	Council of Agriculture
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FO	Farmers' organization
ICT	Information and communication technologies
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
KM	Knowledge management
NARIs	National agricultural research institutes
NAROs	National agricultural research organizations
NARS	National agricultural research system
NGO	Non-governmental organization
SWOT	Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
TAP	Tropical Agricultural Platform
UN	United Nations
WTO	World Trade Center

Introduction

The overarching goal of the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), as stated in its Vision 2030 is: “The Asia-Pacific region that benefits from and values APAARI’s leadership and contribution to developing agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems”. Knowledge management (KM), that integrates communication and outreach, is at the heart of APAARI’s operations given the Association’s important role as a regional forum for knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration. Its KM programme, combined with partnership and networking, capacity development, and advocacy, is the key contributor to strengthening of agri-food research and innovation systems (AFRIS), to ultimately benefit agri-food systems (AFS) and contribute to sustainable development.

Recognizing the role of communication for APAARI’s success, in 2010 the Association published a Communication Strategy (2010-2015) to raise the profile of APAARI as the lead organization in agricultural research for development (AR4D) in the Asia-Pacific region. This was to be accomplished through communicating results and other information to influence stakeholders and thereby improve efficiency of ARD in the region. The Strategy was implemented under APAARI’s Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS) that served as a platform for information sharing and strengthening of information systems through advocacy and capacity building in information and communication technologies (ICTs) for AR4D. In November 2017, it was decided that APARIS becomes integrated within APAARI’s main KM programme. From 2010 to 2015, the Communication Strategy guided APAARI and its APARIS programme in increasing access to ARD information and activities; promoting participation, contribution and collaboration of stakeholders in APAARI programmes; and harnessing communication channels and ICTs.

In 2016, APAARI assessed the changing development needs of the region. Due to a significant socio-economic transformation that increased the region’s importance in the world economy, Asia and the Pacific now faces new challenges of ensuring efficient use of natural resources, reducing and eliminating hunger and extreme poverty, improving rural livelihoods and socio-economic wellbeing, enhancing resilience of people and ecosystems to climate change and market volatility, as well as ensuring good governance, policies and financing framework.

The contribution of knowledge and innovation to addressing these challenges, whether technical or process-oriented, has played a central role in the progress achieved to date. However, the changing context calls for even greater efforts to advance knowledge and improve the efficiency of its use to be beneficial for agri-food systems. This includes knowledge for researchers and scientists to find solutions in the field, policy and decision makers to design and implement improved policies, small farmers and small entrepreneurs in rural areas to improve their know-how that raises productivity, and consumers to make healthy choices about the food they consume.

Looking to adapt its strategy in the face of these changing needs of the region the APAARI Strategic Framework (2017-2022) was developed in 2016 and includes KM as one of APAARI’s key programme areas. KM is also an overarching strategy of APAARI that integrates communication, ICT, partnership and networking, capacity development and advocacy. By addressing these aspects, APAARI’s thematic areas are being addressed as follows: mobilization, management and use of natural resources for sustainability of agri-food systems; management of risks and uncertainties in agri-food systems; inclusive development and integration of value chains targeted at benefiting smallholders; and analysis, strengthening and formulation of public policy to support the transformation and development of agri-food systems. The KM programme is also

addressing APAARI's cross-cutting areas, including women and youth, and foresight and visioning. Finally, KM processes are helping to improve APAARI's governance and development. The two strategic objectives of the APAARI KM Programme, as stated in the Strategic Plan 2017-2022, are to: (i) make agri-food systems (AFS) more knowledge intensive to effectively contribute to sustainable agricultural development; and (ii) strengthen AFRIS through more effective knowledge management. Communication that is now considered by APAARI an important part of KM, plays a vital role in sharing information with key stakeholders. This KM and Communication Strategy: (i) defines the term 'knowledge management'; (ii) puts KM in the context of agri-food systems; (iii) explains the rationale for APAARI's KM and Communication Strategy; (iv) outlines APAARI's key and specific strategies as per the Strategic Plan (SP) 2017-2022; (v) explains the methodology used to design this Strategy; (vi) presents 'Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)' analysis, based on which; (vii) recommends a KM and communication approach and processes to support in line with the SP 2017-2022; (viii) assesses target audience; (ix) specifies communication and outreach activities; (x) suggests the way to measure KM and communication progress; (xi) and presents KM and Communication plan and performance framework.

What is Knowledge Management?

The term knowledge management (KM) refers to a broad collection of organizational practices and approaches related to generating, capturing and disseminating know-how and other content relevant to the organization's business¹. KM in its broadest sense also encompasses 'tacit knowledge', the undocumented knowledge that is part of experience. Some practitioners prefer to speak of 'knowledge sharing', thereby stressing the connections among people over collecting information². The overarching definition of KM commonly used in the United Nations (UN) system as a whole is: "an integrated, systematic approach to identifying, managing and sharing an organization's knowledge, and enabling groups of people to create new knowledge collectively in order to achieve the objectives of the organization."³ The UN Development Programme defines KM in the development context as "the creation, organisation, sharing and use of knowledge for development results."⁴ Communication underpins knowledge management. It is the "process through which relationships are instituted, sustained, alterned, or ended by increases or reduction in meaning; purposeful activity of conveying data, information and knowledge across time and space."⁵

Knowledge Management and Agri-food Systems

Agriculture and agri-food systems rely heavily on access to large quantum of scientific and technological knowledge to support various processes, such as technology generation, adaptation and knowledge transfer, needed for strengthening of these systems. Effective communication plays an important role in facilitating these processes as it helps disseminate the information and knowledge needed to achieve greater impact. The dynamic and changing context of the Asia-Pacific region therefore calls for a stronger knowledge base and more effective communication to better support decision making processes and efficiency in the transformation and development of

¹ What is KM? - A background document to the World Development Report, World Bank, October, 1998

² Learning from KM Experiences, UNICEF, 2008 http://www.unicef.org/rosa/Learning_from_KM_Experiences.pdf

³ United Nations System Staff College, <http://www.unssc.org/web1>

⁴ KM Discussion Note for UN Regional Co-ordination Meeting, Bangkok, 7 Dec 2006

⁵ Communication Tools for Knowledge Management and Learning, Asian Development Bank, 2013, <https://www.slideshare.net/Celcius233/communication-tools-for-knowledge-management-and-learning>

agri-food systems, and ultimately socio-economic progress towards sustainable agricultural development.

Knowledge sharing and learning processes and tools, data and information management, effective communication, supportive infrastructure, as well as capacity development, advocacy, stakeholder engagement, partnerships and networking that is focused on knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration, are critical KM pillars to achieve more knowledge intensive agri-food research and innovation systems to help solve complex problems. These pillars help ensure that:

- i) Scaling up and out of successful agricultural practices and innovations accelerates and reaches small producers and their agricultural businesses.
- ii) Strong knowledge based on evidence and effective sharing of this knowledge attracts investments in key areas of agri-food research and innovation systems faster.
- iii) Effective communication helps build trust that empowers policy/decision makers to design improved policies, and other stakeholders to take collective action.
- iv) Avoiding duplication of efforts speeds up learning and knowledge transfer to benefit the society.

Why does APAARI need a Knowledge Management Strategy?

For APAARI being a regional platform and broker of knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration within its network of members, partners and stakeholders working in the agri-food research and innovation system in the Asia-Pacific region, KM is its overarching strategy supporting the effectiveness of all its strategic thematic areas, programmes and activities. These thematic areas are:

- Mobilization, management and use of natural resources for sustainability of agri-food systems
- Management of risks and uncertainties in agri-food systems
- Inclusive development and integration of value chains targeted at benefiting smallholders
- Analysis, strengthening and formulation of public policy to support the transformation and development of agri-food systems
- APAARI governance

The programme areas that define APAARI's core operations and value added are:

- Knowledge management
- Partnership and networking
- Capacity development
- Advocacy

In addition to these components, the Strategy considers inclusion of women and youth as a cross-cutting area, together with foresight and visioning, as well as improving APAARI governance and development. Communication, as an important part of KM, is embedded in the strategies. This is to support continuous dialogue and knowledge/information exchange with APAARI stakeholders, and raise the profile of agri-food research and innovation activities conducted within the APAARI community and beyond.

APAARI's Knowledge Management Strategies

As per the Strategic Plan 2017-2022, APAARI intends to contribute to the strengthening of agri-food research and innovation systems and the overall agri-food system through the following KM strategies shown in Table 1:

Table 1. Knowledge management

Key Strategy 1.1 AFS made more knowledge intensive to effectively contribute to sustainable agricultural development	
Specific strategies	Indicative activities
1.1.1 Promote processes for knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration between primary stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate face-to-face interactions • Facilitate participation of primary stakeholders in regional and global events • Share timely information on learning opportunities among primary stakeholders
1.1.2 Promote tools for enhanced knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revamp the APAARI website and social media tools by updating and organizing content • Create new tools for knowledge sharing, learning and communication e.g. online discussions • Link with knowledge tools of members and partners to enable increased outreach
1.1.3 Promote innovative ways to use Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in AFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share solutions and experiences in using ICT in agri-food systems for faster scaling up e.g. through workshops, meetings, policy dialogue and online tools • Facilitate participation of primary stakeholders in ICT-related activities (including e-agriculture)
Key Strategy 1.2 AFRIS strengthened through more effective knowledge management	
Specific strategies	Indicative activities
1.2.1 Enhance knowledge sharing and engagement to enable faster technology, innovation and policy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate face-to-face and on-line meetings for knowledge sharing and engagement • Make knowledge-sharing and learning processes more interactive and learning oriented • Facilitate engagement between farmers, scientists and policymakers to enrich policy debate • Host multi-stakeholder consultations on technology and innovation
1.2.2 Develop skills and capacity of stakeholders in knowledge management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train and mentor primary stakeholders on the use of social media
1.2.3 Improve scientific data management to make it available for analysis and knowledge creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support projects that improve data collection for research, compilation, management, analysis, evaluation and application e.g. Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) Project • Improve APAARI publication quality, relevance, packaging and outreach

Methodology

This Strategy uses a methodology based on a desk review and the stakeholder mapping exercise, as well as a situation analysis – strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT). The methodology helps outline effective KM and communication processes to support APAARI's core programmes, including partnership and networking, capacity development, and advocacy.

SWOT Analysis

A SWOT analysis was conducted to recommend KM and communication processes that address APAARI weaknesses and threats, and capitalize on the strengths and opportunities.

Strengths:

- APAARI is a well-established and known regional organization promoting knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration to strengthen agri-food research and innovation in the Asia and the Pacific region.
- APAARI possesses strong links and partnerships with national agricultural research systems (NARS), and with other national, regional and global stakeholders.
- APAARI's importance in the region allows to mobilize policy/decision makers and other stakeholders, and facilitate opportunities for discussion, knowledge exchange and policy dialogue on critical thematic issues impacting agri-food systems.
- APAARI's established connections with primary stakeholders enable the Association to maximize synergies and facilitate partnerships for collective actions.
- APAARI brings national issues facing agri-food systems to the regional and global agenda.
- APAARI supports networking to provide technical assistance on good practices and harmonization of policies at the regional and global level.
- APAARI gives voice to non-governmental organizations (NGOs), farmer organizations (FOs), and women and youth in policy dialogue and expert consultations.
- APAARI links with other regional agricultural research networks to optimize knowledge sharing among its members, partners and other stakeholders.
- APAARI maintains good relations with and support of its key donors, including the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Council of Agriculture (COA) in Taiwan, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- APAARI's Knowledge Management Programme is the key to the Association's operations.
- APAARI's six-monthly Newsletter and bi-monthly APAARI Network Highlights (ANH) enjoys rich content received by members, partners, potential members and partners, as well as other stakeholders. Its outreach is based on global access through the APAARI website, and distribution of a limited number of hard copies.
- APAARI recruited two staff working on KM, which includes competency in providing technical ICT support, communications, and capacity building.
- APAARI designed a new website that provides organized and enriched content, ensures user-friendliness, and integrates resources of members and partners.
- APAARI's active presence on Social Media enjoys increasing number of followers and references.

Weaknesses

- The format of face-to-face events is still limited to PowerPoint presentations without active engagement through various KM methodologies.
- Lack of systematic evaluations following APAARI-supported events means there is an absence of an objective base for future event improvement.
- Lack of publication guidance and management prevents APAARI from keeping track of stored publications and their dissemination, and from determining the number of printed copies for new publications.
- The branding of communication materials has been established but is yet to be reinforced through publication guidelines.
- Ad-hoc communication lacks appropriate targeting of specific audiences and systematic information packaging, which means that it is not responding to the information needs of members, partners and other stakeholders.
- Lack of monitoring and evaluation of APAARI's KM and communication activities makes it difficult for APAARI to demonstrate results.
- The APAARI Newsletter is very lengthy, outdated in format, and requires revamping in terms of length, content, frequency, and means of distribution (online rather than print).
- Absence of APAARI information/advocacy toolkit to improve the visibility of the Association means that only the APAARI flyer is used for this purpose.
- An appropriate contact management system to keep contacts updated and better target the dissemination of APAARI's communication products is missing.

Opportunities

- In the context of the growing need for increased investment in agri-food research and innovation, APAARI's KM and advocacy role in the region will be more important than ever.
- The rigidity and conservativeness of NARS present an opportunity for APAARI to lead the KM reform in the region.
- Increased interconnections between member countries combatting challenges that require collective actions, e.g. cross-border trade or climate change, present an opportunity for APAARI to facilitate knowledge partnerships and encourage South-South Cooperation.
- Social Media tools provide a fast access to timely information and communication, and their use needs to be optimized.
- Given the diversity of its stakeholders, APAARI has an opportunity to share knowledge and information in a variety of forms and content with appropriately targeted audience.

Threats

- KM efforts especially conducted within more conservative systems/countries might be seen as a burden by some stakeholders, which might affect their engagement in the collective action.
- The good relationship and collaboration with partners might be affected as a result of ineffective KM and communication of APAARI.
- Absence of a well-maintained contact database could lead to the loss of important contacts and outdated information.
- Knowledge and information needs and preferences of stakeholders are continuously changing and there is a risk that in the absence of targeted information their interest in APAARI will diminish.

- Frequent staff turnover in APAARI might affect the implementation of KM and communication activities.

Knowledge Management Approach

APAARI strives to use improved KM as a process through which its members, partners and other key stakeholders generate value from their intellectual and knowledge assets, and use it to strengthen agri-food research and innovation in Asia and the Pacific. To get most benefit from these assets, knowledge must be shared and provide the foundation for agri-food innovation, improvement of organizational and institutional processes, strategic decision/policy making, effective stakeholder relationships, and results on the ground. Through collective actions, APAARI has a critical role in integrating this knowledge from various sources and sharing it with those who need it in their contribution to strengthened agri-food systems. Through knowledge and information sharing, APAARI promotes good agricultural practices and success stories, supports scaling up and out of agricultural innovation, and informs strategic investments and policies for sustainable transformation of agriculture and AFS.

The Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy will guide APAARI in enhancing the effectiveness and efficiencies of knowledge to help address and solve complex problems in the process of transformation of agri-food systems, in the context of its thematic areas of focus. The KM and Communication strategy aims to guide APAARI processes, including:

1. **Creating knowledge:** Strengthening knowledge creation through collection and processing of improved data, information management, and analysis.
2. **Knowledge sharing:** Strengthening knowledge sharing among APAARI stakeholders by facilitating engagement, collaboration, learning and exchange.
3. **Developing capacity:** Developing skills and capacities of APAARI stakeholders in the area of KM and communication, and using improved KM processes to facilitate the development of technical and soft (“functional”) capacities.
4. **Communicating results:** Using communication strategically and systematically to reach and engage current and potential stakeholders at the national, regional and global levels, optimize the use of research and innovations, and advocate for greater investments in agri-food research and innovation.
5. **Policy advocacy:** Disseminating knowledge to share science-based evidence to influence policy/decision makers.
6. **Mobilizing resources:** Managing the development, maintenance and sharing of knowledge and intelligence to ensure APAARI is informed and positioned to effectively generate and harness opportunities to meet its resource mobilization goals.
7. **Publishing** – Capturing and disseminating research products and outputs of APAARI members and partners, and sharing their and joint publications.
8. **Development and harmonization of KM processes for members** – On a demand basis, APAARI helps member institutions develop tailored KM models to improve efficiency and effectiveness of their existing business processes.

The Strategy suggests making use of various KM processes to support APAARI’s operations and especially address the weaknesses to improve APAARI’s performance. These processes are as follows:

Knowledge-sharing and learning

- Knowledge-sharing and learning processes need to be strengthened to make agri-food research and innovation systems more knowledge intensive. This will be done through

more interactive, participatory and engaging face-to-face meetings, such as policy dialogue, expert consultations and capacity development workshops. Various engaging KM processes will be built into meeting design to encourage learning, thinking out of the box, fruitful knowledge exchange, and thereby making these meetings more productive and outcome-oriented. Social reporting will be an integral part of APAARI-supported meetings to feed into meeting documentation. Systematic meeting evaluations will be introduced to monitor the meeting quality, effectiveness, and knowledge acquired by participants. This information will be used to improve future meetings and assess participants' learning from the meeting. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of APAARI's KM activities will also be implemented as part of its biennial operational planning, in order to enable a timely identification of KM issues, recommendations, and adjustment of processes to deliver results.

Knowledge-sharing and communication tools

- Using printed and online knowledge-sharing and communication tools to disseminate research and innovations in a way that engage different audiences will be encouraged. The six-monthly APAARI Newsletter is the main communication tool of the Association, which will be improved by shortening and editing of its content. The number of printed copies and shipping will be reduced to save cost. The bi-monthly APAARI Network Highlights (ANH), which is solely an online product sharing links to latest Network news, upcoming events, latest publications, opportunities and success stories, will be developed more systematically with its content also being shared through the APAARI Social Media. Social Media tools, such as Facebook, Twitter and Linked In, will be used as a two-way communication channel with primary stakeholders to: (i) promote their research products and stories; (ii) attract new members and other stakeholders; (iii) enable APAARI stakeholders to comment on the content and enable discussions, hence build relationship with these stakeholders; and (iv) communicate with APAARI stakeholders quickly and on topical issues related to agri-food research and innovations. PowerPoint presentations from meetings will be shared through Slideshare. Multimedia, including videos, audio recordings and images, will be used on the Social Media and will be integrated into the new website to better support the dissemination of research outputs, innovations, good practices and lessons learned. The Blog will be used to report on APAARI-supported events in the "real time", complemented by Facebook and Twitter that will share the links to these Blog posts for a wider outreach. APAARI will facilitate the development of new KM products – op-eds on thematic issues –written by experts from among member and partner organizations, to be disseminated through the APAARI Blog, and policy briefs to provide evidence that would inform policy dialogue.

Knowledge-sharing and learning infrastructure

- Developing a more supportive knowledge-sharing and learning infrastructure to speed up the dissemination of information and knowledge is another area of needed focus. The management of the new APAARI website in terms of its content, organization and user-friendliness, as well as the introduction of interactive features to encourage two-way communication, will turn the APAARI website into a KM tool for online engagement, outreach and public communication. APAARI Social Media will be integrated into the website. A contact management system will be developed to enable APAARI to easily store and find contact information, and use targeted contact lists to disseminate various communication products.

Innovative knowledge partnerships

- Fostering innovative partnerships for broader knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration will speed up adoption and scaling up of agricultural innovations through collective actions. This will be done through facilitating knowledge partnerships with partner organizations such as FAO, ACIAR and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and others. With FAO, APAARI will continue co-organizing E-Agriculture Solutions Forum and documenting case studies on the topic. It will also be promoting the Common Framework on Capacity Development (CD) for Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) developed through the Tropical Agricultural Platform (TAP) and focused on the development of soft skills (“functional capacities”). In particular, APAARI will be promoting the Framework among NARS and the higher education sector for its integration in the university curricula, and organize webinars to promote the use of the TAPipedia information sharing system. Through collaboration with ACIAR and IFPRI, it will help coordinate agricultural data collection on the levels of investment in agri-food research and innovations systems, as well as data compilation and dissemination. With COA Taiwan, the knowledge partnership will focus on emerging issues in biotechnology and bioresources, as well as documenting lessons learned and success stories on these areas. APAARI will also work with the World Trade Center (WTO) to develop its knowledge hubs in the Asia-Pacific region. Working with partners, who are monitoring the implementation of the Paris commitment to mitigate the effects of climate change will be another area for working in partnership to disseminate knowledge.

Capacity development

- Developing institutional, organizational and individual knowledge and skills to fill capacity gaps in management and delivery of knowledge on agri-food research and innovations will be another area where APAARI will direct its KM efforts. Capacity development activities will focus on building competencies and skills particularly in: (i) the use of Social Media for development advocacy; (ii) collection, processing and dissemination of data; (iii) processing research findings into information usable by development practitioners; (iv) development of policy briefs and technology factsheets; (v) CD for AIS and transformational learning in the higher education sector; as well as (v) other substantive technical and functional areas targeting agricultural researchers/scientists, policy-decision makers, university staff, NGOs, FOs, and women and youth organizations. APAARI will also need to build its own capacity in optimizing the use of Social Media to better perform its advocacy role, and learn from other KM platforms how to make stories of agricultural research more attractive and improve its KM processes, thereby making its KM products and system more effective.

Management of knowledge-sharing and communication products

- APAARI will prepare a publication catalogue to keep track of its publications. It will also develop publications guidelines that will: (i) guide the printing and dissemination of these communication products; (ii) establish formal branding of APAARI communication material to promote APAARI’s recognition through improved consistency and identity, to help attract new members and other stakeholders to contribute to collective actions, and to add value to the Association through reinforced messages; (iii) provide directions on integrating knowledge repositories of members and partners with the APAARI tools. APAARI will also design a communication toolkit using its branding, which will contain APAARI key communication products to support its interactions with (new) stakeholders

and improve its visibility. Based on scientific/research evidence generated by APAARI, in collaboration with its members and partners, APAARI will develop a coherent approach to publications at the regional level. APAARI's biennial operational plans will include plans for every new publication, providing clear objectives and funding arrangements.

Resource mobilization

- Effective KM will help strengthen APAARI's reputation amongst members, partners and other key stakeholders, such as donors, to enhance its resource mobilization efforts and shape future partnership. Strengthening APAARI's reputation will particularly be done through its website and other communication products, key knowledge-sharing and capacity development events, and re-engagement with local and regional media. Focusing on results, APAARI will ensure the evidence and learning from its activities are documented to be used in donor engagement and funding proposals to demonstrate its institutional capacity. Improved funding as a result of effective KM, will contribute to enhancement and sustainability of APAARI's knowledge and learning activities.

Knowledge-sharing and learning culture

- By integrating the above-mentioned processes into its operations, APAARI will be systematically promoting and contributing to a supportive knowledge-sharing and learning culture in AFRIS that will ultimately benefit the AFS. To create a knowledge-sharing culture APAARI will be encouraging its members, partners and stakeholders to work together more effectively, to collaborate and to share information and knowledge – ultimately to make their organizational/institutional knowledge more productive. The Community of Practice of KM and Communication Officers from member and partner organizations will be enforced through regular online discussions, and will help facilitate the transformation to a learning culture in theirs and partner organizations in the region. Improved KM will be the means to meeting stakeholders' objectives and APAARI's strategic objectives, and to realize the APAARI Vision of strengthening research and innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region through collective actions.

Inclusion of women and youth

- APAARI will also promote engagement of women and youth in productive activities. It will involve more women and youth in its key events and analytical work, facilitate their participation and engagement in other regional and global events of partners, document and share success stories on value adding activities that are attracting women and youth, promote their engagement particularly through Social Media, and include them in APAARI's governance processes. The Association will also identify gender champions in key areas of AFRIS in the Asia-Pacific region, and facilitate their capacity development in these areas. APAARI's inclusiveness is envisioned to potentially attract more funding from donors.

A performance framework will measure progress in meeting the objectives of the Strategy and the use of these key KM and communication processes. APAARI's KM team based in the APAARI Secretariat, Bangkok, Thailand, will lead the implementation of the Strategy, in collaboration with members, partners and other stakeholders.

Target Audience

Using the combined approach of an online survey, website research and interviews, APAARI conducted a stakeholders' mapping exercise to identify and monitor APAARI's members, partners and other stakeholders, recommend ways to engage with them, and better target APAARI's communication to specific audiences based on their information needs. They were mapped according to their relationship with APAARI, unique facts, potential contribution to the collective actions of strengthening AFRIS, and matched with the value-adding potential of APAARI. These stakeholders – target audience – include:

- national agricultural research institutes (NARIs)
- national agricultural research organizations (NAROs)
- policy bodies
- global fora
- regional and sub-regional organizations
- higher education institutions
- international agricultural research centres – those under the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and the Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA)
- international development organizations, including the UN
- civil society – NGOs and FOs
- women and youth organizations, and
- the private sector.

APAARI recognizes three types of stakeholders that include the above-mentioned organizational categories:

- **Primary stakeholders** are those that are directly affected by APAARI's activities. These are APAARI members and key partners: (i) both 'providers' and 'recipients' of knowledge, (ii) beneficiaries of learning, knowledge sharing, capacity development, and (iii) 'multipliers' in knowledge transfer.
- **Secondary stakeholders** are other 'intermediary' organizations that are indirectly affected by APAARI's activities. These include organizations that access APAARI-promoted information through the APAARI website and other communication tools, and participate in activities of APAARI members and partners.
- **Key stakeholders** include those who have significant influence or importance in project or entity and who can also belong to the first two groups. These include current members and partners, as well as potential partners, such as donors.

Each stakeholder requires a separate strategy to mobilize their contribution to the collective action of APAARI. A power/interest grid was used to classify primary stakeholders according to their influence over AFRIS (power) and by their interest in the collective action of APAARI. Figure 1 below shows the results. Other, secondary stakeholders (those less interested in APAARI's collective action, have been placed in the left part of the grid.

Figure 1: APAARI Stakeholders – Power/Interest Grid (as of December 2017)

The stakeholders' position on the grid suggests what actions must be undertaken towards each of them:

High influence, high interest:
These are the stakeholders APAARI must fully engage with, and make the greatest efforts to satisfy. They need to be informed and consulted about all APAARI activities. In addition to sending them regular newsletters and ANH, they need to receive specific information by e-mail and be invited to APAARI-

- (i) supported events.
- (ii) High influence, low interest: These are the stakeholders APAARI must put enough work in to keep them satisfied, but not so much that they become bored or annoyed. APAARI newsletters and ANH should be the targeted communication for this group. Efforts must be made to include this group as followers on APAARI Social Media and invite them to APAARI-supported events to raise their interest in the Association.
- (iii) Low influence, high interest: These are the stakeholders that APAARI needs to keep adequately informed, and talk to them regularly. These can often be very helpful with activities and/or projects. By including them in APAARI capacity development activities, the Association will contribute to raising their influence within AFRIS.
- (iv) Low influence, low interest: These stakeholders need to be monitored with minimum effort, but APAARI needs to avoid boring them with excessive communication. APAARI newsletters and ANH should be targeted communication for this group.

The colours of different stakeholders on the grid indicate 'leading' stakeholders (blue) – those in the leading role of APAARI's Executive Committee; 'supportive' (green) – those that have demonstrated active support to APAARI over the last three years; 'neutral' (yellow) – those that have participated in APAARI's events but remained neutral in the collective actions; 'cautious' – those that have not paid APAARI's membership fee for the last two years, nor participated in APAARI events; 'resistant' – those that have not paid the membership fee for more than two years and/or communicated their withdrawal from APAARI.

The stakeholder mapping will be APAARI's key tool that will be updated in a shared document system to allow all APAARI staff to add and assess new stakeholders that have potential to become APAARI's members or partners. It will also serve to categorize these stakeholders to determine the level of communication and engagement based on their interest in APAARI and influence over AFRIS.

Communication and Outreach

Importance of targeted communication

Communication and outreach play a vital role in supporting the implementation of APAARI's KM activities in the Asia-Pacific region to effectively communicate the activities and services of its members, partners and other stakeholders in ways that enhance the Association's role, strengthen its partnerships, provide access to reliable and cohesive information and knowledge, increase its resources, and enhance its impact in strengthening research and innovation systems in the region. APAARI recognizes that communication is a two-way process rooted in the principles of ownership, participation and voice. APAARI's communication efforts will therefore go into targeting right information for right users, at right time and through right channels. Efforts will also be made to encourage communication and networking among APAARI members, partners and other stakeholders. To this end, APAARI will need to produce regular information and communication materials targeting its members, partners and other stakeholders, to keep them informed about activities and knowledge outputs generated by the APAARI Community. The ICTs offer new opportunities and will facilitate this process.

In line with its Strategic Plan, APAARI's communication efforts will focus on: developing the APAARI website into a KM tool; preparing materials that use scientific/research evidence, such as policy briefs, fact sheets, success stories on CD for AIS, e-agriculture and women and youth in agriculture, and thematic publications; using Social Media for advocacy, knowledge sharing, and dissemination of op-eds; as well as disseminating regular APAARI Newsletter and ANH.

The targeted communication efforts by APAARI will be based on the stakeholder mapping and analysis, which will determine what communication channels and/or tools will be used for which group of stakeholders. This includes NARIs, NAROs, policy bodies, global fora, regional and sub-regional organizations, higher education, CGIAR and AIRCA, international development organizations, civil society – NGOs and FOs, women and youth organizations, and the private sector. For example, key policy/decision makers and influential stakeholders will receive communication to encourage them to develop improved policies to benefit the agri-food system. Such communication materials will empower them to promote the development of agri-food research and innovation systems and contribute to a more sustainable region. Information and communication materials will also be produced to strengthen the capacity of APAARI members and partners to influence policy makers.

Communication channels

APAARI Website

The APAARI website has been the Association's key information tool since its establishment in 1990. To keep abreast with technology trends, it is important to ensure that the website's infrastructure is up-to-date and user-friendly to enable easy and immediate access to information and knowledge on agri-food research and innovations. The assessment of the APAARI website conducted in January 2016 identified key issues and made recommendations that led to the development of a new APAARI website in 2017. The new website is based on Wordpress mobile-friendly content-management software, with new design and re-organized content. Two-way communication through the integration of Social Media needs to be promoted.

APAARI Newsletter

In addition to the APAARI website, **APAARI newsletter** has been used as the main communication tool sharing activities, events and news of APAARI's members and partners, reaching out to stakeholders through global access (e-mail and website), as well as a limited number of printed copies. The content is based on a regular call for inputs that are received from APAARI members and partners. The newsletter will continue to be published in June and December every year. Due to its length, the focus will be on electronic dissemination using the Constant Contact software linked to the APAARI website, with limited printed copies to be disseminated in meetings.

APAARI Network Highlights (ANH)

An online communication tool published bi-monthly aims to highlight, promote and share the latest news from among the APAARI network. It is based on a short editorial and links under headlines such as news and announcements, upcoming events and opportunities, latest publications and stories. The content that has been researched by APAARI KM staff will increasingly be sent by the primary stakeholders through a call for contributions.

Success stories

APAARI will continue publishing success stories to showcase the diverse efforts in agricultural research and innovations, and demonstrate the variety of good practices, technologies and lessons learned to help speed up their replication. These stories will be thematic and will be prepared in collaboration with members and partners. They will include, for example, stories on CD for AIS, e-agriculture, and women and youth in agriculture.

Status reports

APAARI Country Status Reports will be produced on various issues faced by the agri-food research and innovations systems to keep track of the development and progress in the respective areas. These reports will be related to, for example, the level and scope of investment in agri-food research and innovations, the use of and trends in ICT, and other thematic areas of concern. They will be linked to thematic events supported by APAARI.

Progress reports

Progress reports will be prepared every six months to monitor the progress of APAARI-supported activities. While the six-monthly report will be an informal document served mostly to keep track of projects and activities of the Association, annual (progress) reports will become more comprehensive and serve as a formal document (publication) to be shared with key stakeholders to be available online and in hard copy.

Technology factsheets

Technology fact sheets will be developed in collaboration with interested APAARI members and partners to document existing agricultural technologies that are sustainable and suitable to small-farmers in Asia and the Pacific region.

Policy briefs

Evidence-based policy briefs that APAARI will develop jointly with partners, will bring together local, regional and global evidence to inform policy dialogue on matters of strategic importance. These policy briefs will describe a policy problem, then summarize the best available evidence to clarify the size and nature of the problem faced by agri-food research and innovation systems, describe the likely impacts of key options for addressing the problem, and inform considerations about potential barriers to implementing the options and strategies for addressing these barriers. An example of such a policy brief will be one on increasing and improving investments in agri-

food research and innovation systems that will be developed through the Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) project.

Thematic guidelines

Thematic guidelines that will be developed jointly with partners will provide technical and policy guidance to key priority thematic areas of APAARI: (i) Mobilization, management and use of natural resources for sustainability of AFS; (ii) Management of risks and uncertainties in the AFS; (iii) Inclusive development and integration of value chains targeted at benefiting smallholders; and (iv) Analysis, strengthening and formulation of public policies and overarching regulatory frameworks to support the transformation and development of AFS.

Proceedings of meetings

The diverse meetings that APAARI supports, such as expert consultations, policy dialogue, capacity development workshops and seminars, will be documented in meeting proceedings, with printed copies to be sent to each participant. In addition to the highlights of the proceedings, they will also offer reflections on the discussed topics, substantive synthesis of the outcomes, and a standard meeting evaluation in an agreed format that will serve as a basis for improving future events.

Social Media

APAARI is using Facebook, Twitter, Blog, Flickr, Linked In and Slideshare, to channel its advocacy and outreach efforts. Facebook and Twitter have been particularly effective in advocating for the important role that AFRIS is playing in socio-economic development and promoting agricultural research and innovations of APAARI members and partners. APAARI will continue using and enriching these tools by sharing knowledge generated by its members and partners, promoting existing stories, connecting with new stakeholders and sharing highlights of APAARI-supported activities. Linked In will also be used to share knowledge and information generated by members, partners and other stakeholders, reaching out to those stakeholders who are not using the other Social Media tools. Linked In will also be used to disseminate vacancy announcements to reach out to and attract a wider professional community, as well as to facilitate online discussions. Slideshare will be used to share presentations from APAARI-supported policy dialogue, expert consultations and capacity development programmes, to enable its stakeholders to access these materials in an easy and timely manner. The APAARI Blog will be promoted among APAARI members and partners who will be invited to share articles, op-eds and comments. Flickr will be reorganized and updated with new photos to enhance its content.

Other communication tools

To support its communication and advocacy efforts, APAARI will also use two types of flyers to inform its stakeholders: (i) generally about what APAARI is; and (ii) provide information on membership and how to become a member. A USB bracelet with APAARI's resources will be distributed to meeting participants, and various posters – About APAARI, and activity posters – will be demonstrated at these events. Finally, APAARI will also use its folder developed in 2017 that has been designed as a communication toolkit reflecting APAARI's new branding. It will contain the key communication products of the Association to support its interactions with new and potential stakeholders (especially donors), and improve its visibility.

Measuring Progress

Indicators of progress in meeting the objectives of the Strategy will be quantitative and qualitative. The biennial operational plan for 2017-2018, as well as a performance framework indicating how the inputs (activities) meet the outputs per different objectives can be found in Appendix 1. The

progress of the strategy outputs will be assessed against indicators on yearly basis with assistance of APAARI KM staff.

Conclusion

Through various KM and communication tools, processes and systems oriented towards learning, sharing, collaboration and inclusiveness, APAARI seeks to enhance the effectiveness and outcomes of its key programmes, activities and thematic areas for strengthening AFRIS in the context of sustainable agricultural development. Through its KM programme, APAARI seeks to bring its national, regional and global stakeholders that are working towards the common goal of sustainable agricultural development closer together and mobilize them into a collection action. This is by: (i) connecting actors in agri-food research and innovation systems to create synergies and complementarities between them; (ii) promoting partnership and collaboration; (iii) encouraging the use of improved KM and communication processes and tools; (iv) promoting the sharing of knowledge, information and experiences; (v) developing capacities of stakeholders to enable them to use KM and communication to strengthen AFRIS; (vi) advocating for improved enabling environment to support policy development and investment in agricultural research and innovation; (vii) enriching and influencing policy debate on agri-food research and innovation at the regional and international level, thereby connecting national stakeholders to global dialogue; and (viii) building on external evidence base of members and partners on policies and solutions for small farmers and producers. These needs should be considered as generic needs of APAARI stakeholders based on which various KM and communication strategies have been designed. APAARI will be monitoring the KM and communication progress and ensure that it stays on the right track in strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems and thereby contributing to the realization of its Vision 2030.

APAARI's renewed strategic focus sets its new ambitions to fulfill its goal and realize its vision 2030. Hence, the Association aims to become: a leading think tank with high quality expertise, regional voice and a hub of high quality capacity development, research collaboration with high priority for smallholder farmers, women and youth in the region; the most sought after repository of up-to-date knowledge, information, data and quality publications related to agricultural development and innovations in the Asia-Pacific region; a well-recognized centre of excellence to influence agri-business policy making and institutional development; a leader able to continuously inspire by vigorous commitment to add value to the functions and actions of its partners and programmes; an influential policy advocate for higher investment, capacity development, management of ARI4D institutions, knowledge, skills and technology sharing; and an open, transparent, and financially-secured system with best governance and efficient work culture.

Within the scope of these ambitions and APAARI's unique mandate to strengthen agri-food research and innovation systems, APAARI is striving to become a knowledge and learning organization, one that learns and shares knowledge systematically and collectively from the initiatives it supports and from the experience of its members, partners and other stakeholders, as well as facilitates knowledge sharing, learning, collaboration and inclusiveness within AFRIS in the region. The aim is to deliver high-quality services and to enable its members, partners and other stakeholders to find innovative ways to improve food security and nutrition, reduce poverty, conserve the environment, and use the knowledge acquired to foster appropriate policy reforms to benefit the AFS. As this Strategy demonstrates, APAARI is fully committed to deliver on this ambition.

Appendix 1: Work Plan 2017-2018 and Performance Framework

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
1. Knowledge management							
Key Strategy 1.1 AFS made more knowledge intensive to effectively contribute to sustainable agricultural development							
1.1.1 Promote processes for knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration between primary stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Development of APAARI KM and Communication strategy.Development and dissemination of information and knowledge through APAARI Newsletter, APAARI Network Highlights (ANH), APAARI website and social media.APCoAB Questionnaire on the adoption of	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To make the communication within AFRIS and AFS more effective and efficient.To make agri-food research and innovation system more informed with increased opportunities for learning and knowledge sharing.To assess the extent of use and application of the communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Guiding framework on communication activities and tools is developed.More effective planning and monitoring of communication activities is achieved.Communication and knowledge sharing within AFRIS improved.Primary stakeholders are benefiting from improved access to information and learning opportunities.The strategy has been used and applied in	Dev. <			

[illegible]

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	knowledge management and communication more beneficial for AFRIS. • ASTI	partners to engage and discuss KM/communication issues facing AFRIS. • ASTI	ASTI			ASTI	ASTI
1.1.3 Promote innovative ways to use Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in AFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a Community of Practice (CoP) of communication and knowledge management focal points from APAARI member and partner organizations. Collection, processing and publishing of case studies/success stories on experiences in using ICT in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve linkages and communication between KM and communication focal points of APAARI member and partner institutions to share information more effectively and identify synergies for collaboration. To document experiences in the use of ICT that are available for sharing and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use and content of Social Media improved. Information and knowledge sharing among AFRIS stakeholder improved and lead to collaboration and collective actions. Stakeholders are informed about good practices in the use of ICT in agriculture. Stakeholders are inspired to take up some of the good 	Dev.	Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular information exchange within CoP. Success stories related to ICT published. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website, newsletters, ANH and social media. Success stories.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	agri-food systems. • ASTI	scaling up and out. • ASTI	practices in e-agriculture. • ASTI			• ASTI	• ASTI
Key Strategy 1.2 AFRIS strengthened through more effective knowledge management							
1.2.1 Enhance knowledge sharing and engagement to enable faster technology, innovation and policy development	• Policy dialogue (expert consultation) on “Inclusive and Gender-Sensitive Value Chains to Support the Transformation of Agri-Food Systems in Asia-Pacific Region”.	• To enhance knowledge sharing to make value chains more inclusive and gender-sensitive to benefit the agri-food systems.	• Experiences in trade and market-related policy reforms, and measures to stimulate investment in improved technologies to improve efficiencies in food production, are shared and documented. • Constructive policy dialogue is initiated.		Impl.	• Successful policy dialogue (expert consultation) with active engagement and participation.	• Meeting evaluation, report

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Expert Consultation on Underutilized Crops for Food and Nutrition Security in Asia and the Pacific. Workshop on Soil and Plant Health and their contribution to the SDGs. Expert Consultation on Biotechnology for scoping partnership and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create awareness on the role and value of underutilized crops. To share experiences to accelerate the use of underutilized plants as crops for future. Assess R&D status on priority crops and needed policies. TBD <p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South-South cooperation among member countries is strengthened. Bringing out many important issues that need immediate attention. Be a basis for development of a focused plan for member countries to address malnutrition through awareness raising. TBD <p>TBD</p>	Impl.	Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful expert consultation with active engagement and participation. TBD <p>TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting evaluation, report Meeting evaluation, report <p>Meeting evaluation, report</p>

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Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASTI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To train senior officials of NARS in developing KM strategies. ASTI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> operationalized by NARS. ASTI 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KM strategy enforcement and implementation by NARS institution. ASTI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n, reports on KM progress ASTI
1.2.3 Improve scientific data management to make it available for analysis and knowledge creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating thematic databases e.g. agribiotechnology and bioresources. ASTI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve access to information and knowledge on technical areas. ASTI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enriched, up-to-date, and user-friendly databases ASTI 		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New content on the databases. ASTI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Databases, feedback from users. ASTI
2. Partnership and networking							
Key Strategy 2.1 Innovative and strategic partnerships and networking strengthened							
2.1.1 Facilitate technical cooperation in key themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and implementation of a partnership proposal with FAO on Tropical Agriculture Platform. Development and implementation of a partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop capacity for agricultural innovation systems and e-agriculture through collective actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened knowledge sharing and capacity development of AFRIS stakeholders in key areas based on a needs assessment. Strengthened knowledge sharing and capacity development of AFRIS stakeholders 	Dev. And impl.	Dev. And impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All results planned in the LoAs achieved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LoA with FAO on TAP. LoA with FAO on e-agriculture. Progress reports.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	proposal with FAO on E-agriculture. • APCoAB agreement signed and revised. • SAARC Concept Note on market access developed. • ASTI	• ? • ? • ASTI	in the use of ICT in agriculture. • ? • ? • ASTI		Dev. And impl. Dev.	• ? • ? ASTI	• ? • ? • ASTI
2.1.2 Develop public-private-community partnerships to improve efficiency of adaptation and application of agricultural technologies and innovations	• Development of a partnership with UNESCO and Chulalongkorn University. • Scoping for resource mobilization for APCoAB activities. • ASTI	• Conduct surveys for functional stakeholder mapping to scope for future projects. • Mobilize funding for APCoAB activities on PPP. • ASTI	• New projects with UNESCO and Chulalongkorn University • ? • ASTI		Dev. ?	• Joint activities. • ? • ASTI	• Project concept notes and design documents. • ? • ASTI
2.1.3 Facilitate networking and collaboration between national, sub-regional,	• Contribution to the regional policy dialogue on scaling conservation	?	?			?	?

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
regional and global-level organizations within AFS	agriculture for sustainable intensification in South Asia. • Contribution to the global dialogue on rural advisory services (GFRAS), Committee on World Food Security (GFAR), STDF/WTO working group. • Collaboration on the Regional Academic Conference and Policy Dialogue on: Greening Agri-food Systems, Ensuring Rural Sustainability and Promoting Healthy Socioeconomic	• To ensure APAARI's visibility at the global fora and scoping for new projects. • To present the TAP-CDAIS project activities, promote the Common Framework, highlight APAARI's work with higher education institutions, and explore project funding.	• New project and related funding ideas. • New project and related funding ideas			• At least one concept note • A concept note • ASTI	• Concept note • Concept note

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Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	through global donors including FAO, IFAD, ADB, World Bank, etc. • ASTI	• ASTI	• ASTI			• ASTI	• ASTI
2.1.5 Facilitate networking and collaboration between AFS and regional and global multi-sector development partners to collectively work towards development outcomes							
2.1.6 Map primary stakeholders to enable better targeting and stronger engagement in collective action	• Conducting of APAARI's stakeholder scoping and mapping exercise.	• To determined and assess key stakeholders across the entire stakeholder spectrum within AFRIS.	• Information about APAARI's key stakeholders improved. • Targeting and prioritization of APAARI stakeholders for future interventions improved as a basis for engagement strategy.	Dev.	Continuously updated and used	• All current members assessed and 50% of non-members assessed.	• Stakeholder mapping excel table.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
3. Capacity development							
Key Strategy 3.1 Institutional arrangements for effective delivery of outcomes from AFRIS strengthened							
3.1.1 Strengthen institutional capacity for the development of agri-food research and innovation system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• APAARI Webinar with universities on CD for AIS – Bringing system-wide change in APR• APCoAB Webinar• ASTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To strengthen functional capacities (soft skills) of higher education institutions• APCoAB Webinar• ASTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raised interest in the Common Framework on CD for AIS for a future pilot project on soft skills development• APCoAB Webinar• ASTI			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expressed interest to participate in the pilot by at least one university• APCoAB Webinar• ASTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concept note• APCoAB Webinar• ASTI
3.1.2 Strengthen databases on human capacity to enhance sharing of talent	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of a CV database of experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To make global expertise available in APAARI and its member and partner institutions in APR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A pool of CVs accessible by APAARI members and partners			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CV database	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CV database
Key Strategy 3.2 Organizational capacity for good governance, effective management and delivery of research and innovations enhanced							
3.2.1 Improve capacity of leaders and research managers in	ASTI	ASTI	ASTI			ASTI	ASTI

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
monitoring, evaluation and impact pathway analysis							
3.2.2 Develop and use improved skills and competency in managerial and organizational roles	Crawford Fund? ASTI	ASTI	ASTI			ASTI	ASTI
3.2.3 Develop basic skills and competency of researchers in small, island and mountainous countries, and new/emerging organizations	ICIMOD? ASTI	ASTI	ASTI			ASTI	ASTI
3.2.4 Address organizational capacity development needs in knowledge management, partnership and networking and advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two sub-regional writeshops on transferring research/innovation findings into knowledge and information understandable by development practitioners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To train researchers in the documentation and processing of information derived from expert knowledge, and translating this information into practical language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication and knowledge transfer skills of researchers improved. Knowledge from agricultural research is available in practical language. 		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writeshops successfully conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writeshop evaluations.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
		of development practitioners.					
Key Strategy 3.3 Technical competency developed							
3.3.1 Build capacity of researchers and policy makers in technical areas							
3.3.2 Improve collaboration in areas requiring regional cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiation of partnership with ASEAN on functional mapping, agricultural education and science communication. Strengthening of partnership with FAO on CDAIS and e-agriculture Initiation of partnership with SAARC on market access Initiation of partnership with STDF/WTO on trade. Initiation of partnership with 	?	?		Impl.	?	?

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADB on value chains. Strengthening existing partnership with COA on agri-biotechnology and bioresources. ASTI 						
4. Advocacy							
Key Strategy 4.1 Understanding of the role of agri-food research and innovations in AFS and socio-economic development improved							
4.1.1 Increase political recognition of the role of agri-food research and innovation as a major driver of socio-economic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of the contribution of agri-food research and innovation to socio-economic development by using the data collected through the ASTI project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To monitor the contribution of agri-food research and innovation to socio-economic development through more effective data collection and analysis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The contribution of agri-food research and innovation to socio-economic development is measured and assessed based on quality data. Advocacy for increased investment in AFRIS improved based on available evidence. 		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment successfully completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment report. Policy brief. Stakeholder feedback.
4.1.2 Improve the voice and engagement of disadvantaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation of APAARI in GFAR's Steering Committee by PNG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represent APAARI and share national (PNG) issues through the global platform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened engagement of the Pacific in the global fora. 	Impl.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of recommendations by PNG representative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting report. Feedback.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
stakeholders involved in AFS							
4.1.3 Strengthen capacity for advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocacy to be part of the planned writeshop components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen advocacy capacities of APAARI member and partner institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved ability to advocate the important role agricultural research plays in socio-economic development and the need for improved investment. 		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of participants that applied at least 50% of knowledge from the training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training evaluation
4.1.4 Engage social and broadcast media to strengthen advocacy efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collins to insert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collins to insert 	Collins to insert			Collins to insert	Collins to insert
Key Strategy 4.2 Investment in agri-food research and innovations improved for development of AFS							
4.2.1 Enhance understanding of agri-food stakeholders and policy makers on the need, scope and return of improved investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of the topic of the need, scope and return of improved investment in each APAARI-supported policy dialogue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To use and share improved data on the need, scope and return of investment with policy and decision makers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of policy and decision makers on the level of investment needed to strengthen AFRIS for the development of agri-food system improved. 		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The topic included in every policy dialogue agenda. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting evaluations.
4.2.2 Assess the status, trend and priority for investment, and use the data to attract investment and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and publication of a status report on Bt Brinjal in Bangladesh 	?	?		Impl.	?	?

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
improve decision making							
4.2.3 Develop advocacy tools and on-going dialogue on promoting investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of policy briefs to promote improved investment. Preparation of factsheets on successful agricultural innovations used in AFRIS to promote improved investment in these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance data collection through the ASTI and APCoAB project and use this data to provide evidence targeting policy and decision makers. To use improved data about proven agricultural technologies and innovations to provide guidance to development practitioners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and decision makers are informed about the convincing evidence that is supporting the need for improved investment in AFRIS. Development practitioners are informed about proven sustainable agricultural technologies and innovations. Adoption and scaling up and out of improved technologies improved. 		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least two policy briefs published. At least two factsheets published. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy briefs. APAARI website. Factsheets.
4.2.4 Assess and develop skills and capacities for mobilizing investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder mapping to also assess stakeholders' strength in relation to AFRIS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To determine a baseline for comparison. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level of influence over AFRIS (high, medium, low) assessed. 	Impl.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment completed for current APAARI members and partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder mapping table.
4.2.5 Assess and adopt innovative funding and partnership mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a resource mobilization strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a guide to APAARI and its stakeholders on funding and partnership mechanisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource mobilization strategy outline finalized. 		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource mobilization strategy outline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource mobilization strategy outline

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
5. Women and youth							
Key Strategy 5.1: Women and youth are engaged in productive and rewarding activities in AFS							
5.1.1 Strengthen the engagement of women and youth in agricultural value chains, to enable them to receive a higher share of benefits from integrated markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify women ambassadors from APR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To promote gender and youth models and strengthen their engagement in regional and global for a.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gender ambassadors identified.		Impl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The number of gender champions in APR.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">APAARI Newsletter.APAARI website.Reports.
5.1.2 Improve opportunities for women and youth in agri-food research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Collection and dissemination of success stories from women and youth working in agricultural research at the grassroots level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To improve documentation and dissemination of success stories of women and youth agricultural researchers working with farmers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Greater voice of women and youth in sharing their experiences with AFRIS.Knowledge and experiences of women and youth working with farmers in documented and disseminated.			<ul style="list-style-type: none">At least five success stories collected and published.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Success stories.APAARI website.
5.1.3 Build capacity of women and youth in AFRIS							
Key Strategy 5.2: Women and youth are appropriately represented in policy and decision making in AFS							

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
5.2.1 Strengthen organizations of women and youth at national and regional levels to give them greater voice							
5.2.2 Ensure inclusive representation of women and youth in APAARI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include women and youth in APAARI-supported events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure inclusive representation of women and youth in APAARI-supported processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women and youth actively participate in APAARI-supported activities. 		Impl.	At least three women and xxx youth participating in APAARI-supported events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting evaluations.
6. Foresight and visioning							
Key Strategy 6.1 Developments, trends and changing needs that may impact on the realization of Vision 2030, are continuously monitored and evaluated and turned into actions.							
7. Governance							
Key Strategy 7.1: APAARI is efficient and effective in contributing to strengthening of AFRIS in the APR							
7.1.1 Develop and effectively utilize							

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
the human capacity of the APAARI Secretariat							
7.1.2 Effectively mobilize and utilize APAARI's financial and material resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of partnership and engagement strategy. Mobilization of funding through the ASTI project. Mobilization of funding from FAO. Hosting a dialogue on effective involvement and partnership of APAARI members, partners and other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance partnership and engagement with and among AFRIS stakeholders. To mobilize collective action to improve evidence needed to advocate for improved investment in AFRIS. To mobilize collective action to better contribute to improved capacity development in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guiding framework on partnership and stakeholder engagement activities is available. Planning and monitoring of partnership activities and stakeholder engagement improved. Data collection for research, compilation, management, analysis, evaluation and application improved. Capacity in key areas of need of AFRIS is strengthened through collective actions. Commitment, interest and ownership of 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership and engagement strategy finalized and published. Increased funding available for APAARI's operations. Increased funding available for APAARI's operations. The dialogue successfully conducted with active engagement and participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership and engagement strategy. APAARI's budget. APAARI's budget. Meeting evaluation.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	stakeholders in APAARI collective action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To realize effective involvement and partnership of APAARI members, partners and other stakeholders in benefit and resource sharing in APAARI collective actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APAARI members, partners and other stakeholders in collective actions improved. Way forward in ensuring continuous commitment and efforts to implement collective action is developed. New areas for collaboration and partnerships are identified. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased APAARI membership. New partnership agreements.
7.1.3 Develop APAARI Secretariat competency in the four programme areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and implementation of an effective learning system for greater effectiveness and efficiency of the APAARI Secretariat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To train APAARI staff in key areas needed to make their work more effective. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning needs within the Secretariat assessed. Improved skills of APAARI staff in key areas of need. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KM staff trained in improved writing. Administration/ Account Associate trained in accounting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance evaluation.
7.1.4 Implement a PM&E and outcome assessment system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and implementation of an effective planning, monitoring and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop and implement an effective planning, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed results framework and corresponding PM&E 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> M&E personnel in APAARI. Results and performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results and performance framework.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	evaluation/learning system for assessment of performance and outcomes of APAARI collective actions.	monitoring and evaluation/learning system to assure timely adjustments and efficient derivation of results, as well as an assessment of how such results are contributing to the desired outcomes.	<p>systems are developed and implemented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity for planning and implantation of the PM&E systems is built in APAARI. • Activities are identified, prioritized, and linked to projects, programmes and outcome pathways. • Indicators of success, targets, means of verification, assumption and risk management options are identified. • Periodical assessment and reporting is implemented. 			framework available and used.	
7.1.5 Develop effective leadership and management, incorporating appropriate systems, structure and processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of appropriate policies and guiding principles to govern APAARI's management, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop and implement policies, standards and structures for efficient management of resources to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies, management standards and structures for effective and efficient management of APAARI resources are designed and implemented. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved APAARI administration policies and management standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APAARI administration policies.

Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
	decision making and functioning.	support APAARI's effective performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate framework for management, policy decisions and governance is established. HR and resource mobilization strategy is designed and implemented. 				
7.1.6 Reform APAARI to deliver on APAARI's mission and vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reforming APAARI into a diverse multi-stakeholder platform with equitable, inclusive and wider stakeholder representation to deliver APAARI vision and mission more effectively and efficiently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make APAARI more effective and efficient in delivering its vision and mission through collective actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of APAARI members increased. The diversity of APAARI members improved by including wider stakeholder representations bringing their interests, resources and complementing efforts. A membership fee structure, conditions and processes of members' participation in APAARI is formulated. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of APAARI members representing diverse sectors. Improved membership application form available. Updated Constitution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APAARI's budget. Membership application form. APAARI Constitution.

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Specific Strategy under the Strategic Plan 2017-2022	Planned Activity for 2017 and 2018	Purpose	Expected Outputs	Timeframe		Result Indicator	Source of verification
				2017	2018		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APAARI Constitution is adjusted for changes caused by the reform. 				

C. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGY

Sub: APAARI Stakeholder Mapping: Strategic Considerations and Guiding Principles for Management and Mobilization of APAARI Membership

A. PURPOSE

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

APAARI Resource Mobilization Strategy – An Outline

1. **About APAARI** – Reference to the Strategic Plan 2017-2022, Vision, Executive Committee, legal status, the Secretariat. This information should have a short description of APAARI with key facts that ensure visibility of donors, with attached Capability Statement of APAARI.
2. **Who are APAARI's stakeholders** – Reference to the stakeholder mapping – APAARI's 'living' document to guide stakeholder engagement and develop APAARI's partnership targets. The mapping is complemented by survey responses from key stakeholders on how they perceive the Association and how they plan to engage in key areas of APAARI. This information should indicate the interest of key stakeholders in being part of the Association and contributing to its collective action.
3. **Members** – Reference to all benefits of APAARI members, their contribution to APAARI and APAARI's obligation to them.
4. **Present status of APAARI donors and membership**, and the challenges in meeting the Vision 2030 of APAARI.
5. **Current situation of APAARI** – Addressing the key thematic and cross-cutting areas through APAARI programmes and activities and the challenges in terms of financial and human resources. This section should include a short assessment of APAARI's own assets: skills (HR), current financial resources available, cost (secretariat staff, operational, consultants), APAARI's commitment
6. **Sustainability** – The need for a Strategy for Resource Mobilization both for sustenance and growth of APAARI activities – projects, membership fees, project overheads, grants, special events. This section should include a description of current and future programme activities – particularly those to be expanded or scaled up, financial scenarios, constituencies involved, geographic coverage, value added of APAARI, and required human and financial resources of the Secretariat. It needs to be clear why more funds are needed (deserved).
7. **APAARI Governance and Development** – Administration of APAARI Secretariat; implementation of monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) framework; development and utilization of the Secretariat's competencies and skills; development of improved management structures, systems and processes through reforms.

8. Broad areas and potential donors to be addressed (some are existing donors):

Key thematic areas		Key programme areas		
		Knowledge management	Capacity development	
Women and youth	Mobilization, management and use of natural resources for sustainability of agri-food systems	ACIAR (NRM, climate adaptation, mitigation), EU (environmental sustainability), FAO (sustainable technologies), IFAD (environmental sustainability), UNDP (sustainable development), World Bank (sustainable infrastructure – energy, water, transportation), Iowa State University (seeds), ICDF/COA (agribiotechnologies and bioresources)	ACIAR, CGIAR (NRM and ecosystems), CoA (efficient use of resources, APCoAB), FAO (productivity, food security), UNESCO (education system, strengthening science), USAID (seeds, sustainable strategies), ICDF/COA (agribiotechnologies and bioresources)	Policy and advocacy
	Management of risks and uncertainties in agri-food systems	ADB (climate resilience, food safety), CGIAR (climate-smart agriculture), COA (food safety), FAO (climate change), UNDP (production technologies to reduce risks)	ACIAR (risks to health), ADB, EU (adaptation to climate change, Pacific), FAO (coping capacity to threats, productivity, food security), IFAD (climate resilience), STDF/WTO (food safety and safe trade), UNDP (climate change, disasters, crisis, conflict), UNESCO (education system, strengthening science), USAID (CSA, sustainable strategies), World Bank (CSA)	
	Inclusive development and integration of value chains targeted at benefiting smallholders	ADB (access to markets, post-harvest losses), B&MGF (markets, India), FAO (production, agribusiness), STDF/WTO (standards and trade), World Bank, Iowa State University (seeds)	B&MGF (agricultural data), EU (trade, Pacific), FAO (productivity, food security), IFAD (market participation), UNESCO (education system, strengthening science), USAID (market development), USDA (trade)	

	Foresight and visioning			
	APAARI Governance and development			

9. **Annual targets** – resource mobilization to become part of APAARI’s performance framework with annual targets and indicators of success
10. **How to approach the donors** – APAARI Capability Statement, donor kit, participation in key donor meetings (including the European Commission), invitation of donors to APAARI-supported events, strategic communication and visits, including donor in-country missions (donor consultation should be included in the TOR for each staff travel).
11. **Who will approach the donors** – Executive Secretary, coordinators, consultants
12. Semestral/Annual review of the strategy

Annex: Potential donors and their focus areas in agricultural development

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB):** Increasing the productivity and reducing pre- and postharvest losses of food harvests; improving market connectivity and value chain linkages; enhancing food safety, quality, and nutrition; and enhancing management and climate resilience of natural resources.¹
- **Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR):** Improving food security and reducing poverty among smallholder farmers and rural communities; managing natural resources and producing food more sustainably, adapting to climate variability and mitigating climate change; enhancing human nutrition and reducing risks to human health²
- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF):** Focus on India – research in India’s important crops (rice, wheat, maize and legumes) and livestock (dairy cattle, small ruminants and poultry), nutrition, food systems issues, and improving smallholder farmers’ access to knowledge, tools and markets³; focus on China (human health).
- **CGIAR:** Climate-smart agriculture; genetic improvement; nurturing diversity; natural resources and ecosystem services; gender and inclusive growth; nutrition and health; agricultural systems; enabling policies and institutions⁴.
- **Council of Agriculture (COA) Taiwan:** Enhancing competitiveness of the industry to thrust Taiwan's agriculture onto the international arena; adjusting agricultural structure and integrating resources for value-added development; safeguarding food safety and reinforcing the safety of agricultural product; activating the efficient and flexible use of agricultural resources to ensure sustainable agricultural development.⁵
- **European Union (EU):** agricultural research and development; food security; aquaculture; development of trade and private-sector capacity and supporting the adaptation of agricultural systems put at risk by climate change in the Pacific (ACP multi-country cooperation);⁶ equitable and social development; environmental sustainability; value chain development; market integration; and demand-driven agricultural research and innovation.⁷
- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO):** Strengthening food and nutritional security; Fostering agricultural production and rural development; Enhancing equitable, productive and sustainable natural resource management and utilization; Improving capacity to respond to food and agricultural threats and emergencies;

¹ Operational Plan for Agriculture and Natural Resources: Promoting Sustainable Food Security in Asia and the Pacific in 2015–2020, ADB, <https://www.adb.org/documents/operational-plan-agriculture-and-natural-resources-2015-2020>

² ACIAR Corporate Plan 2017-2021, p.9 http://aciarc.gov.au/files/aciarc_corporate_plan_2017-21_final.pdf

³ India Agricultural Development, B&MGF, <https://www.gatesfoundation.org/Where-We-Work/India-Office/Agricultural-Development>

⁴ CGIAR STRATEGY AND RESULTS FRAMEWORK 2016-2030: OVERVIEW – REDEFINING HOW CGIAR DOES BUSINESS UNTIL 2030, CGIAR, <https://cgispace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10947/4069/CGIAR%20SRF%20Overview%20WEB.pdf?sequence=10>, p.4

⁵ Transforming Taiwan's Agriculture from Traditional to a Modern One, COA, https://eng.coa.gov.tw/theme_list.php?theme=eng_policies

⁶ ACP - multi-country cooperation - Sustainable agriculture, EU, https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/african-caribbean-and-pacific-acp-region/acp-multi-country-cooperation/sustainable_en

⁷ Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, EU, https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/food-and-agriculture/sustainable-agriculture-and-rural-development_en

Coping with the impact of climate change on agriculture and food and nutritional security.
8

- **International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF):** Four core operations: lending and investment, technical cooperation, humanitarian assistance, and international education and training in the areas of environment, public health, agriculture, education and information and communications technology. Its work is tailor-made to the local needs of each partner country. Improvement of Taiwan's institutional capacity is another priority area.⁹
- **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD):** Increasing productive capacities of poor rural people, increasing their benefits from market participation, strengthening the environmental sustainability and climate resilience of poor rural people's economic activities.¹⁰
- **Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) – World Trade Organization (WTO):** Global coordination and knowledge hub (trade and agriculture); developing and delivering sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) projects (food safety and safe trade).¹¹
- **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP):** Sustainable development; democratic governance and peacebuilding; climate and disaster resilience.¹²
- **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO):** Developing education systems to foster high-quality and inclusive lifelong learning for all; empowering learners to be creative and responsible global citizens; advancing Education for All (EFA) and shaping the future international education agenda; strengthening science, technology and innovation systems and policies – nationally, regionally and globally; promoting international scientific cooperation on critical challenges to sustainable development; supporting inclusive social development, fostering intercultural dialogue for the rapprochement of cultures and promoting ethical principles; protecting, promoting and transmitting heritage; fostering creativity and the diversity of cultural expressions; promoting freedom of expression, media development and access to information and knowledge.¹³
- **United States Agency for International Development (USAID):** Leading the Feed the Future initiative; investing in cutting-edge scientific and technological agricultural research; developing agricultural markets, expanding trade and using mobile phones to provide real-time prices; helping farmers access capital; offering extension services; developing sustainable agriculture strategies; providing emergency food assistance.¹⁴
- **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA):** Trade policy; market development and export assistance; data analysis; food security.¹⁵

World Bank: Climate-smart agriculture; food system jobs.¹⁶

⁸ FAO Regional Priority Framework 2010-2019: Towards a food secure Asia and the Pacific, FAO, 2011, <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2012e/i2012e00.pdf>

⁹ ICDF – About us/Operations <http://www.icdf.org.tw/lp.asp?ctNode=29824&CtUnit=172&BaseDSD=100&mp=2>

¹⁰ IFAD Strategic Framework 2016-2025 – Enabling inclusive and sustainable rural transformation, IFAD, <https://www.ifad.org/documents/10180/edb9b9d4-664e-42dc-a31e-db096e6a71b5>, p.6

¹¹ STDF at Glance <http://www.standardsfacility.org/stdf-glance>

¹² Sustainable development, UNDP, <http://www.asia-pacific.undp.org/content/rbap/en/home/ourwork/sustainable-development/overview.html>

¹³ Medium-term strategy 2014-2021, UNESCO, <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002278/227860e.pdf>, p.13

¹⁴ Agriculture and food security, USAID, <https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/agriculture-and-food-security>

¹⁵ About FAS (Foreign Agricultural Service), USDA, <https://www.fas.usda.gov/about-fas>

¹⁶ Agriculture and food, The World Bank, <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/agriculture>

D. MEMBERSHIP STRATEGY

Sub: APAARI Membership Strategy* : Strategic Considerations and Guiding Principles for Management and Mobilization of APAARI Membership

G. PURPOSE

1. To present an advanced documentation on the proposed APAARI Membership Strategy for the General Assembly' consideration and perusal;
2. To receive queries, comments, suggestions from the members of the Executive Committee on the advanced documentation; and
3. To seek the General Assembly' endorsement of the advanced documentation of the APAARI Membership Strategy for reference / use in designing practicing strategies (as a management standard) for implementation in the management and mobilization of the membership.

H. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. APAARI is currently in the process of enhancing its management, development and governance through various ways and means. Some of these are mobilization of resources (financial, human and others), amendments of the APAARI constitution, developing stakeholder engagement strategy, and managing and expanding APAARI membership.
2. One of the important and unique aspect of APAARI strength is its membership base right since its establishment in 1990. As APAARI is trying to develop itself as a multi-stakeholder organization, it is crucial that its membership base needs to be expanded in terms not only of number of members but also of having diversity in membership from various kinds and types of constituencies.
3. It appeared crucial that in expanding APAARI membership the Association should have a membership strategy with systematic approaches, methods and procedures that can be objectively adopted in the process of membership expansion and management.
4. Therefore, the APAARI Secretariat, with the help of Senior Adviser Dr Raghunath Ghodake, undertook an exercise of developing APAARI Membership Strategy. An advanced documentation of this strategy has been separately provided to the members.
5. The advanced documentation (provided separately) giving an overall APAARI Membership Strategy, comprises of three documents (soft copies); i) word file– Advanced Document- Text APAARI Membership Strategy.docx, ii) word file- Advanced Document- Annexes APAARI Membership Strategy.docx, (Annex Tables 1 to 7), and iii) excel file- Stakeholder Engagement Strategy MAPPING.xlsx. The necessary links/references to materials in file (ii) and file (iii) are provided in file (i).

* The jargon 'APAARI Membership Strategy' needs to be explicitly understood as strategy for management and mobilization of APAARI members.

6. The documentation describes and presents an overall APAARI Membership Strategy, encompassing key strategic considerations and basic guiding principles involved in the management and mobilization of the APAARI membership. The main areas covered are:
 - i) Background in terms of APAARI establishment and importance of its membership in growth of APAARI,
 - ii) Key attributes of APAARI membership, such as a) role and contribution of APAARI members, b) benefits to APAARI members, c) incentives/encouragements to APAARI members/stakeholders, and d) knowledge-sharing as basic support to members/ stakeholders,
 - iii) Need and scope for expanding APAARI membership and for making it effective in APAARI performance,
 - iv) Specificities of managing membership,
 - v) Restructuring of membership categorization and subscription levels, and
 - vi) Suggesting strategic expansion/ mobilization of membership by targeting the country core membership and by assessing the primary stakeholders of APAARI.
7. The data and information assessed and presented; considerations accounted for; and guiding principles and rationalization used, are seen to be an excellent basis for the Association to design and apply key practicing strategies (ways and processes) for effective management and mobilization of APAARI membership, thereby enhancing the performance of the Association. The designing of practicing strategies can be in a systematic, interactive, and progressive manner and such strategies can be reflected through a management standard on APAARI membership.
8. The members of the Executive Committee are requested by the APAARI Secretariat to consider and peruse the documentation on the APAARI Membership Strategy and to provide its advise, guidance and endorsements as specifically urged for in this submission.
9. Such an endorsed documentation shall be presented to the 15th General Assembly Meeting for its noting and seeking further advice.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the Committee:

1. Consider and peruse the advanced documentation on the APAARI Membership Strategy;
2. Provide queries, comments, suggestions on the advanced documentation; and
3. Endorse the advanced documentation of the APAARI Membership Strategy for reference / use in designing practicing strategies (as a management standard) for implementation in the management and mobilization of the membership.

Annexure IX contd.

APAARI Membership Strategy¹: Strategic Considerations and Guiding Principles for Management and Mobilization of APAARI Membership

I. Introduction and Background

This document prescribes and presents an overall strategy for the management and mobilization of membership in the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)². The strategy encompasses key strategic considerations and basic guiding principles for the management and mobilization of members in the Association. This strategy is intended to help the Association, its members, partners and stakeholders in having their optimal roles, contributions, and benefits from APAARI's collective actions, functioning and performance.

1.1 Establishment of APAARI

APAARI was established³ in 1990 at the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO - RAP) of the United Nations and with the membership of several countries of the Asia-Pacific Region (APR). The countries were represented through their governments' national apex agricultural research organizations such as the National Agricultural Research Institutions ((NARIs) and the National Agricultural Research Organizations (NAROs)⁴.

In its establishment, APAARI's basic character was ingrained as a unique voluntary, membership-based, non-profit, apolitical and multi-stakeholder regional organization in the Asia-Pacific Region. It was created for promoting and strengthening agricultural research, through collaboration, partnership and networking, capacity development and advocacy for sustainable agricultural development in the APR.

1.2 Members of APAARI

During its first General Assembly Meeting held on 13 December 1990, APAARI adopted its Constitution (First Edition). The Constitution set out basic rules, regulations, roles, responsibilities and processes for governance including membership categories and subscriptions. It also provided for a seven member Executive Committee (comprising of chairman, vice-chairman, executive secretary, and four members)

¹ The jargon 'APAARI Membership Strategy' needs to be explicitly understood as strategy for management and mobilization of APAARI members.

² APAARI is termed as the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research and Innovation Institutions in recently proposed amendments (in Seventh Edition) of the APAARI Constitution that is being considered for approval by the General Assembly Meeting (GAM), on 21 December 2018.

³ The establishment was approved during the third meeting and the first General Assembly Meeting of APAARI held from 11-14 December 1990 in pursuance of the strong recommendations made by four FAO Regional Conferences of the Asia-Pacific Region held in years 1984, 1986, 1988 and 1990. The modality and initial constitution of the Association were developed by two expert consultations organized by FAO – RAP during 1985 and 1988.

⁴ NARIs are autonomous apex organizations established in countries by government, while NAROs are fully operated and administered by government departments/ministries.

for managing the affairs of the Association and also for the General Assembly for the overall governance and policy direction.

APAARI membership was open to the national agricultural research institutions/councils/organization/universities from the countries of the Asia-Pacific Region. The membership was also open to such other organizations or bodies as decided by the General Assembly.

At the beginning of its operations in 1991, APAARI had 14 country government organizations (Country Core Members) as its members (Annex Table 1). Three countries - Indonesia, Japan and Vietnam - were involved as observers. Of the 14 members, seven countries were represented by NARIs and the other seven by NAROs.

1.3 Growth of Membership (1991 to 2018)

Changes in the number of members and structure of APAARI governance happened slowly and steadily. The number of country core members increased from 14 in 1991 to 21 by 2004 and then remained at that until now. In year 2000 and onwards, a number of CG Centers, agricultural universities, AIRCA institutions joined APAARI as associate members, while some universities joined as affiliate members. Also a new category of reciprocal members was created to accommodate regional / sub-regional fora which are akin to APAARI in terms of their roles and responsibilities. Thus, the number of total members increased considerably, reaching 42 during the biennium 2007-2008. The number got beefed up and increased substantially reaching 55 in 2011-12 and further increased to 78 in year 2018. The summary of category-wise members is given in Annex Table 2 while the detailed list of current members is presented in Annex Table 3.

1.4 Membership as APAARI Strength

Right since APAARI's establishment, the share of its membership subscription has been major and assured source of revenue for the Association. At the establishment in 1991, 14 country core members subscribed USD 50,000 in the total revenue of USD 130,000, thus contributing 38% to the total revenue. While seventy-eight (78) members in 2018 are expected to contribute an estimated subscription of USD 312,000 in an estimated revenue of USD 902,000, thus showing 35% share in the total revenue⁵.

Thus, APAARI as membership-based subscription paying organization is considered as unique with its real strength (unlike other regional fora⁶). This reflects not only the interest of the APAARI members but also their willingness to participate in APAARI performance. It is also self-sustaining based on equity, participation and ownership by its members and constituencies. This sustainability allowed APAARI to develop and improve its performance in agricultural research for development and also in working towards strengthening agri-food research and innovation systems in the ACP region.

1.5 Need for Expansion of APAARI Membership

Recently APAARI has embraced its Vision (APAARI Vision 2030) of perceiving the 'strengthened agri-food research and innovations for sustainable agricultural development in Asia and the Pacific' and also adopted its Strategic Plan 2017-2022, chalking out the pathways to strengthened agri-food research and

⁵ The subscription level over the period 1991-2018 averaged at USD 200,500 per year in the average total revenue of USD 480,500, showing 42% contribution.

⁶ Other such regional fora as AARINENA, CACAARI, FORAGRO (Foro de las Americas para la Investigacion y Desarrollo Tecnologico Agropecuario) do not have such membership funding resources and depend largely of donor/ aid funding for their operations.

innovation systems in Asia and the Pacific. These are to help contribute in enhancing agriculture and agri-food systems in the region. To work towards the vision and to implement such strategic plan (s), APAARI will need to consider the crucial importance of the membership of APPARI (as emphasized in the above paragraphs). It is therefore crucial to have considerably improved management of the APAARI membership and also to have much expanded membership so that it has broader, diverse and stronger ownership of APAARI as a multi-stakeholder organization.

II Basic Considerations

As at present, APAARI has been working on a number of projects on refining and improving the Association's management and governance. Two of these projects are i) constitutional amendments, and ii) stakeholder engagement strategy. In the process of implementing these two projects, a number of closely relevant aspects has emerged and found to be basic and crucial considerations in the management and mobilization of APAARI membership.

2.1 Implications from Constitutional Amendments

In suggesting constitutional amendments, some key implications emerged and these need to be given appropriate considerations in designing APAARI membership Strategy. These implications/considerations are highlighted below.

1. APAARI was established by several governments, as represented by their apex organizations such as NARIs and NAROs, basically as an intergovernmental regional organization. However, the Association remains to be appropriately recognized with formal legal status. Such recognition is needed at the earliest possible to ensure the required legitimacy for the Association not only in attracting new members but also in retaining the current members.
2. APAARI membership constituencies, categories and their subscription levels have evolved over the life of the Association. However, there are some existing inconsistencies/ arbitrariness and these will require systematic assessment and determination of various categories, constituencies, and subscription levels.
3. APAARI needs to have well specified rules, regulations, and processes for the management and mobilization of its membership. Such systematically developed regulations and processes need to be approved as management standards as per the provision of the APAARI Constitution.
4. APAARI being a multi-stakeholder organization, has specified a number of membership constituencies, including NGOs, FOs, women, youths, the private sector, donors, etc. However, many of these constituencies are not populated with adequate number of members.
5. Efforts have been made to rationalize the membership of the Executive Committee for effective participation by the members in APAARI governance. These efforts need to be expanded and continued through mobilization and management of APAARI membership.

2.2 Considerations from Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

In recently undertaken exercise on designing a stakeholder engagement strategy for APAARI, Martina Spisiakova assembled and mapped details (data and information) for more than 470 primary stakeholders⁷ of APAARI (abridged data in Annex Table 7 and detailed data in a soft copy file ‘Stakeholder Engagement Strategy MAPPING.xlsx specifically highlighted worksheet named ‘Cleaned Other Stakeholders’)⁸. The following are the key considerations that are arising from this strategy.

1. The mapping uses a two-way grid, that is i) level of positive influence by stakeholders over AFRIS, and ii) levels of interest of these stakeholders in APAARI operations and performance. This approach is found to be appropriate for managing the APAARI membership.
2. The mapping further looks at likely contributions and role of these stakeholders in APAARI and also their expectations from APAARI. These details can be used for assessing the potential of these stakeholders in becoming APAARI members and /or becoming partners with APAARI for participating in joint and collective activities.
3. From the current exercise of stakeholder mapping, about 25 stakeholders are found to have medium to high potential in becoming APAARI members. This needs to be reconfirmed by using detailed data and information for these stakeholders.
4. Assessment of needs, priorities, strengths and resources of stakeholders would also be good basis to determine the extent of benefits expected by the members and what could be potentially offered/delivered by APAARI.
5. The above exercise needs to be refined and specified for various constituencies and categories of stakeholders from the view point of APAARI membership and partnership considerations.

III Attributes of APAARI Membership

Key attributes of APAARI membership are not only of assuring subscriptions and participation of members in APAARI events but also of making sure that members contribute effectively in all APAARI collective actions and endeavors so that the Association, its members, its partners, and overall stakeholders are benefitted optimally and sustainably. The following paragraphs provide main attributes, involved in efficient management and effective mobilization of APAARI membership.

3.1 Strategic Roles and Contributions of APAARI Members

Besides having the ownership of the Association as its members and shareholders, the APAARI members have the following key roles to perform and contributions to make:

1. **Resource Mobilizations and Sustainability:** The members of APAARI are being seen as the real strength of the Association. The Association needs to be self-sustaining through its assured regular

⁷ Primary stakeholders are a focused group of pre-identified organizations that have potential to be involved in APAARI as members and partners; namely NARIs, NAROs, CG Centers, AIRCA member organizations, Higher Education Institutions, CSOs (NGOs, FOs, Youth Groups, Women Organizations), the private sector organizations, and development organizations (national, regional, global and intergovernmental), that have been used for targeting and sharing of resources, partnership, information, benefits as arising from APAARI collective actions.

⁸ APAARI’s in-house document containing data, information, mapping and PPT, covering various aspects of the proposition on APAARI Stakeholder Engagement Strategy.

membership subscriptions and also its forthcoming partnership in collective actions. This encourages donors and collaborators to provide equity support in terms of funding, sponsorship and partnership to APAARI led program activities.

2. **APAARI Governance and Development:** Select members represent their constituencies as members of the APAARI Executive Committee and thereby actively get involved in contributing to good governance and effective development of the Association. For the initial period of 15 years (until 2006), the membership of the Executive Committee was mainly comprised of the members from the Country Core membership categories. However in 2007, CG Centers and GFAR were allotted seats on the EC. The membership of the EC got gradually expanded to other diverse constituencies such as NGOs, farmer organizations, ARICA member institutions, the private sector, and higher education institutions. Thus the Executive Committee has been broadened to take care of diverse interests in APAARI governance and development. This diversity of interests needs to be further broadened to accommodate other crucial stakeholder constituencies such as women, youth, donors, consumers, agricultural co-operatives, marketing and trading blocks, and finance and investment institutions,
3. **APAARI Performance and Effectiveness:** In voluntary membership-based organization such as APAARI, the basic pre-requisite is to have proactive and willing participation by its members in APAARI supported and led collective actions. This participation can be through partnership, collaboration, resource-sharing, resource mobilization, benefit-sharing, etc. for the benefit of APAARI members, stakeholders and wider beneficiaries. This role is most sought after in APAARI. To an extent this contribution has been forthcoming but it is not at the desired level. Invariably only the APAARI Secretariat is seen to be the main actor and leading face of the Association's performance and impacts.

This area needs to be reviewed and relooked at, so that there is effective partnership and collaboration between APAARI members, agri-food research and innovation organizations, and primary stakeholders. To forge such partnership, APAARI needs to embark on a series of awareness activities about the importance and scope of strengthening AFRIS. The modus operandi could be to have regular events for member organizations on awareness about their needs and appreciation of their involvement not only in participating but also in leading the collective actions, with other collaborators and partners.

4. **Populating APAARI Membership:** Although APAARI has diversity of membership constituencies, these constituencies have not been adequately populated to a reasonable extent and representations. There are hardly any members in constituencies such as FOs, NGOs, women organizations, youth organizations, and the private sector. So concerted efforts need to be put in to mobilize and populate members in these constituencies. The current members of the Association have major role and responsibility in commending and mobilizing APAARI stakeholders to join the Association as its members and thus help populating the constituencies.

3.2 Key Benefits to APAARI Members

Broadly scoped benefits to APAARI members are highlighted as below⁹:

⁹ Specific benefits for each category of membership need to be worked out from time to time and used as needed.

1. APAARI member organizations get best possible opportunities for overall strengthening of agri-food research and innovations systems, their partner organizations and their stakeholders. This in-turn helps them in enhancing outputs and outcomes of their target agri-food systems.
2. Members avail enhanced scope for networking, knowledge sharing, collaboration and partnership by synergizing collective efforts of APAARI and its partners and stakeholders.
3. Members get avenues for disseminating their research and innovation outputs/outcomes and their appropriate integration in national, regional and global knowledge base, and thereby increasing the visibility of the members and their activities and accomplishments.
4. They get opportunities to contribute to and influence on the enhanced performance, development and governance of APAARI.
5. They benefit from capacity development activities, organized by APAARI and its partners, to strengthen their technical, policy, and managerial skills/expertise. In these efforts, special focus can be availed to specific targets such as women, youth, disadvantaged organizations and countries.
6. By sharing and benefiting from a wide range of experiences and lessons of APAARI members and partners, APAARI member organizations can enhance their own skills and abilities in serving their stakeholders and clients.
7. Members can also avail opportunities, as available through APAARI collective actions, to mobilize and enhance their resources such as skills, infrastructure, organizational structures, partnerships, finances and overall capabilities.

3.3 Incentives/encouragements to APAARI members/stakeholders

In order to attract and retain membership and also to make membership effective, APAARI should have the following key considerations and strategies:

1. Target the already mapped and scoped diverse set of primary stakeholders as listed in the APAARI stakeholder engagement strategy [474 as listed in Annex Table 7])¹⁰, and connect and interact with them so that they have been provided with access to data, information and knowledge as emerged/generated out of APAARI current and past activities.
2. The contacts should also allow APAARI to assess and understand the attributes, needs, and priorities, expectations, etc. of these stakeholders. That in turn should equip APAARI to targeting and meeting the priority needs of these stakeholders and also to bank on their support in APAARI collective actions.
3. This can then be followed with a systematic efforts of engaging and encouraging high priority groups of stakeholders to become APAARI members in appropriate categories/constituencies.

¹⁰ Listings of current members and primary stakeholders, as have been mapped under APAARI stakeholder engagement strategy, are cleaned and reproduced as in Annex Table 3 (73 members) and Annex Table 7 (474 primary stakeholders).

4. There has been an on-going process in APAARI to manage and help support small economies and weak institutions to participate in many of the APAARI sponsored and led activities such as dialogues, conference, capacity development, knowledge sharing, etc. This process needs to be strengthened and continued with support from APAARI donors, collaborators and partners.
5. Based on specific priorities/needs of stakeholders/ members, coupled with specific interests of donor organizations/funders, APAARI could create partnership arrangements between donors and such stakeholders/members, whereby the donors/funders could provide funding support to such members/ stakeholders for their participation in APAARI collective actions/activities.

3.4 Knowledge-sharing as basic support to members/stakeholders

As part of its vital benefit-sharing activity and also membership management / mobilization strategy, APAARI needs to have an optimal program on knowledge sharing/exchange, to adequately engage its members and primary stakeholders. The following are the key elements of such knowledge sharing/exchange:

- 1 Key resources for sharing should be APAARI Newsletters, APAARI News Highlights, contemporary materials on social media tools, webinars (e-conferences), and mass emails through online applications and based on searches, and any other resources as available from advanced technologies.
- 2 Some materials included could be the systematically assessed and analysed data and information sets (available online through websites), as emerged from the current and past activities/publications of APAARI and also of its members and partners.
- 3 E-conferences and consultations on topics of collective interest between APAARI and its members/ stakeholders and partners, can be organized through webinars.
- 4 Some advanced engagement with selective groups of members and stakeholder, based on their needs and interests, can also be undertaken in the areas of joint project, capacity development/training programs, representations and participations in regional and global events, resource and benefit sharing, networks, fora, and special dialogues.
- 5 The stakeholders should also be involved in two-way communications so that they can express their needs and expectations from APAARI and also share their contributions with APAARI and its partners.
- 6 There should also be systematic periodical assessment on feedbacks from members and stakeholders on such knowledge sharing efforts.

IV. Management of APAARI Membership

4.1 Regulations and Processes for Managing Membership

For effective management and mobilization of APAARI members, the following basic set of rules and processes need to be considered, adopted and followed.

1. Current and potential members and primary stakeholders should be made aware of specific benefits that they and their stakeholders (i.e. AFRIS in the ACP region) will be able to get through their membership and participation in APAARI activities. This should also include normative costs incurred by members and benefits accrued to them.
2. Members/stakeholders should be made aware of the process of applying for membership, categorization/ constituency of membership, rights, roles and obligations of members, payment procedure, membership withdrawal process, and basic details of APAARI (constitution/brief/ website/ communications addresses, etc.).
3. The EC Chairman and the Executive Secretary should be able to make decisions of acceptance/rejections of membership, on the basis of appropriate rationales and modalities.
4. APAARI members by definition should be organizations (with laws, articles, scope and jurisdictions to function and get governed, etc.) and not individuals. Even the private sector should be such legally set organizations/ corporates, having well specified structures for their functioning and governance.
5. A member in the Country Core category should be an apex government organization in the country as decided /commended by the government/ authority (usually concerned ministry) in the country. Any other organizations from that country could join the APAARI membership in any other category/ constituency such as associate or affiliate categories.
6. The annual subscription payment for all members falls due on 1st of January of the year. However, the payments can be received any time (January to December) within that year. Sometimes, some members may delay their payments to the next year. This generally happens due to different financial years and internal cash management processes. The process of issuing invoice and sending reminders by APAARI be routinely followed to assure timely payments.
7. Membership subscription for an organization can be waived if such organization or country of the organization gets affected because of natural or man-made disaster of serious nature. Besides waiving the subscription, APAARI should be able to organize/ provide appropriate assistance and help to the affected areas/people through contributions through APAARI members, partners and collaborators.
8. Any member organization, wishing to withdraw its membership, may provide its written intention to do so. Such intention can be considered by the Executive Secretary and the EC Chairman and appropriate response needs to be sent to the concerned organization. Such withdrawal can also be considered and reviewed as needed during the next Executive Committee meeting for deciding any recourse.
9. If membership subscription is not paid by an organization consecutively for three years, such case(s) should be considered by the Executive Committee for appropriate decision as to continue or to discontinue such membership(s). Appropriate rationale and considerations be used in such decision-making.

10. The rules, regulations and processes be approved by the General Assembly as per the provision of Article 14 – Rules and Regulations of the APAARI Constitution and be made available as an APAARI Management Standard.

4.2 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy for Managing APAARI Membership

In order to retain and manage the APAARI membership for effective benefit-sharing, a systematic assessment (by Martina) using to a two-way grid of influence and interest for stakeholder engagement strategy, could be used in designing appropriate actions by APAARI. The following are key guidelines.

1. Members having high influence over AFRIS and high interest with APAARI will need intensive efforts by APAARI to engage them closely in terms of their involvement in APAARI governance, strategic decision-making and events, partnership in key collective actions/ projects, representation of APAARI in regional and global events, as beneficiaries of capacity development activities; and targeting them for all APAARI knowledge sharing /exchange activities.
2. Members with low interest in APAARI and also having low influence over AFRIS, may need effective monitoring by targeting them through APAARI Newsletters, ANH, Social Media, etc. Such members need continued monitoring for their interests, especially for any changes in their circumstances/ environments. This will help APAARI in taking appropriate actions, regarding supporting/expanding their involvement and contributions in APAARI and AFRIS.
3. Those members with high influence over AFRIS but low interest in APAARI, need to be satisfied with APAARI's on-going actions such as their engagement/ re-engagement through dialogue (meetings, e-mail communication, and interactions), raising APAARI's profile, targeting them through APAARI Newsletter, ANH and Social Media. The objective can be to enhance their interest in APAARI.
4. Similarly, those members with low influence over AFRIS but high interest in APAARI, may need to be kept engaged in APAARI actions such as their involvement in APAARI-supported capacity development activities, participation in key events, joint projects, target of APAARI publications, Newsletter, ANH and Social Media.

V. Membership Expansion under the Country Core Membership Category

As given in Annex Table 2, out of the total 78 members of APAARI during 2018, twenty one (21) members are in the Country Core membership category. In the ACP region, some 45 countries/Territories (as listed in Annex Table 4), have sizable area under agri-food systems and have considerable population dependent on agriculture. Leaving the current 21 members aside, there are 24 countries which are not members (non-members) of APAARI as marked in Annex Table 4. Of these 24, some 18 countries have potential (high priority level as mentioned in the last column of the Table) to be members of APAARI. However, these may need facilitation, encouragement and congenial environment for them to join APPARI as members and beneficiaries. Remaining 6 countries have relatively low potential (low priority level) to become APAARI members, and these could be invited as guest members and partners.

Efforts be made to solicit national government apex organizations from these 18 countries/territories to take up APAARI membership in the Country Core Category. Since the bulk of these countries/ territories are small sized economies with harsh and isolated environments, these countries/organizations will need some organized external funding support (at least for initial 4 to 5 years) for their membership

subscriptions. Some global/ regional donor/aid agencies could be persuaded in giving such financial support.

VI Restructuring of Membership Categories and Subscription Levels

As at present, the Country Core Membership Category has three sub-categories: sub-category i) - Category I (A) with subscription of USD 10,000; sub-category ii) - Category I (B) with subscription of USD 6,000; and sub-category iii) - Category I (C) with subscription of USD 3,000.

However, there are a number of small-island and isolated countries with marginal economies such as Maldives, FSM, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tonga, and these countries may have limitation in paying even USD 3,000 subscription per year. It is therefore considered appropriate to have additional sub-category iv) - Category I (D) with subscription of USD 1,500. (as shown in Annex Table 5). This sub-category should provide for accommodating countries with small economies.

A considerable number (28 as listed in Annex Table 6) of regional and international development organizations have potential to play very crucial role as partners of APAARI by providing technical assistance, policy initiatives, funding, and collaboration in the APR region. It is therefore considered useful to have a separate membership category (termed as ‘Support Group Members’) to have these organizations as APAARI members. This membership will be voluntary and should not have any membership subscription.

The proposed restructure of the APAARI Membership Categories and Subscription levels is shown in Annex Table 5. This suggested restructure will need acceptance by the Executive Committee and subsequently will need approval from the General Assembly as per the proviso of Article 14 of the APPARI Constitution. Such modified membership categories and subscription levels be brought out as a management standard for practicing.

VII. Primary Stakeholders as Potential Members of APAARI

The primary stakeholder databases used under the stakeholder mapping (as referred to in Section 2.2 above) have been cleaned up and sorted out to come up with main constituencies of organizations as presented in Annex Table 6.

1. These ten constituencies are i) National government organizations, ii) Higher education /universities, iii) Regional/international agricultural research centers/organizations, iv) NGOs, v) Farmer organizations, vi) Women organizations, vii) youth organizations, viii) The private sector, ix) regional/global fora, and x) Regional and international development organizations.
2. The last column of the Annex Table 6 suggests possible APAARI membership category for such organizations. These stakeholders need to be targeted and encouraged to become APAARI members. Any remaining stakeholders will continue to be APAARI beneficiaries and partners.
3. The stakeholder mapping exercise has been undertaken for the current members and needs to be reviewed and routinely undertaken as APAARI’s membership expands and changes. The approach using the two-way grid should also be applied in assessing primary stakeholders (listed 474 as mapped in Annex Table 7). Based on such assessment, these primary stakeholders can be targeted

for encouraging and convincing them to become APAARI members under appropriate categories/constituencies of the membership.

4. It is also important to develop understanding of the needs, priorities, expectations, strengths of individual or groups of the primary stakeholders so that appropriate APAARI partnership actions (such as projects, resource mobilization, webinars, moderated discussions, participation in events, etc.) can be targeted to such stakeholders not only for benefit-sharing but also for resource-sharing. This will help attracting and winning such stakeholders becoming APAARI members.
5. From the current exercise of stakeholder mapping, about 25 stakeholders are found to have medium to high potential in becoming APAARI members. This needs to be reconfirmed by using detailed data-bases for these stakeholders.
6. APAARI membership expansion should also consider many relevant organizations; representing nationally, regionally and even globally, that are essentially needed to be involved and participating in APAARI collective actions.
7. These include consumer's organizations, agricultural co-operatives, marketing and trade blocks, finance and investment institutions, APAARI facilitating organizations, regional and international private sector networks, rural advisory services, national and regional governments, and national and regional banks. This will require a systematic assessment of potential categories/constituencies of such membership and the understanding of the process of their mobilization and the necessary constitutional provisions.

VIII. Conclusion

This document describes and presents an overall APAARI Membership Strategy, encompassing key strategic considerations and basic guiding principles involved in the management and mobilization of the APAARI membership. The main areas covered are i) background in terms of APAARI establishment and importance of its membership in growth of APAARI, ii) key attributes of APAARI membership, such as role and contribution of APAARI members, benefits to APAARI members, incentives/encouragements to APAARI members/stakeholders, and knowledge-sharing as basic support to members/stakeholders iii) need and scope for expanding APAARI membership and for making it effective in APAARI performance, iv) specificities of managing membership, v) restructuring of membership categorization and subscription levels, and vi) suggesting strategic expansion/ mobilization of membership by targeting the country core membership and by assessing the primary stakeholders of APAARI.

The data and information assessed and presented; considerations accounted for; and guiding principles and rationalization used, are seen to be an excellent basis for the Association to design and apply key practicing strategies (ways and processes) for effective management and mobilization of APAARI membership, thereby enhancing the performance of the Association. The designing of practicing strategies can be in a systematic, interactive, and progressive manner and such strategies can be reflected through a management standard on APAARI membership.

Annexure IX contd.

Annexes
APAARI Membership Strategy:
Strategic Considerations and Guiding Principles for Management and Mobilization
of APAARI Membership

Annex Table 1. Foundation Members (Country Core Members)* of APAARI in 1991-92				
#	Country**	Organization/ Member	Constituency	Comment
1	Bangladesh	BARC	NARI	Council under Ministry
2	China	CAAS	NARI	Academy under Ministry
3	Fiji	Ministry of Primary Industries	NARO	Division of Agri. Research
4	India	ICAR (Council)	NARI	DARE, Ministry of Agriculture
5	Iran	Ministry of Agriculture	NARO	Research Division
6	Malaysia	MARDI	NARI	Research and Development Institution
7	New Zealand	Ministry of Agriculture	NARO	MAF Technology
8	Pakistan	PARC (Council)	NARI	Council under Ministry
9	PNG	Department of Agriculture	NARO	Later NARI
10	Philippines	PCARRD (Council)	NARI	Socioeconomic Research Division
11	Republic of Korea	Rural Development Administration	NARO	Tropical Agricultural Division
12	Sri Lanka	CARP	NARI	Council under Ministry
13	Thailand	Department of Agriculture (DOA)	NARO	Ministry
14	Samoa	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	NARO	Ministry
	FAO Supported	Dr. R. B. Singh – Regional Plant Production and Protection Officer	Executive Secretary	FAO, RAP Bangkok

*Country Core Members were referred to as regular members.

** Three countries - Indonesia, Japan and Vietnam - were involved as observers.

Annex Table 2. Number of APAARI Members in Various Categories and Constituencies (2018)									
#	Category	Constituencies							Total
		NARIs	NAROs	HE	IARCs	NGOs	FOs	Fora	
1	Country Core Members	14*	7	–	–	–	–	–	21
2	Associate Members	-	1	11	17	-	-	-	29
3	Affiliate Members	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	13
4	Reciprocal Members	-	-	-	-	2	1	12	15
	Total	14	8	24	17	2	1	12	78

*Afghanistan- ARIA is shown under the Country Core Category though it is an affiliate member.

Annex Table 3. Members of APAARI in Various Categories / Constituencies (2018)			
No.	Membership Category/ Constituency/ Organization	Abbreviation	Country/Territory
I	Country Core Members/ National government agricultural research organizations		
1	Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization	AREEO	Iran
2	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research	ACIAR	Australia
3	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council	BARC	Bangladesh
4	Council of Agriculture	CoA	Taiwan
5	Department of Agriculture	DoA	Bhutan
6	Department of Agriculture	DoA	Thailand
7	Institut Agronomique Neo-Caledonien	IAC	New Caledonia
8	Indian Council of Agricultural Research	ICAR	India
9	Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences	JIRCAS	Japan
10	Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute	MARDI	Malaysia
11	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	MAF	Samoa
12	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	MARD	Vietnam
13	Ministry of Agriculture	MoA	Fiji
14	National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute	NAFRI	Lao PDR
15	Nepal Agricultural Research Council	NARC	Nepal
16	National Agricultural Research Institute	NARI	Papua New Guinea
17	Pakistan Agricultural Research Council	PARC	Pakistan
18	Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development	PCAARRD	Philippines
19	Rural Development Administration	RDA	Republic of Korea
20	Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy	SLCARP	Sri Lanka

21	Agriculture Research Institute of Afghanistan	ARIA	Afghanistan
	Category Total - Country Core Members	21	
II	Associate Members /Higher Education		
22	Assam Agricultural University	AAU	India
23	Central Agricultural University	CAU	India
24	Dr Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, India	DBSKKV	India
25	Indian Agricultural Universities Association	IAUA	India
26	Kamdhenu University	KU	India
27	Punjab Agricultural University	PAU	India
28	Papua New Guinea University of Technology	UNITECH	Papua New Guinea
29	Professor Jayshankar Telangana State Agricultural University	PJTSAU	India
30	Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture Technology & Sciences	SHUATS	India
31	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University	TNAU	India
32	Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry	UUHF	India
	Sub-category total - Higher Education	11	
	Associate Members/ International Agricultural Research Organizations		
33	World Vegetable Center	WorldVeg	Taiwan
34	Bioversity International	BI	Italy
35	Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International	CABI	UK
36	Crops For the Future	CFF	Malaysia
37	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development	ICIMOD	Nepal
38	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center	CIMMYT	Mexico
39	Center for International Forestry Research	CIFOR	Indonesia
40	International Potato Center	CIP	Peru
41	International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas	ICARDA	Lebanon
42	World Agroforestry Center	ICRAF	Kenya
43	International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics	ICRISAT	India
44	International Food Policy Research Institute	IFPRI	USA
45	International Livestock Research Institute	ILRI	Kenya
46	International Rice Research Institute	IRRI	Philippines
47	The World Fish Center	WorldFish	Malaysia
48	International Association for Agricultural Sustainability	IAAS	Singapore
49	SAARC Agriculture Centre	SAC	Bangladesh

50	Bureau of Agricultural Research	BAR	Philippines
	Sub-category Total - International Agricultural Research Organizations	18	
	Category Total - Associate Members	29	
III	Affiliate Members		
51	Anand Agricultural University	AAU	India
52	Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya University	CSK HPKV	India
53	Indian Institute of Technology Mumbai	IITB	India
54	Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Raipur	IGKV	India
55	Junagadh Agricultural University	JAU	India
56	Mahidol University	MU	Thailand
57	National Chung Hsing University-GLORIA, Taiwan (R.O.C.)	NCHU	Taiwan
58	Navsari Agricultural University	NAU	India
59	Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University	SDAU	India
60	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (Jammu)	SKUAST	India
61	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore	UAS	India
62	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad	UAS	India
63	University Putra Malaysia	UPM	Malaysia
	Category Total - Affiliate Members	13	
IV	Reciprocal Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) - Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)		
64	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee	BRAC	Bangladesh
65	Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences	TAAS	India
	Reciprocal Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) - Farmers' organizations (FOs)		
66	Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development	AFA	Philippines
	Sub-category Total – CSOs	3	
	Reciprocal/Fora		
67	Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific	AFMA	Thailand
68	Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa	AARINENA	Jordan
69	Asia-Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions	APAFRI	Malaysia
70	Asia-Pacific Seed Association	APSA	Thailand

71	Biotech Consortium India Limited	BCIAL	India
72	Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institution	CACAARI	Uzbekistan
73	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa	FARA	Ghana
74	Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition	GODAN	UK
75	Human Life Advancement Foundation	HLAF	Malaysia
76	Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific	NACA	Thailand
77	Secretariat of the Pacific Community	SPC	Fiji Islands
78	Asian Institute of Technology	AIT	Thailand
	Sub-category total Fora	12	
	Category total - Reciprocal	15	
	Total number of members - Grand Total	78	

Annex Table 4. Current and Proposed Membership under Country Core Membership Category					
#	Sub Region/Country/ Territory	Current Membership/ Subscription Category	Type / Constituency	Proposed Subscription Category	Priority Level
I	South Asia and West Asia				
1	Afghanistan	Affiliate	NARI	Cat. I (C)	
2	Bangladesh	Cat. I (B)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	
3	Bhutan	Cat. I (C)	NARO	Cat. I (C)	
4	India	Cat. I (A)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	
5	Iran	Cat. I (B)	NARO	Cat. I (B)	
6	Maldives	Non-Member		Cat. I (D)	High
7	Nepal	Cat. I (C)	NARI	Cat. I (C)	
8	Pakistan	Cat. I (A)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	
9	Sri Lanka	Cat. I (B)	NARI	Cat. I (B)	
II	Southeast Asia and East Asia				
1	Brunei	Non-Member		Cat. I (B)	High
2	Cambodia	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High
3	China	Non-Member		Cat. I (A)	High
4	Indonesia	Non-Member		Cat. I (A)	High
5	Japan	Cat. I (A)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	
6	Leo PDR	Cat. I (C)	NARI	Cat. I (C)	
7	Malaysia	Cat. I (A)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	

8	Mongolia	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High
9	Myanmar	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High
10	PDR Korea	Non-Member			Low
11	Philippines	Cat. I (A)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	
12	Rep. of Korea	Cat. I (A)	NARO	Cat. I (A)	
13	Singapore	Non-Member		Cat. I (B)	High
14	Taiwan	Cat. I (A)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	
15	Thailand	Cat. I (A)	NARO	Cat. I (A)	
16	Timor-Leste	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High
17	Vietnam	Cat. I (C)	NARO	Cat. I (C)	

Cont.

Table 4. (Continued)					
#	Sub Region/Country/Territory	Current Membership/ Subscription Category	Type / Constituency	Proposed Subscription Category	Priority Level
III	The Pacific				
1	Australia	Cat. I (A)	NARI	Cat. I (A)	
2	Cook Islands	Non-Member			Low
3	Fiji	Cat. I (B)	NARO	Cat. I (B)	
4	French Polynesia (Territory)	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High
5	FSM - Federated States of Micronesia	Non-Member		Cat. I (D)	High
6	Guam (Territory)	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High
7	Marshall Islands	Non-Member		Cat. I (D)	High
8	New Caledonia (Territory)	Cat. I (B)	NARI	Cat. I (B)	
9	New Zealand	Non-Member		Cat. I (B)	High
10	Niue	Non-Member			Low
11	Palau	Non-Member			Low
12	Papua New Guinea	Cat. I (B)	NARI	Cat. I (B)	
13	Rep. of Kiribati	Non-Member		Cat. I (D)	High
14	Samoa	Cat. I (C)	NARO	Cat. I (C)	
15	Solomon Islands	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High

16	Tokelau (Territory)	Non-Member			Low
17	Tonga	Non-Member		Cat. I (D)	High
18	Tuvalu	Non-Member			Low
19	Vanuatu	Non-Member		Cat. I (C)	High
45	Total Numbers	21 current members		18 proposed members	

Annex Table 5. Proposed Restructuring of APAARI Membership Categories and Subscriptions			
#	Category/Sub-category	Annual Subscription USD	Organizations /Countries/Territories
1	Category I (Country Core Members)		Apex government supported national organizations like NARIs, NAROs, ministries, departments, councils, agencies, boards from the ACP region.
	- Sub-Category I (A) Countries	10,000	Large, developed or developing economies such as Australia, China, India, Japan, Pakistan, Thailand, Philippines. For details refer to Annex Table 4.
	- Sub-Category I (B) Countries	6,000	Small to middle sized and developing economies such as Sri Lanka, PNG, Fiji, Iran, (Details in Annex Table 4).
	- Sub-Category I (C) Countries	3,000	Small sized and less developed nations such as Bhutan, Nepal, Vietnam, Leo PDR, Samoa, (Details in Annex Table 4)
	- Sub-Category I (D) Countries	1,500	Less developed small island and isolated nations such as Maldives, FSM, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tonga, (details in Annex Table 4)
2	Category II (Associate Members)	5,000	Higher Education, Universities, IARCs, the private sector, CSOs and any others.
3	Category III (Affiliate Members)	1,500	Higher Education/ Universities, the private sector, CSOs, any others.
4	Category IV (Reciprocal Members)	Nil	Regional/global fora/networks akin to APAARI and are of mutually beneficial with APAARI and willing to have membership on reciprocal basis.
5	Category V (Support Group Members)	Nil	Regional/international organizations supporting development through aid, technical assistance, policy initiatives, collaboration partnership in the APR region.

Annex Table 6. Constituencies /Categories of Primary Stakeholders as Potential Members of APAARI				
#	Broad Stakeholder Constituency	No. of Potential Organizations	Nature/ Type of Organizations	Comment / Membership Category
1	National Government Organizations engaged in Agricultural Research and Innovations	35	NARIs, NAROs, Ministries, Departments, Councils, Agencies, Boards in the ACP region.	Some may qualify as Country Core members while others can join other categories of membership.
2	Higher Education/ Universities	58	Degree awarding agricultural universities/institutions also undertaking research, innovations and development.	May join APARI as associate or affiliate members.
3	Regional and International Agricultural Research Centers / Organizations	17	Regional and global research , innovation capacity development, contributing to ACP such as CG and AIRCA	May join APARI as associate or affiliate members.
4	Non-Government Organizations - Civil Society Organizations	99	NGOs, Networks of NGOs in the region as well as around the globe, contributing to the ACP Region.	Many may join in affiliate category, some may get in as associate members.
5	Farmer Organizations - CSOs	95	FOs, Networks of FOs in the region as well as globally, contributing to the ACP Region.	Many may join in affiliate category, some may get in as associate members.
6	Women Organizations- CSOs	40	WOs, Networks of WOs in the region and contributing to the ACP Region.	Many may join in affiliate category, some may get in as associate members.
7	Youth Organizations- CSOs	18	Youth Organizations, Networks of YOs in the region, also globally, contributing to the ACP Region.	Some may join in affiliate category, some may get in as associate members.

Annex Table 6. Continued				
#	Broad Stakeholder Constituency	No. of Potential Organizations	Nature/Type of Organizations	Comment/ Membership Category
8	The Private Sector Organizations	48	The Private Sector associations, networks (in the region and globally), engaged in research, innovations and up-scaling/ out-scaling towards development and serving the ACP region.	Need to invite and encourage these to be associate/ affiliate members of APAARI.
9	Sub-regional, Regional and Global Fora	36	Regional/global fora/networks akin to APAARI, engaged in strengthening their members/stakeholders and prepared to be APAARI members on a reciprocal basis.	Reciprocal do not pay any subscription and do not have voting right in APAARI governance.
10	Regional/International Development Organizations	28	Regional/international organizations supporting development through aid, technical assistance, policy initiatives, collaboration partnership in the APR region.	These organizations be invited to be Members of APAARI Support Group, a specially formed 'Special APAARI Membership Category' (without any membership subscriptions).
	Total	474		

Note: The above primary stakeholders of APAARI, as scoped/mapped under APAARI stakeholder engagement strategy, be targeted and encouraged to become APAARI members. Any remaining stakeholders will continue to be APAARI beneficiaries and partners as its stakeholders.

Annex Table 7. Primary Stakeholders for Assessment as Potential Members of APAARI			
#	Organization	Abbreviation	Country/ Territory
I	National Government Organizations Engaged in Agricultural Research and Innovations		
1	AgResearch New Zealand	AgRes NZ	New Zealand
2	Agriculture Department, Government of the Punjab	ADP	Pakistan
3	Agricultural Technology Research Institute	ATRI	Taiwan
4	Assam Science Technology and Environment Council	ASTEC	India
5	Atomic Research Centre	ARC	India
6	Cambodian Agricultural Research and Development Institute	CARDI	Cambodia
7	Central Institute for Research on Goats, Uttar Pradesh	CIRG	India
8	Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Maharashtra	CIFE	India
9	Commission on Higher Education	CHED	Philippines
10	Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology	DoB	India
11	Department of Food Technology Quality Control	DFTQC	Nepal
12	Department of National Planning & Monitoring	DNPM	Papua New Guinea (PNG)
13	Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry	DPCMAF	Lao PDR
14	Department of Science and Technology	DoST	India
14	Gross National Happiness Commission	GNHC	Bhutan
16	Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun	ICFRE	India
17	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Deemed University	IVRI	India
18	Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development	IAARD	Indonesia
19	Indonesian Center for Agricultural Engineering Research and Development	ICAERD	Indonesia
20	Kazusa DNA Research Institute	KDNARI	Japan
21	Malaysian Institute of Microelectronic Systems	MIMOS	Malaysia
22	Ministry of Agriculture	MoA India	India
23	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	MoEF&CC	India
24	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	MSME	India
25	National Academy of Agricultural Research Management	NAARM	India
26	National Dairy Development Board, Gujarat	NDDB	India
27	National Dairy Research Institute, Haryana	NDRI	India
28	National Institute of Transforming India	NITI	India
29	National Research Centre on Camel, Rajasthan	NRCC	India
30	North East Institute of Science and Technology	NEIST	India
31	Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute	TARI	Taiwan
32	Taiwan Banana Research Institute	TBRI	Taiwan
33	Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research	UPCAR	India
34	Uttar Pradesh Council of Science and Technology, Lucknow	UPCST	India

35	Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences	VAAS	Vietnam
	Sub-total - National Government Organizations	35	
II	Higher Education/Universities		
1	Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University	ANGRAU	India
2	Agricultural and Forestry University	AFU	Nepal
3	Andalas University	AU	Indonesia
4	Australian National University	ANU	Australia
5	Bangladesh Agriculture University, Mymensingh	BAU	Bangladesh
6	Benguet State University	BSU	Philippines
7	Bidhan Chandra Agriculture University	BCAU	India
8	Birsa Agriculture University	BAU	India
9	Bogor Agricultural University	IPB	Indonesia
10	Center of Social-Economics and Food Policy Study, Malang Islamic University	CSEFPS-MIU	Indonesia
11	Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University	CCS-HAU	India
12	Chulalongkorn University	Chula	Thailand
13	Collaborative Innovation Center for Ecological Design Center, Tsinghua University	CICEDCTU	China
14	Dr YSR Horticultural University	DYHU	India
15	Fiji National University	FNU	Fiji
16	G.B. Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development, India	GB PNIHESD	India
17	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology	GBPUAT	India
18	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	IARI	India
19	Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya	IGKV	India
20	Institute for Studies on Agriculture and Rural Development, Dharwad	ISARD	India
21	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya	NJNKVV	India
22	Karnataka State Farm Universities	KSFU	India
23	Kasetsart University	KasU	Thailand
24	Lycée Agricole de Pouembout	LAP	New Caledonia
25	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology	MPUAT	India
26	Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth	MPKV	India
27	Mansinhbhai Institute of Dairy & Food Technology, Mehsana	MIDFT	India
28	National University of Malaysia - Institute for Climate Change	NUMICC	Malaysia
29	National Institute of Education	NIE	Singapore
30	Nong Lam University	NLU	Vietnam
31	Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges	PASUC	Philippines
32	Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Rajasthan	RAJUVAS	India
33	Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidhyalaya	RVSKVV	India
34	Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology	SBBPUAT	India

35	School of Agricultural Economics and Rural development of Renmin University	SAERRU	China
36	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Kashmir	SKUASTK	India
37	Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture	SEARCA	Philippines
38	Southeast Rural Social Leadership Institute	SEARSOLIN	Philippines
39	Tribhuvan University	TU	Nepal
40	University Grants Commission	UGC	India
41	University of Agriculture, Peshawar, Pakistan	UoA Pakistan	Pakistan
42	University of Fiji	UF	Fiji
43	University of Goroka	UG	PNG
44	University of Melbourne	UoMel	Australia
45	University of Natural Resources and Environment	UNRE	PNG
46	University of New Caledonia	UNC	New Caledonia
47	University of Queensland	UQ	Australia
48	University of Southern Mindanao	USM	Philippines
49	University of Sunshine Coast	USC	Australia
50	University of the South Pacific	USP	Fiji Islands
51	University of Tokyo	UOT	Japan
52	University of the Philippines Los Baños	UPLB	Philippines
53	University of the Philippines Visayas	UPV	Philippines
54	Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya	UBKV	India
55	Uttar Pradesh Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Lucknow	UPAAS	India
56	Vietnam National University of Agriculture	VNUA	Vietnam
57	Visayas State University	VSU	Philippines
58	Yezin Agricultural University	YAU	Myanmar
	Sub-total - Higher Education/Universities	58	
III	Regional/International agricultural research centers (IARCs) organizations		
1	Africa Rice (CGIAR)	Africa Rice	Benin
2	African Insect Science for Food and Health (AIRCA)	ICIPE	Kenya
3	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	ASEAN	Indonesia
4	Borlaug Institute for South Asia	BISA	India
5	Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development)	CIRAD	France
6	Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture	CAPSA	Indonesia
7	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization	CSIRO	Australia
8	French National Institute for Agricultural Research	INRA	France
9	International Centre for Bio saline Agriculture	ICBA	UAE
10	International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CGIAR)	CIAT	Colombia

11	International Fertilizer Development Center (AIRCA)	IFDC	USA
12	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (CGIAR)	IITA	Nigeria
13	International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (AIRCA)	INBAR	China
14	International Plant Nutrition Institute	IPNI	USA
15	International Water Management Institute (CGIAR)	IWMI	Sri Lanka
16	Secretariat of the Pacific Community	SPC	Fiji Islands
17	Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (AIRCA)	CATIE	Costa Rica
	Sub-total- Regional/International agricultural research centers (IARCs) organizations	17	
IV	Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)		
1	Action for Social Advancement, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	ASA	India
2	Adventist Development and Relief Agency	ADRA	USA
3	Aga Khan Foundation	AKF	Pakistan
4	Agribusiness Support Fund	ASF	Pakistan
5	Agriculture Development Foundation	ADF	PNG
6	Agriterra	AT	Netherlands
7	Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation Inc	AIDFI	Philippines
8	Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development	ANGOC	Philippines
9	Association for Voluntary Agencies in Rural Development	AVARD	India
10	Association of Agro-meteorologists	AA	India
11	Association of Land Reform and Development	ALRD	Bangladesh
12	BAIF Development Research Foundation	BAIF DRF	India
13	Bina Desa	Bina Desa	Indonesia
14	Bharatya Agro-Industries Foundation (BAIF) Development Research Foundation	BAIF	India
15	Botad Gujarat	Botad	India
16	Care International	CARE	PNG
17	CARITAS	CARITAS	PNG
18	Caucus of Development NGO Networks	CODE-NGO	Philippines
19	Center d'Etude et de Developpement Agricole Cambodgien	CEDAC	Cambodia
20	Centre for Environmental and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension and Development	CEAPRED	Nepal
21	Childfund	CF	PNG
22	China Association of NGOs	CANGO	China
23	Christenson Fund	CF	PNG
24	Civil Society Inclusion in Food Security and Poverty Elimination Network	CIFPEN	Vietnam
25	Community Self-Reliance Centre	CSRC	Nepal

26	Conseil supérieur de l'audiovisuel	CSA	Belgium
27	Conservation International	CI	USA
28	Consortium for Agrarian Reform (KPA)	KPA	Indonesia
29	Consumers International, Asia Pacific Office	CIROAP	Malaysia
30	Deendayal Research Institute, Chitrakot, Madhya Pradesh	DRI	India
31	Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti, Jodhpur, Rajasthan	GRAVIS	India
32	Farm-to-food	FTF	India
33	FishBase	FB	Philippines
34	Floriculture Association	FA	PNG
35	Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development	FORWARD	Nepal
36	Foundation for Agrarian Reform Cooperatives in Mindanao	FARMCOOP	Philippines
37	Greenpeace	Greenpeace	Netherlands
38	GVM Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry, Panchmahal	GVMPAH	India
39	Indonesian National Committee for Family Farming	INCFF	Indonesia
40	International Development Enterprises	IDE	Cambodia
41	Inang Lupa Movement, Inc.	ILMI	Philippines
42	Industry Council for Small Business Development	ICSBD	USA
43	International Network for Community Supported Agriculture	URGENCEI	China
44	International Ocean Institute	IOI	Malta
45	Institute of Himalayan Environmental Research and Education	INHERE	India
46	Keshvam Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry, Jasdan	KPAH	India
47	Kristir Kathia	KK	India
48	Landcare Foundation Philippines, Inc.	LFPI	Philippines
49	Landless Development Organization	LDO	Bangladesh
50	LDS Charities	LDS	PNG
51	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity Research and Development	LI-Bird	Nepal
52	Mesadam	MESADAM	India
53	Mindanao Baptist Rural Life Center Foundation	MBRLCF	Philippines
54	MS Swaminathan Research Foundation	MSSRF	India
55	National Association of Training Centers for Cooperatives	NATCCO	Philippines
56	National Innovation Foundation	NIF	India
57	National Tea and Coffee Development Board	NTCDB	Nepal
58	Navsarjan Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry, Mehsana	NPAH Mehsana	India
59	Nepal Agriculture Federation	NAF	Nepal
60	Nesia	Nesia	India
61	Network Activities Group	NAG	Myanmar
62	NGO Federation of Nepal	NFN	Nepal
63	Noble Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry, Junagadh	NPAH Junagadh	India
64	Nutrition and Education International	NEI	Afghanistan
65	OCP Foundation	OCPF	Morocco

66	Orchid India	OI	India
67	Organization for Development Education	UNNATI	Nepal
68	Oxfam	Oxfam	UK
69	Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community	POETCom	Fiji Islands
70	Pancharatna Multipurpose Cooperative Society	PMCS	India
71	Philanthropy Connections Foundation	PCF	Thailand
72	Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas	PhilDHRRA	Philippines
73	Philippine Society for the Study of Nature, Inc.	PSSN	Philippines
74	Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry, Himmatnagar and Khadasali	PAH	India
75	Poverty Reduction and Development Association	PORDEA	Lao PDR
76	Rainfed Livestock Network	RLN	India
77	Raks Thai Foundation	RTF	Thailand
78	Riddhi Polytechnic in Animal Husbandry, Himmatnagar	RPAH	India
79	Sangkalikasan Producers Cooperative	SPCo	Philippines
80	SARVODAYA/Uplift for All	SARVODAYA	Sri Lanka
81	Self Employed Women's Association	SEWA	India
82	Snehpada	Snehpada	India
83	Social Resource Institute	SRI	China
84	Society Towards Reinforcing Inherent Viability for Enrichment Foundation Inc.	STRIVE	Philippines
85	South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA)	SARRA	India
86	SCOPE, Dharwad	SCOPE	India
87	STAR Kampuchea	SK	Cambodia
88	Sustainable Agriculture Initiatives Platform	SAI Platform	Netherlands
89	Swaminarayan Gaushala	SG	India
90	Tagore Society for Rural Development	TSRD	India
91	The Border Consortium	TBC	Thailand
92	The Center for People and Forests	RECOFTC	Thailand
93	The Crawford Fund	TCF	Australia
94	Tze-Xin Organic Agriculture Foundation	TOAF	Taiwan
95	VECO Indonesia	VECO	Indonesia
96	We Effect	WE	Sweden
97	Wildlife Conservation Society	WCS	PNG
98	World Wide Fund	WWF	USA
99	World Vision	WV	USA
	Sub-total - Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) - Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	99	
V	Farmers' organizations (FOs)- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)		
1	Agriculture and Farmers Federation of Japan	AINOUKAI	Japan
2	Agriculture and Farmers Federation of Myanmar	AFFM	Myanmar
3	Agriculture and Organic Farming Group, India	AOFG	India

4	All Nepal Peasants Federation	ANPFa	Nepal
5	ANIS Foundation	ANIS	PNG
6	Association of Swine Breeder Accreditation of the Philippines	ASBAP	Philippines
7	Bali Organic Association	BOA	Indonesia
8	Bangladesh Agro-Processors Association	BAPA	Bangladesh
9	Bangladesh Fruits Vegetables and Allied Products Exporters Association	BFVAPEA	Bangladesh
10	Bharat Krishak Samaj (Indian Farmers Forum)	IFF	India
11	Beneficiaries Friendship Forum	BFF	Bangladesh
12	Best Farm Men Group	BFMG	India
13	Central Tea Cooperative Federation Ltd.	CTCF	Nepal
14	Centro Sampatulog Farmers Cooperative	CSFC	Philippines
15	Chamber of Agriculture of New Caledonia	CANC	New Caledonia
16	Chetna Organic Farmers Association	COFA	India
17	Chimbu Farmers and Growers Association	CFGa	PNG
18	Coco Technologies Corporation	CTC	Philippines
19	Cocoa Growers Association	VOCGA	Vanuatu
20	District Tea cooperatives federations	DTCF	Nepal
21	Dolker Mushroom Growing Group	DMGG	Bhutan
22	Green Light Guide to Maharlika	GLGM	Philippines
23	Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd	GCMMF	India
24	Farmer federations (under IFAD-supported projects)	FF	Nepal
25	Farmers and Water Net Cambodia	FWN	Cambodia
26	Farmers Association in North Cotabato	FANC	Philippines
27	Farmers Councils of Uzbekistan	FCU	Uzbekistan
28	Farmers Development Organization	FDO	Pakistan
29	Farmers Friend Organization	FFO	Pakistan
30	Farmers' Integrated Development Association	FIDA	Pakistan
31	Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority, Bangunan FAMA Point	FAMA	Bangladesh
32	Federation of Nepal bee keepers	FNBK	Nepal
33	Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development	FRIEND	Fiji Islands
34	Fruit Farmers Association of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor	KLSFFA	Malaysia
35	Future Farmers Network	FFN	Australia
36	Guar Gum Growers Association, Rajasthan	GGGA	India
37	Highlands Growers and Settlers Association	HGSA	PNG
38	Highlands Pig Farmer Association, Mt Hagen	HPFAMH	PNG
39	Indian Grameen Services, Madhya Pradesh	IGS	India
40	Indonesian Peasant Alliance/Aliansi Petani Indonesia	API (IPA)	Indonesia
41	Indonesian Peasant Union	SPI	Indonesia
42	Iloilo Fish Producers' Marketing Cooperative Inc.	IFPMC	Philippines
43	Irrigators' Association	IA	Philippines

44	Jai Jawan Group	JJG	India
45	Jeevan Jyoti Samiti	JJS	India
46	KAMADA MPC (Women-led)	KAMADA MPC	Philippines
47	Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM)	KKM	Bangladesh
48	Keshav Gaushala, Gandhinagar, Gujarat	KG	India
49	Krishak Adhikar Suraksha Samiti	KASS	India
50	Kishan Aayog	KA	Nepal
51	Korean Advanced Farmers Association	KAFF	Korea
52	Lapad Agrarian Reform Farmers Coop	LARFACO	Philippines
53	Los Baños Association of Organic Fruit and Vegetable Growers	LBAOFVG	Philippines
54	Maharlika Farmers Cooperative	MFC	Philippines
55	Malaysia Fruit Exporters Association	MFEA	Malaysia
56	MASIPAG	MASIPAG	Philippines
57	MILALITTRA (Tribal Org)	MILALITTRA	Philippines
58	Myanmar Fisheries Federation	MFF	Myanmar
59	National Association of Mangolian Agricultural Cooperatives	NAMAC	Mongolia
60	National Farmer Collision	NFC	Nepal
61	National Farmers Federation	NFF	Australia
62	National Farmers Groups Federation	NFGF	Nepal
63	National Federation of Hog Farmers, Inc.	NFHF	Philippines
64	National Land Rights Forum	NLRF	Nepal
65	Navara Eco Farm	NAVARA	India
66	Nepalese Farming Institute	NFI	Nepal
67	Pacific Islands Farmers Organization Network	PIFON	Fiji Islands
68	Pakistan Kissan Trust	PKT	Pakistan
69	Pamatawan Farmers' Association	PFA	Philippines
70	Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka/National Movement and Confederation of Family Farmer Organizations	PAKISAMA	Philippines
71	Panpur Farmer's Club	PFC	India
72	Paombong Fishfarmers Association	PFA	Philippines
73	Papua New Guinea Growers Association	PNGGA	PNG
74	Penubuhan Pertubuhan Peladang Kebangsaan	NAFAS	Malaysia
75	Pork Producers Federation of the Philippines, Inc.	PPFP	Philippines
76	Prayag Samiti, Allahabad	PSA	India
77	Rampore Farmer's Association	RFA	Nepal
78	Regional Agricultural Economic Development Centre	RAEDC	Pakistan
79	Sadau Asom Pathar Parichalana Samiti	SAPPS	India
80	Sakeaw Organic Association	SOA	Thailand
81	Samoan Farmers Association	SFA	Samoa
82	Shrimp Farmer Association of Thailand	SFAT	Thailand
83	Sindh Rural Support Program	SRSP	Pakistan
84	SorKorPor Farmers Association, Thailand	SKP	Thailand

85	Taiwan Dairy Farmers Association	TDFA	Taiwan
86	Taiwan Wax Apple Development Association	TWADA	Taiwan
87	Thai Fruit and Vegetable Producer Association	TFVPA	Thailand
88	The Farmers and Nature Network Cambodia	FNN	Cambodia
89	The Federation of Free Farmers	FFF	Philippines
90	Tonga Growers Federation Inc.	TGA	Tonga
91	Vietnam Association of Horticulture	VACVINA	Vietnam
92	Vietnam Farmers Association	VFA	Vietnam
93	Vietnam Farmers' Union	VNFU	Vietnam
94	Water Users Association	UWUA	Taiwan
95	Wahana Masyarakat Tani Dan Nelayan Indonesia (Indonesian Farmers Society Organization)	WAMTI	Indonesia
	Sub-total - Farmers' organizations (FOs)- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	95	
VI	Women (WO) - Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)		
1	Association of Los Baños Organic Fruit and Vegetable Growers	ALBOFVG	Philippines
2	Australian Women in Agriculture Ltd	AWiA	Australia
3	Best Farm Women Group	BFWG	India
4	Best Young Farm Women Group	BYFWG	India
5	Central Institute for Women in Agriculture	ICAR-CIWA	India
6	Community Development Association	CDA	Bangladesh, PNG
7	Foundation of Women in Agriculture Development, Cooperative Society Limited	FOWIAD	PNG
8	Gender in Fisheries and Aquaculture	GFA	India
9	Her Farm	Her Farm	Nepal
10	Indonesian Peasant Women Alliance	IPWA	Indonesia
11	Karmojibi Nari	KN	Bangladesh
12	LAKAMBINI	LAKAMBINI	Philippines
13	Liang Shuming Rural Reconstruction Center	LSRRC	China
14	Lok Sanjh Foundation	LSF	Pakistan
15	Mahila Chetna Manch, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	MCM	India
16	Nari Adhikar Suraksha Samiti	NASS	India
17	National Forums of Women Farmers	NFWF	Nepal
18	National Institute of Public Co-operation & Child Development, Lucknow	NIPCCD	India
19	National Rural Women's Coalition	NRWC	Australia
20	Papua New Guinea Women in Agriculture Development Foundation	PNGWADF	PNG
21	Professional Agricultural Women	PAW	Pakistan
22	Research Association for Gender in Agriculture	RAGA	Australia
23	Rural Improvement Club	RIC	Philippines

24	SAARC Business Association of Home Based Workers (Sabah) Nepal	SAARC BA	Nepal
25	Sadhna Sadan, Allahabad	SSA	India
26	Samridhi Mahila Development, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	SMD	India
27	Sanjeevani Vikas Evam Jan Kalyan Samiti	Sanjeevani	India
28	The Women's Foundation	WF	Nepal
29	Vietnam Women Association	VWA	Vietnam
30	Vietnam Women's Union	VWU	Vietnam
31	WIN FISH	WF	Philippines
32	Women Advanced Farmers' Association	WAFF	Korea
33	Women Commission for Development, Bangladesh	WCDB	Bangladesh
34	Women Environment and Development Organization	WEDO	USA
35	Women in Agriculture	WIA	PNG
36	Women in Coffee	WIC	PNG
37	Womens' Innovative Self Development Movement	WIJADI	Malaysia
38	Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management	WOCAN	USA
39	Women SHG (Manabjamin)	WSHGM	Bangladesh
40	Women Solidarity	WS	Indonesia
	Sub-total - Women (WO) - Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	40	
VII	Youth organizations (YO)- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)		
1	4-H Club	4-H Club	Philippines
2	Abhiyan Nepal	AN	Nepal
3	All Assam Small Tea Growers Association	AASTGA	India
4	All Bodoland Small Tea Growers Association	ABSTG	India
5	Best Young Farm Men Group	BYFMG	India
6	Chaitanya Youth Association	CYA	India
7	Evangelical Union	EvU	India
8	Foundation for Development Integration, Guwahati, Assam	FDI	India
9	Front Perjuangan Pemuda Indonesia	FPPI	Indonesia
10	Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union	HCMCYU	Vietnam
11	International Forestry Students Association	IFSA	Germany
12	Morobe Youth Association	MYA	PNG
13	Sangguniang Kabataan	SK	Philippines
14	Save the Children	SC	USA
15	Student Christian Movement in India	SCI	India
16	Young Professionals for Agricultural Development	YPARD	Italy
17	Youth Business Cooperative (YBC), Bhutan	YBC	Bhutan
18	Youth Club of Bejjipuram	YCB	India
	Sub-total - Youth organizations (YO)- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	18	

VIII	The Private Sector Organizations		
1	Allele	Allele	PNG
2	B & C Agri Solutions, Dharwad	B&C	India
3	Bac Tom	BT	Vietnam
4	Bayer Crop Sciences	Bayer	
5	BASF	BASF	
6	Bios Dynamis	BD	Philippines
7	BioSpring	BioSpring	Vietnam
8	Blue Bell Compuserve	BBCo	
9	Centre for the Future, Foresight International	CFFI	Australia
10	Cheminova	Cheminova	
11	Criyagen, Dharwad	CD	India
12	CropLife Asia	CL-Asia	Singapore
13	DABACO	DABACO	Vietnam
14	East West Seed	EWS	
15	EDCIL, India Ltd.	EDCIL	
16	Fiji Development Bank	FDB	Fiji Islands
17	GlowCorp	GC	Philippines
18	Harvest Agribusiness Corporation	HAC	Philippines
19	Heritage Seeds	HS	Australia
20	Highlands Vegetables and Fruits	HVS	
21	ICT for Agri Pvt. Ltd	ICT4Agri	Nepal
22	ICT International	ICT Int.	Australia
23	IHI Enviro Co.	IHI	Japan
24	Indian Farm and Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd	IFFC	India
25	Kumphawapi Sugar Co.	KSCo	Thailand
26	Mars	Mars	
27	Monsanto	MONSANTO	
28	Mountain Hazelnuts	MH-Bhutan	Bhutan
29	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development	NABARD	India
30	Natures Way Cooperative	NWC	Fiji Islands
31	Nghe An Agricultural Materials Corporation	NAAMC	Vietnam
32	NKA	NKA	PNG
33	North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited	NEDFI	India
34	Partnership Indonesian Support	PIS Agro	
35	Philippine Coffee Board, Inc.	PCB	Philippines
36	Philippine Shrimp Industry	PHILSHRIMP	Philippines
37	PNP Associates	PNPA	
38	Poompuhar Cauvery Delta Farmers Producer Company Ltd	PCDFPC	India
39	Saveer Biotech	SB	India
40	Savy Software Pvt Ltd	SSPL	

41	Seed Entrepreneurs Association Nepal	SEAN	
42	Sitajakhala Dugdha Utpadak Samabay Samiti Limited	SDUSSL	India
43	Sky Frozen Foods	SFF	Pakistan
44	Sun Farmers Pvt Ltd	SF Nepal	Nepal
45	Syngenta Foundation	Syngenta	Switzerland
46	TATA Rallies	TATA	India
47	Thai Union Feed Mill Company	TUFMC	Thailand
48	Tropical Forest Alliance 2020	TFA2020	Global
	Sub-Total - The Private Sector	48	
IX	Sub-regional, Regional and Global Fora		
1	Agricultural and Food Marketing Association for Asia and the Pacific	AFMA	Thailand
2	Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa	AGRA	Kenya
3	ASEAN Social Forestry Network	ASFN	Indonesia
4	Asia and Pacific Commission on Agricultural Statistics	APCAS	Thailand
5	Asia Pacific Coconut Community	APCO	Indonesia
6	Asian Productivity Organization	APO	Japan
7	Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association	APRACA	Thailand
8	Asian Farmers Regional Network	ASFARNET	Philippines
9	Asian Food and Agriculture Cooperation Initiative	AFACI	Republic of Korea
10	Asia Network for Testing Agricultural Machinery	ANTAM	China
11	Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia	AsiaDHRRA	Philippines
12	CAARRDEC Techno Forum	CAARRDEC	?
13	Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific	CIRDAP	Bangladesh
14	Council for Partnerships on Rice Research in Asia	CORRA	Philippines
15	European Forum on Agricultural Research for Development	EFARD	Belgium
16	Food Bank Leadership Institute	FBLI	USA
17	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network	FANRPAN	South Africa
18	Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for Asia and the Pacific	FFTC (AGNET)	Taiwan
19	Forum of the Americas for Agricultural Research and Development	FORAGRO	Costa
20	Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences	GCHERA	Canada
21	Global Forum on Agricultural Research	GFAR	Italy
22	Global Forum For Rural Advisory Services	GFRAS	Switzerland
23	Gestion des Risques Emergents en Asie du Sud-Est	GREACE	Thailand
24	Market and agricultural linking chains in Asia	MALICA	Vietnam
25	International Network for Community Supported Agriculture	URGENCI	China

26	International Service for the Acquisition of AgriBiotech Applications - SEA Center	ISAAA	Philippines
27	Korea Project on International Agriculture	KOPIA	Republic of Korea
28	National Agriculture Council of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Pakistan	NACBBNP	Sub-regional
29	North Eastern Council, Shillong, Meghalaya	NEC	India
30	Pacific Islands Farmers Network	PIFON	Fiji Islands
31	Southern African Development Community	SADC	Botswana
32	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation	SAARC	Nepal
33	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center	SEAFDEC	Philippines
34	Network for knowledge Transfer on Sustainable Agricultural Technologies and Improved Market Linkages in South and Southeast Asia	SATNET	Indonesia
35	The Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment	SEARICE	Philippines
36	World Rural Forum	WRF	Spain
	Sub-total - Sub-regional, Regional and Global Fora	36	
X	Regional and International Development Organizations		
1	Asian Development Bank	ADB	Philippines
2	Belgium Embassy	BU	Vietnam
3	BRICS Development Bank (New Development Bank)	BDB /NDB	China
4	Canadian Embassy	CE	Vietnam
5	CGIAR Systems Organization	CGIAR	France
6	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - Australian AID Programme	DFAT - AID	Australia
7	Department for International Development	DFID	UK
8	European Union	EU	Belgium
9	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	FAO	Italy
10	German Development Agency	GIZ	Germany
11	International Fund for Agricultural Development	IFAD	Italy
12	International Union for Conservation of Nature	IUCN-SSC-CSG	Switzerland
13	Japan International Cooperation Agency	JICA	Japan
14	Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation	MBGF	USA
15	New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade - New Zealand Aid Programme	NZAID	New Zealand
16	New Zealand Embassy	NZE	Vietnam
17	Opec Fund for International Development	OFID	Austria
18	SNV Netherlands Development Organisation	SNV	Netherlands
19	United Nations Development Programme	UNDP	USA
20	United Nations Environment Programme	UNEP	USA
21	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	UNFCCC	USA
22	United Nations Office for Project Services	UNOPS	USA

23	United Nations Women	UN Women	USA
24	United States AID	USAID	USA
25	World Bank	WB	USA
26	World Farmers' Organization	WFO	Italy
27	UN World Food Programme	WFP	Italy
28	UN World Trade Organization	WTO	Geneva
	Sub-total - Regional and Global Development Organizations	28	
	Grand total - Number of Total Stakeholders	474	

Annexure X – Agenda 10

Agenda Item 10



**Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning
FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Sub: Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning

A. PURPOSE

1. To apprise the General Assembly on the Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning in the Biennium 2019-2020;
2. To seek the Assembly's suggestions/comments/ on the Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning; and
3. To seek the Assembly's understanding, appreciation and approval of the Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning

B. FACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. APAARI contracted a consultant in July to develop its Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL) Plan.
2. Hire cost for the consultant was negotiated as recommended by the ECM (2/2017).
3. An Impact Pathway and Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (IPMERL) Plan and a Toolkit for the IPMERL Plan has since been developed and submitted to APAARI at the end of November.
4. Annex 1 to this submission provides further details on the Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning in the Biennium 2019-2020.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is proposed that the Assembly:

1. Consider and peruse the Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning in the Biennium 2019-2020;
2. Provide suggestions/comments and guidance on the Execution of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning in the Biennium 2019-2020 and
3. The Assembly will be requested to endorse and approve the execution plan of Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning in the Biennium 2019-2020

Annexure X contd.

Monitoring Evaluation Reporting and Learning Plan

1. Contracting Consultants from Strategy, Evaluation and Engagement for Development Pty Ltd (SEE4D)

APAARI contracted SEE4D on 28 July 2018 to develop the MERL Plan. SEE4D was represented by Ms Joanne Roberts (Senior monitoring and evaluation consultant) and Mr Ted Rowley (Senior strategic management consultant). The TOR is attached.

2. Consultation Visits

The Consultants made 2 visits to APAARI from August 19-24 and from November 11-15. Based on a one-day workshop with APAARI staff, several discussions and other findings of the visits, 3 documents were developed which include: a Report on preparation of the Impact Pathway and Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning plan (IPMERL) which described the workshop and consultation process used to build the plan; the Final IPMERL Plan; and the Final IPMERL Toolkit. The IPMERL Plan is attached.

3. Recommendations from the Consultants

- The Impact Pathway as highlighted in the IPMERL Plan, be used as the structure for reporting annually and quarterly for APAARI and projects.
- Alignment of APAARI outcomes and investment priorities for APAARI be based on an annual participatory Impact Pathway Analysis review by the staff, executive and assembly.
- APAARI staff undertake an annual review of the APAARI Impact Pathway to align income earning opportunities and APAARI activities planned to the 5-year outcomes of the Impact Pathway;
- Completed Stakeholder analysis be used to build an engagement and communications plan;
- APAARI Secretariat to have a set of investment/opportunity decision making criteria documented in their corporate approach to provide a rationale for decisions made to participate, or not, in an opportunity.
- APAARI to have a position documented in their corporate approach to decision making that complexity be considered.

4. Some considerations

- Focus of the MERL will be on measuring the influence of the Secretariat's efforts in facilitating and supporting implementation of the Strategic Plan. It would require significant resourcing to measure the performance of the broader APAARI community, hence the APAARI Secretariat will focus on measuring their contribution and where they can influence achievement of the strategic plan outcomes.
- Any survey of members needs to focus on the engagement of their organisation with the APAARI Secretariat, the wider APAARI community and the APAARI Strategic Plan, rather than their satisfaction or expectations.
- A possible future APAARI project could be to provide an opportunity for APAARI members to develop their capability in Strategy/Program/Project/Activity Design (IPA) and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning. This could be supported by a somewhat expanded version of the APAARI Strategic Plan MERL Toolkit.

5. Way Forward for APAARI implementation of the MERL

1. Develop an in-house plan for implementing the MERL by end December 2019. Implementation to start January 2019.
2. Utilise given toolkits to populate and collate relevant data to inform the APAARI 5 Yearly Report on the Strategic Plan.
3. Identify different data sources already existing and needed.
4. Use suggested format for developing APAARI Annual Report to the Executive Committee, key stakeholders and members.
5. Seek additional direction from SEE4D consultants, should there be a need.

Annexure XI – Agenda 11

Table 1: APAARI Work Plan 2019-2020

APAARI Programme Area	Activity Description	2019	2020
Knowledge Management			
Websites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates of the content of the APAARI website, during transition to KM portal Regular updates on agricultural biotechnology and bioresources developments, news and events of specific relevance to Asia- Pacific on the APCoAB website 	Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4
Webinars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitation of six demand-driven webinars based on the thematic needs of APAARI members. 	Q2-Q4	Q2-Q4
Newsletters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and dissemination of two six-monthly newsletters. 	Q2, Q4	Q2, Q4
APAARI Network Highlights (ANH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and dissemination of six bi-monthly ANH issues. 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
Success stories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A compilation and publishing of success stories on capacity development (CD) for agricultural innovation system (AIS). Three status report/success stories on GM Maize in the Philippines, Rice Biotechnology in Asia-Pacific, and Certification Programme of Banana Tissue Culture in India*) 	Q1 Q1-Q2	Q2-Q3
KM plan and strategy for the Mega Seed Park in Andhra Pradesh, India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and implementation of a KM plan and strategy for the Mega Seed Park in Andhra Pradesh, India – APAARI's new project with the Government of India. Inception workshop 	Q1 Q1	
KM plan and strategy for the Asia-Pacific Knowledge Hub on SPC Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a KM plan and strategy for the Asia-Pacific Knowledge Hub on SPC capacity – APAARI's new project with WTO/STDF Project planning meeting with STDF Implementation of KM activities with STDF 	Q2 Q1 Q2-Q4	
Expert Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New genome manipulation technologies and their implications on biosafety regulation (Co-organizers: PCAARRD, ICRISAT and ACIAR) Regional cooperation for food and agriculture 	Q2	Q2

	biosecure and biosafe Asia-Pacific region (Co-organizers: COA/JIRCAS/PCAARRD)		
Development and maintenance of online tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of APAARI Social Media tools for communication campaigns. • Development and maintenance of ASTI tools. • Editing and translation of country and regional publications • Design and printing of country and regional publications • Update of existing APCoAB databases, regular updates of other content and additional databases. 	Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4 Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q3-Q4 Q1-Q4	Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4 Q1-Q4 Q3-Q4 Q4
Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection for countries in Southeast Asia and Pacific completed • Qualitative data collection on research outputs and systems in SEAP completed 	Q1 Q1-Q3	
Uploading of completed quantitative surveys to the ASTI Survey Management System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All ASTI country surveys in SEAP uploaded 	Q1	
ASTI Data validation and addressing of potential data inconsistencies and omissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data for all countries in SEAP checked, validated and prepared for analysis 	Q1-Q3	
Data analysis to examine the performance, strengths, weaknesses, and challenges of agricultural R&D in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analytical research agenda for the Indo Pacific region developed, following an analytical workshop in Bogor Indonesia • Concept notes being developed by agencies with strong analytical capacity who are in Philippines, Vietnam, and Indonesia for implementation • Based on above, a number of analytical studies to be done with IFPRIs Senior Research Fellow • Forward looking analysis on the future performance of research systems under different investment scenarios 	Q3 Q3 Q3 Q4	
Event proceedings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of proceedings from each training, workshop, expert consultation and policy dialogue (including KM, APCoAB, ASTI, etc). 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
Training manuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two APCoAB training manuals* 	Q4	Q4
ASTI country publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started work on country publications for PNG • Country publications for other nine countries to be completed 	Q3	

Analytical work for the transformation of agricultural university education to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region (APAARI's new project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synthesis of recommendation of programmes, policies and business models focused on development of functional capacities, improvement of agri-food studies, and related research and practice through extension services. 	Q2	
Knowledge-sharing workshop on vegetable seed technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-organization of a workshop on vegetable seed technology 	Q3	
Enhancing small farmer income and livelihoods in Asia-Pacific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-organization of a knowledge-sharing event to enhance small farmer income and livelihoods in Asia-Pacific with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) 	Q1	
Integration of innovative learning and knowledge-sharing processes in APAARI-supported meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of innovative KM methods and processes in APAARI-supported meetings. 	Q1- Q4	Q1-Q4
Capacity Development			
Training to strengthen KM capacities of APAARI member institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a follow up to the 2018 KM workshop, another such training will take place targeting KM facilitators from APAARI member institutions who will act as national connectors in the APAARI network (Co-organizer: ICIMOD). 	Q3	
Capacity development under the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology and Bioresources (APCoAB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop on Underutilized animal resources of Asia-Pacific and their amelioration (Co-organizer: MARDI) Workshop on Underutilized fish and marine resources of Asia-Pacific and their amelioration (Co-organizer: SLCARP/World Fish Centre/ICAR) Workshop on Conservation and utilization of agricultural important microbial genetic resources (Co-organizers: ICAR/PCAARRD/MARDI) Training on Gene editing technologies for crop and animal improvement (Co-organizer: ICRISAT/RDA/JIRCAS) Training on In vitro conservation and cryopreservation of crop germplasm (Training) (Oct-Nov. 2019) Co-organizers: ICAR/COA/Bioversity International The First International Symposium on Botanical Gardens and Landscapes (BGL 2019) (Co-organizers: Mahidol University, ISHS) 	Q1 Q1 Q3 Q3/Q4 Q4 Q4	Q1 Q2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts of investment in agricultural biotechnology on livelihoods of farmers in Asia-Pacific region (February 2019; SLCARP/AREEO/MARDI)* Genebank management and Informatics for efficient conservation and utilization of PGR (Oct-Nov 2019; ICAR/Bioversity International/ICRISAT)* Biotechnological tools for conservation and sustainable utilization of crop germplasm* (Sep-Oct 2019; ICAR/COA/BARC) Safe exchange and utilization of germplasm of underutilized species (Nov. 2020; ICAR/DOA/PCAARRD) 		Q3
Value chain in vegetable crops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-organization of a Southeast Asia Capacity Development on Value Chain in Vegetable Crops, Malaysia 	Q2-Q3	
The Crawford Fund Master Class in Agricultural Research Leadership and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APAARI support to ten participants from Asia-Pacific 	Q1	Q1
Partnership and Networking			
Development of new membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of countries and their institutions for membership mobilization (through stakeholder mapping). Consultations with identified institutions (one such institution is the Agency for Food Security under the Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia that expressed interest in membership). 	Q1 Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
Development of new partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitation of new partnership and outreach through networking – online and face-to-face in the context of APAARI-supported and partners' events. Project development and scoping for funding in partnership for the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). Building partnership with the European Commission (EC) Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG-DEVCO). Development of new strategic partnerships with Europe-based institutions for APAARI participation in the 2019 Horizon 2020 call(s). Development of new national partnerships e.g. with the Honey Bee Network to link 	Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q2-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q1	Q1-Q4 Q1 Q1-Q4

	<p>NARS and farmer research.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of a new STDF/WTO project with Rutgers University, New Jersey • Developing a new partnership with STDF/WTO on Knowledge Hubs on SPC Capacity for Asia and the Pacific 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
Strengthening existing partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of the strengthening of partnership with sub-regional bodies, including SAARC, ASEAN and SPC through policy dialogue in the context of the 2019 activities. • Highlighting APAARI activities under the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP) in the TAP Partners Meeting in June 2019 and strengthening partnership with FAO and Agrinatura. • Continuation of value addition to the global dialogue on agricultural innovation systems through TAP, and scaling up CDAIS in Asia-Pacific • Re-engaging with GFAR in the areas of mutual interest, such as agricultural education and youth. • Contribution to the development of SAARC Workplan 	<p>Q1-Q4</p> <p>Q2</p> <p>Q1-Q4</p> <p>Q1</p> <p>Q1</p>	Q1- Q4
Advocacy			
Identification of national-level policy influence pathways for advocacy and collaboration with NARS leaders on national-level outreach plans to ensure uptake of the finding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with collaborators to identify and finalize impact pathways • Influence pathways already determined for four countries and for other six countries to be completed • Outreach activities 	<p>Q3</p> <p>Q3-Q4</p> <p>Q1-Q4</p>	
Explore ways to embed ASTI evidence in broader agricultural policy or M&E frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore ways to embed ASTI evidence in broader agricultural policy or M&E frameworks 	Q3	
Online campaigns through Social Media, and APAARI, ASTI and APCoAB websites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online communication campaigns to raise awareness about ASTI outputs, APCoAB outputs, TAPedia, CD for AIS, mega seed part in India, knowledge hub on food safety, Centre of Excellence on Value Chains, and Agricultural Biotechnologies and their Applications for Conservation and Use of Bioresources for Sustainable Agri-Food System in the Pacific. 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4

Women and Youth			
MAYA Roadmap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of MAYA (Motivating and Attracting Youth to Agriculture) roadmap 	Q1- Q4	Q1-Q4
Building capacity and strengthening engagement of women and youth in APAARI-supported meetings and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of women and youth in key APAARI capacity development programmes (particularly on value chains and KM and APCoAB) 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
MEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection of gender and age disaggregated data on participants at capacity development events 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
APAARI Governance			
Legal Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work towards securing legal status for APAARI 	Q1-Q4	
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular exercise to be conducted by APAARI and embedded in APAARI's routing work. Evaluate the impact of past and future R&D investment levels and resource allocation on the performance of research systems and the agricultural sector more generally 	Q1-Q4 Q4	Q1-Q4
Executive Committee Meeting (ECM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two ECMs 	Q2, Q4	Q2, Q4
General Assembly Meeting (GAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One GAM 		Q4
Steering Committee Meeting of APCoAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Steering Committee 	Q2	Q2
Human resources	<p>Existing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KM Coordinator ASTI Pacific Project Coordinator (from 2020) ASTI Project Associate (2020) APCoAB Coordinator (from 2020) Partnership and Outreach Coordinator <p>Proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Education Coordinator Finance Manager Technical Officer (APCoAB) Commercial Plant Tissue Culture - Consultant Programme Development - Consultant Mega Seed Project – Consultant Legal Consultant 	Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4
Resource mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the Resource Mobilization Strategy 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4

Management reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integration of the key strategies in APAARI functioning (Stakeholder Strategy, KM, Resource Mobilization, and Membership strategy) Development of management reforms, including recruitment and staff promotion policy, consultants' policy, legal status of APAARI, compliances in the host countries, record keeping policy. 	Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4
		Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4

Notes: *In view of expanded scope of APCoAB, two Workshops/Trainings, four publications, in addition to already approved activities have been planned for 2019 and 2020, subject to the availability of resources (finance and technical staff) as proposed under revised APAARI-COA collaborative programme.

Annexure XI – Agenda 11

Table 2: APAARI Work Plan 2019-2020 (Based on proposal submitted)

APAARI Programme Area	Activity Description	2019	2020
Knowledge Management			
Success stories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publishing of two success stories on the impact of agricultural biotechnologies and sustainable use of bioresources to improve livelihoods of smallholder farmers. 	Q3	Q3
Case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of case studies on value chains in NARS countries. 	Q4	Q4
Development of APAARI KM Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of the APAARI website into a KM portal (technical work, interactive content design and management, capacity development for users, advocacy). 	Q2-Q4	Q1-Q4
Knowledge-sharing workshop on Agricultural Biotechnologies and their Applications for Conservation and Use of Bioresources for Sustainable Agri-Food System in the Pacific (a new APAARI project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercialization of potential local bioresources for food and nutritional security (3 days). Safe exchange and utilization of bioresources (3 days) 	Q4	Q4
Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASTI in-country data collection and analysis in the Pacific. ASTI country visits in the Pacific. Follow up with national focal points in the Pacific. 	Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4	Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4 Q1-Q4
Uploading of completed quantitative surveys to the ASTI Survey Management System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country surveys in Pacific uploaded 	Q4	Q1-Q4
ASTI Data validation and addressing of potential data inconsistencies and omissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data for countries in Pacific checked, validated and prepared for analysis 	Q4	Q1-Q4
Analytical work for the transformation of agricultural university education to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping of the relationship between university curriculum and student learning outcomes, identification of gaps and capacity development needs required by the AIS. Validation and consultations of the outcomes 	Q1 Q2	

region (APAARI's new project)	<p>of the mapping with partner institutions and respective government departments, galvanizing their commitment to the agricultural education reform and way forward (face-to-face and online interactions).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of target agricultural universities that will participate in the project. • Scoping, needs assessment, sub-regional consultations and capacity development planning for on agro-ecology in higher education. 	<p>Q1</p> <p>Q1</p>	<p>Q1</p>
KM for transformation of agricultural university education to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region (APAARI's new project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking to strengthen regional linkages among agricultural universities, national agricultural research and extension system (NARES), and the private sector, through regional knowledge sharing, experiential learning with farmers and business leadership development. • Online regional policy dialogue (leading to the face-to-face dialogue in 2023) to engage university leaders and policymakers in a dialogue around educational reforms to initiate nation-wide curricula reform and policy change in agricultural education. 	<p>Q1-Q4</p> <p>Q4</p>	<p>Q1-Q4</p> <p>Q4</p>
Development of agricultural research management dashboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjusting agricultural research management software developed by India's NAARM, which integrates data collected under the ASTI Initiative with other relevant agricultural and S&T databases, for implementation in the South and Southeast Asia countries. 	<p>Q1-Q4</p>	<p>Q1-Q4</p>
Capacity Development			
ASTI capacity development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building workshops on data collection and ASTI tools in the Pacific. • Capacity building on data analysis • Capacity building of NARS to implement the dashboard. • Strengthening in-country analytical capacity through joint research projects and the development of manuals explaining the methodology for the analysis of the performance of R&D systems 	<p>Q2-Q3</p> <p>Q4</p>	<p>Q3-Q4</p> <p>Q4</p> <p>Q1-Q2</p>
Training on Agricultural Biotechnologies and their Applications for Conservation and Use of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biotechnological applications for micro-propagation and conservation of root and tuber crops (10 days). • Cryopreservation of animal and fish genetic 	<p>Q1</p> <p>Q2</p>	<p>Q1</p>

Bioresources for Sustainable Agri-Food System in the Pacific (a new APAARI project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> resources and artificial insemination and embryo transfer (10 days). Certification of pathogen free planting tissue culture-raised planting material (10 days) Recent methods for DNA fingerprinting of genetic resources (plant, animal, fish) (7 days) 		<p>Q2</p> <p>Q4</p>
Capacity Building in Commercial Plant Tissue Culture Sector for Addressing the Need of Quality Planting Materials of Horticultural Crops in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five awareness raising training programmes in each of the three countries Three skill development programmes in each country. Three entrepreneurship development programmes in each country per year, for 10 participants each. (under New APAARI Project) 	<p>Q1-Q4</p> <p>Q1-Q3</p> <p>Q2-Q4</p>	<p>Q1-Q4</p> <p>Q1-Q3</p> <p>Q2-Q4</p>
Capacity development for transformation of agricultural university education to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the Asia-Pacific region (APAARI's new project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three sub-regional inception workshops in South, Southeast Asia and the Pacific for university leaders and policymakers to launch the project, explore innovative business models for agricultural education practices and curricula and develop their interest in integration of the Common Framework principles and approaches in agricultural university curricula. One sub-regional training programme each in South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific targeting university leaders and managers to lead and effectively facilitate and manage capacity development programmes focused on functional skills and preparation of graduates for agricultural business development. The 2019 workshop would be back-to-back with the inception workshop. 	<p>Q2-Q3</p> <p>Q2-Q3</p>	<p>Q2-Q3</p>
Training on value chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seven-day workshop to enable APPARI members to learn about the concept of value chain and its application to the information system for agricultural products in the newly established Centre of Excellence on Value Chains in Taiwan. Seven-day workshop to enable APPARI members to learn about the concept of value chain and its application to marketing and branding of agricultural products. 	<p>Q1</p>	<p>Q1</p>
Partnership and Networking			

Development of new partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building partnerships with ISAAA, Singapore; ICGEB, Italy; BCIL & ICAR, India; NTU & ABRC, Taiwan; NARI, PNG; ICDF Taiwan Missions in six Pacific countries (under New APAARI project) 	Q1- Q4	Q1- Q4
Advocacy			
Country visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visits to create awareness on ASTI outputs and how the ASTI data collection and analysis can be institutionalized at the country level and made sustainable long-term. 	Q4	Q1- Q4
Women and Youth			
Innovation champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of innovation champions in universities to promote and advocate educational reforms 	Q1, Q2	





Annexure XII

**List of participants of 15th General Assembly Meeting on 21 December 2018
at Academia Sinica Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan**

#	Participants	Designation & Organization	Country	Email	Photo
1	Albert T.K. Wen	Chief of Section for International Organizations, Department of International Affairs, Council of Agriculture (COA), Executive Yuan, 37 Nanhai Road, Taipei 10014	Taiwan	tkwen@mail.coa.gov.tw	
2	Amena Banuve	Principal Agricultural Officer (Agronomy), Ministry of Agriculture, Private Mail Bag, Raiwaqai	Fiji	psagriculture@connect.com.fj	
3	ANDO Shotaro	Representative, Southeast Asia Liaison Office, JIRCAS, c/o Soil Science Research Group, Department of Agriculture (DOA), 50 Phahonyothin Rd., Ladyao, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900	Japan	shotaro@affrc.go.jp	
4	Arabinda Kumar Padhee	Director, Country Relations and Business Affairs, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), CG Centers Block, NASC Complex Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, New Delhi 110012	India	a.padhee@cgiar.org	
5	Prof. Ashok Kumar Sarial	Vice-Chancellor, CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur – 176062, Distt. Kangra (HP)	India	vc@hillagric.ac.in; aksarial@yahoo.com	
6	Brigitta Jane Faafiti	Legal ACEO, Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries (MAF) P.O. Box 1874, Apia	Samoa	brigitta.faafiti@emtm a.f.gov.ws	

7	Celilu Bitong	Knowledge Management Officer, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsatturapai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	c.bitong@apaari.org	
8	Chung-Hsiu Hung	Director General, International affairs of Taiwan, Council of Agriculture (COA), Executive Yuan, 37 Nanhai Road, Taipei 10014	Taiwan	Hung8386@mail.coa.gov.tw	
9	Dao The Anh	Vice-President, Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences (VAAS), Vinh quynh, Thanh tri, Ha noi	Vietnam	daotheanh@gmail.com	
10	David Kolitagane	Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Private Mail Bag, Raiwaqa	Fiji	psagriculture@connect.com.fj	
11	Fariborz Ehteshami	Deputy Director General, Academic Relations & International Affairs Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization (AREEO), Yemen Ave., Chamran Highway, P.O. Box 19835-111, Tehran	Iran	ehteshamei@yahoo.com	
12	Fuh-Sheng Shieu	President, National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), 145 Xingda Rd., South Dist., Taichung City 402	Taiwan	presid@nchu.edu.tw	
13	Gerry Jayawardena	Chairman, Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (SLCARP) 114/9, Wijerama Mawatha, Colombo 07	Sri Lanka	gerry.jayawardena@gmail.com	

14	Gert-Jan Stads	Senior Program Manager, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 1201 Eye St, NW, Washington, DC 20005-3915	USA	G.STADS@CGIAR.ORG	
15	Hsin-I Chiang	Associate Professor, National Chung Hsing University, 145 Xingda Rd., South Dist., Taichung City 402	Taiwan	samchiang@nchu.edu.tw	
16	Jintawee Thaingam	Director, International Agricultural Affairs Group, Department of Agriculture, 50 Phaholyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900	Thailand	jintawee@hotmail.com	
17	Jitendrakumar S. Hilli	Professor of Seed Science and Technology, University of Agricultural Sciences Krishinagar, Dharwad-580005, Karnataka	India	jshilli@rediffmail.com	
18	Joanne Roberts	Monitoring and Evaluation Facilitator, Strategy Evaluation & Engagement for Development, P.O. Box 175 Jindabyne, NSW 2627	Australia	jo.roberts@inet.net.au	
19	Kamal Malla Bujarbaruah	Vice-Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat - 785013, Assam	India	vc@aaau.ac.in; km_bujarbaruah@rediffmail.com	
20	Kodeboyina Varaprasad	Former Director, ICAR-IIOR & Senior Consultant, ISU, 87, CB Colony, LB Nagar, Hyderabad - 500 068	India	prasadksv@gmail.com	

21	Kuldeep Singh	Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110 012	India	Kuldeep.Singh4@icar.gov.in	
22	Kuo-Chang (Michael) Fu	Secretary General, International Association for Agricultural Sustainability (IAAS), 194 Kim Keat Avenue #01-402, Singapore 310194	Singapore	mikefuh@fcmc.com.tw	
23	Laurent L'huillier	Director General, Institut Agronomique Neo- Caledonien, Centre de Cooperation, Internationale en Recherche Agronomique Pour le developpement, B.P. 73 Port Laguerre, Paita Nouvelle-Caledonie	New Caledonia	lhuillier@iac.nc	
24	Marco Wopereis	Director General, World Vegetable Center, PO Box 42, Shanhua, Tainan 74199	Taiwan	marco.wopereis@worldveg.org	
25	Martina Spisiakova	Consultant, APAARI, Dobsinska 56, 049 22 Gemerska Poloma (Online)	Slovakia	m.spisiakova@apaari.org	
26	Mellissa Wood	General Manager, Global Programs, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), GPO Box 1571, Canberra ACT 2601	Australia	Mellissa.Wood@aciar.gov.au	
27	Mohamad Roff Mohd Noor	Director General, Malaysian Agriculture Research and Development Institute (MARDI), Persiaran Mardi - Upm, 43400 Serdang, Selangor	Malaysia	roff@mardi.gov.my	

28	Moirangthem Premjit Singh	Vice Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Iroisemba, Lamphel, Imphal–795004, Manipur	India	vcofficecau@yahoo.in; mpremjit55@gmail.com	
29	Narendra Govinddas Shah	Professor, Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA), CTARA Office, 2nd Floor, Old CSE Building, IIT Bombay, Powai, Mumbai 400 076	India	nshah@iitb.ac.in; prof.narendra.shah@gmail.com	
30	Nick Kewa	Lecturer Agriculture Economics & Deputy Head, Department of Agriculture, Private Mail Bag, University of Technology, Lae 411	Papua New Guinea	Nick.kewa@pnguot.ac.pg	
31	Norah Omot	ASTI Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsattrupai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	norah.omot@apaari.org	
32	Pradeep Kumar Sharma	Vice Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu, Administrative Bldg, Main Campus, Chatha, Jammu 180009	India	vc@skuast.org; psharma3007@gmail.com	
33	Pradumna Raj Pandey	Senior Program Specialist (Crops), SAARC Agriculture Centre, BARC Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215	Bangladesh	pandeypr4@gmail.com; pandeypr08@yahoo.com; pandey@sac.org.bd	
34	Ravi Khetarpal	Executive Secretary, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsattrupai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	ravi.khetarpal@apaari.org	

35	Reynaldo V. Ebor	Acting Executive Director, Philippines Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) Paseo de Valmayor, Timugan, Economic Garden, Los Baños, Laguna 4030	Philippines	rvebora@gmail.com; r.ebora@pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph	
36	Rishi Kumar Tyagi	APCoAB Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsatturpai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	rishi.tyagi@apaari.org	
37	Ruby P.Y. Yeh	Specialist for International Organizations, Department of International Affairs, Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, 37 Nanhai Road, Taipei 10014	Taiwan	rubyyeh@mail.coa.gov.tw	
38	Sivakumar Uthandi	Professor (Ag. Microbiology), Department of Agrl. Microbiology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore 641 003	India	usivakumartnau@gmail.com	
39	Suradet Patchimkul	Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture, 50 Phaholyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900	Thailand	suradet19@hotmail.com	
40	Tarathip Sanboonkrong	Project/Admin Assistant, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsatturpai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	tarathip@apaari.org	
41	Thansita Thanaphatrujira	Operation Associate, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsatturpai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	thansita@apaari.org	

42	Tooraj Valinassab	Professor in Biology & Stock Assessment, Director General, Academic Relation and International Affairs Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization (AREEO), Yemen Ave., Chamran Highway, P.O. Box 19835-111, Tehran	Iran	t_valinassab@yahoo.com	
43	Tzong-Ru Lee	Professor of Marketing Department, National Chung Hsing University, 145 Xingda Rd., South Dist., Taichung City 402	Taiwan	service@iaas.org.sg	
44	Vincent Lin	Deputy Director General, Department of International Affairs, Taiwan Council of Agriculture Executive Yuan (CoA), Nanhai Road, Taipei 10014	Taiwan	vincent@mail.coa.gov.tw	
45	Vishwanath Kumar Sah	Senior Admin Associate, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsatrupai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	vk.sah@apaari.org	
46	Wayne Nelles	Higher Education Programs and Partnerships Consultant, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), 4 th Floor, FAO Annex building, 202/1 Larnluang Road, Klongmahanak Sub-district, Pomprabsatrupai District, Bangkok 10100	Thailand	waynenelles@gmail.com	

B.

Agenda 12. Formation of Executive Committee for the Biennium 2019-2020

Agenda 13. Statement by Chairman Elect and new EC Members

Agenda 14. Venue of the Next General Assembly Meeting

Agenda 15. Comments by Outgoing Members of EC, if any.

Agenda 16. Any Other Items

Agenda 17. Concluding Remarks

Agenda 18. Vote of Thanks

For copies contact:

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)

FAO Annex Building, 202/1 Larn Laung Road
Pomprab Sattrupai, Bangkok 10100, Thailand
Tel: +66 (02) 282 2918; Fax: +66 (02) 282 2919
Email: apaari@apaari.org; website: www.apaari.org