



# **Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**

## **Ninth General Assembly Meeting (GAM)**

**7 November 2006**

**National Agricultural Science Center (NASC)  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)  
New Delhi, India**

## **PROCEEDINGS**



**Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)  
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific  
39 Phra Atit Road, Bangkok 10200  
Thailand**

**February 2007**





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# **Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)**

**Ninth General Assembly Meeting (GAM)  
7 November 2006, NASC, New Delhi, India**

## **PROCEEDINGS**

### **1. Introduction**

The Ninth General Assembly Meeting of APAARI was held on 7 November 2006, at the National Agricultural Science Complex (NASC), New Delhi, India. There were 50 participants, who attended the meeting (Annexure I).

### **2. Welcome Address**

Prof. H.P.M. Gunasena, Chairman, APAARI, cordially welcomed the participants and extended thanks to the members of APAARI for their excellent cooperation extended to him during his two years tenure as APAARI Chairman. At the outset, he regretfully informed that Mr. Thierry Mennesson, Vice-Chairman was unable to attend because of ill health. Dr. Raj Paroda delivered the message received from Mr. Mennesson and all members inched Mr. Mennesson speedy recovery.

Prof. Gunasena further enumerated his valuable experiences gained through regional and global fora participation during his Chairmanship of APAARI. He was of the view that Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS) programs was contributing significantly towards ICT development in the developing countries of the Asia-Pacific region. He also appreciated that another major program namely the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) has accomplished good results since its establishment in 2004. He also expressed his happiness that cooperation among the member institutions of APAARI was increasing and more members were joining our organization, which is already known as one of the most vibrant regional fora globally.

The Chairman then invited comments, if any, from the members on the draft agenda (Annexure II) which was unanimously approved. He requested the members to deliberate on each item and provide suggestions for future activities of APAARI, particularly during the biennium 2007-2008.

### **3. Progress Report**

Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI, before briefing the members on progress of various activities undertaken by APAARI, conveyed his appreciation for the support received from all members, the Executive Committee and especially the Chairman and Vice-Chairman during last two years.

Dr. Paroda briefly presented the progress report on APAARI activities carried out during the period 2005-2006, as per approved work plan by the 8<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Meeting held in 2004 and the subsequent directives of the Executive Committee (Annexure III).

Beside the regular activities, the biennial progress report highlighted the status of progress in three major areas addressing the APAARI mission: (i) research networks and research need assessment in active partnership with CG Centers and other international organizations as well as regional forum; (ii) Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS for ICT/ICM); and (iii) Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB). During the last biennium, special efforts were made towards building strong partnership with CSOs in the Asia-Pacific region. APAARI has also been working towards establishing functional linkages with other regional organizations such as APSA, APAFRI, ASEAN, SAARC, SPC and international bodies such as FAO, GFAR, etc. Efforts had also been made towards enhancement of APAARI membership of NARS, CGIAR and related international institutions, and the reciprocal membership of other Regional Fora. Emphasis was continued on organization of various important Expert Consultations on thematic issues, important publications, information dissemination and need based capacity building in the region.

#### **4. Constitution Amendment**

In view of greater ownership of other stakeholders, besides NARS, the 9<sup>th</sup> APAARI GAM approved the proposed amendment in the Article X of the APAARI Constitution (Annexure IV), which was endorsed by the mid-term Executive Committee Meeting held in June 2006 to have one representative each from GFAR, CGIAR being Associate Members and CSOs. The Secretariat had circulated the proposed version to all the members of APAARI well in advance for their comments, if any, as stipulated in the Constitution. Delegates from member institutions present at this 9<sup>th</sup> GAM appreciated the initiative and approved the proposed amendment unanimously.

Dr. Paroda emphasized that proposed expansion of Executive Committee involving all important stakeholders would ensure their effective partnership in all APAARI activities. He was also pleased to mention that Asia-Pacific NGOs are going to form a consortium in line with the one established in Africa.

#### **5. Presentation of Audited Accounts for 2005-2006**

The APAARI Accounts for the period January - December 2005, and January - September 2006 (Annexure V), duly audited by Royal Government of Thailand Registered Auditor Co., were approved unanimously appointed based on approval given in last General Assembly. The audited statements were presented by Mr. P.K. Saha, Liaison Officer, APAARI. He apprised the members about the current status of accounts as well as expenditures incurred. Members were informed that most of the expenditures were within the limit of the approved budget for 2005-2006. There was also no need for any re-allocation of already approved budget during the under report period. Dr. Paroda stated that APAARI's main strength of resources was mainly through the membership fees. However, APAARI did receive some funds from GFAR for accomplishment of agreed programs in the Asia-Pacific region.

The issues of extension of the current Auditor for another term of 3 years was discussed. After assessing pros and cons General Assembly approved the extension of the present Auditor Co. (GAAP Professional Audit Co. Ltd., Bangkok, Thailand) with the provision of increased remuneration from present amount of Baht 15,000 to Baht 20,000 per annum in view of the increased workload on account of APCoAB accounts as well.

The General Assembly was also informed that the proposed target of having a Fixed Deposit Bank Account of US Dollar 800,000 has already been achieved despite increase of various activities during the last biennium. The FD Account is with the Siam Commercial Bank, Banglampoo, near APAARI-FAO office, Bangkok. The members were pleased to learn that the same will further be enhanced during the next biennium (2007-2008). All present were very appreciative of the efforts of Secretariat in having this reserve built up for sustainability of APAARI.

Member institutions of APAARI expressed their satisfaction over the judicious use of funds within specified limits of the approved budget. Members were appreciative of the effective control and matured guidance provided by the Executive Secretary.

## **6. APAARI Work Plan and Budget Approval for 2007-2008**

The Work Plan for 2007 (Annexure VI) and Budget proposal for the biennium 2007-2008 (Annexure VII) were presented by Dr. Betty del Rosario, Assistant Executive Secretary, APAARI, for consideration and approval of the GAM.

The major activities proposed related to publications of Newsletter and Proceedings of Expert Consultation on LFM held in New Delhi. It was suggested that Success Story on Citrus be brought out soon by requesting the author through Dr. Grace Lih-Fang Lin of CoA. The other Success Stories could be on LFM, and Taro in PNG beside three being processed by APCoAB (one by SPC and two on Potato and Sugarcane in India). Among proposed Expert Consultations and meetings, it was agreed to conduct the following during 2007:

1. Expert Consultation on Research Networks and Consortia
2. Expert Consultation on Biofuels (in partnership with CIMMYT, ICRISAT, IRRI)
3. Public-Private Partnership

In addition, the Newsletter and web site activities have to be continued. Members were also requested to send suggestions for some good Success Stories along with the names of authors which could be published by APAARI in future.

The proposed program and the budget for the biennium 2007-2008 was considered and approved unanimously by the members.

## **7. Formation of Executive Committee for the biennium 2007-2008**

Dr. Paroda gave the background and also explained the tradition followed in the past for the formation of the Executive Committee of APAARI. He stated that major principle is to have a balanced representation from three sub-regions (South and West Asia, South-East Asia, and the Pacific) and follow the principle of rotation for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman coming from different sub-regions. For the sake of continuity, the out-going Chairman continues as a member of the Executive Committee for another term.

Members were pleased with the broad principles being followed by APAARI. Accordingly, the General Assembly unanimously agreed for the following Executive Committee for the period 2007-2008.

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Dr. Raghunath Ghodake, NARI, Papua New Guinea</b>
<b>Vice-Chairman:</b>	<b>Dr. Abdul Shukor Abdur Rahman, MARDI, Malaysia</b>
<b>Members:</b>	<b>Prof. H.P.M. Gunasena, CARP, Sri Lanka</b>
	<b>Mr. Albert Peters, MAFFM, Samoa</b>
	<b>Dr. Mangala Rai, ICAR, India</b>
	<b>Dr. Wen-Deh Chen, CoA, Chinese Taipei</b>
<b>Executive Secretary:</b>	<b>Dr. R.S. Paroda</b>

In addition, GAM also approved three additional seats on the Executive Committee: one each for CSOs, CGIAR and GFAR, for which the Executive Secretary would approach these organizations for seeking their nominations. It was also suggested that for CSO seat, both IFAP and ANGOC be approached to serve on Executive Committee by rotation (two year term each).

Regarding Executive Secretary, the Executive Committee in its last meeting held in June 2006 had requested, as per provision of the Article 22 of the Constitution, to continue providing his valuable services for another term. The GAM unanimously approved the decision of Executive Committee and requested Dr. Paroda to continue providing his matured leadership to APAARI for another term of two years (2007-2008).

## **8. Venue of the next 10<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Meeting**

It was suggested that let interested member NARS have an invitation sent formally for consideration of the Executive Committee. The 10<sup>th</sup> GAM of APAARI be organized sometime during October/November of 2008. It was envisaged that interested APAARI members may enquire, after their return to their country and forward a formal request to the Executive Secretary at the earliest possible. Alternatively, Executive Committee may take an appropriate decision in the matter in consultation with some potential member NARS.

## **9. Concluding Remarks**

Before this concluding remarks, the Chairman released two publications of APAARI - (a) Fifteen Years of APAARI - A Retrospective, and (b) Selected Success Stories on Agricultural Information Systems.

Subsequently, in recognition of outstanding services to APAARI by some of the outgoing member representatives, Chairman presented the plaque of honor to the following:

- Dr. H.P.M. Gunasena, Outgoing Chairman
- Dr. Thierry Mennesson, Outgoing Vice-Chairman
- Dr. R.B. Singh, Ex-Executive Secretary, APAARI
- Dr. W.G. Padolina, IRRI
- Dr. Masa Iwanga, CIMMYT
- Dr. Jay Kumar, Fiji

Finally, Prof. Gunasena stated in his Concluding Remarks that APAARI has emerged as a strong organization in the region. It has provided much needed platform for NARS leaders and other key stakeholders related to R&D to build partnerships in areas of mutual interest. The benefits of APAARI are quite visible and even GFAR recognizes it to be a vibrant forum – thanks to the vision and dedication of Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary of APAARI. Without his support, all this would have not been possible. Let us all continue working together and strengthen APAARI. Prof. Gunasena, once again, thanked all members for their cooperation during last two years of Chairmanship.

## **10. Vote of Thanks**

At the end, Dr. Raj Paroda appreciated first Dr. Mangala Rai, Director General, ICAR and the Ministry of Agriculture, for kindly hosting the meeting and all excellent arrangements. He also extended his thanks to all the members, Chairman and Vice-Chairman of APAARI for their guidance and support. Finally, he thanked APAARI Secretariat staffs members for extending their full support in meeting the desired objectives. He also thanked all APAARI members for the confidence reposed in him to continue providing his services to APAARI, an organization which is so dear to him.

Finally, he also hoped that with the kind of support available, APAARI will attain newer heights in future.



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### **9<sup>th</sup> APAARI General Assembly**

**Venue: National Agricultural Science Center (NASC)  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research**

**New Delhi, India  
7 November 2006**

### **Agenda**

#### **14:00-18:00      *APAARI General Assembly***

*Chairperson            : Prof. H.P.M. Gunasena, Sri Lanka*  
*Co-chairperson       : Dr. Thierry Mennesson, New Caledonia*

- |                    |   |   |
|--------------------|---|---|
| <b>14:00-15:30</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Remarks</li> <li>• Progress Report</li> <li>• Proposal for Constitution Amendment</li> <li>• Presentation of Audited Accounts for 2005-2006</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairman</li> <li>• Executive Secretary</li> <li>• Executive Secretary</li> <li>• Liaison Officer</li> </ul> |
|--------------------|---|---|

#### **15:30-16:00      Coffee Break and Group Photograph**

- |                    |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|
| <b>16:00-18:00</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work Plan and Approval of Budget for 2007-2008</li> <li>• Executive Committee Formation for 2007-2008</li> <li>• Venue of Next General Assembly and Expert Consultation</li> <li>• Other Items</li> <li>• Concluding Remarks</li> <li>• Vote of Thanks</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistant Executive Secretary</li> <li>• Executive Secretary</li> <li>• Executive Secretary</li> <li>• Chairman</li> <li>• Executive Secretary</li> </ul> |
|--------------------|--|--|

#### **20:00              Reception Dinner Hosted by APAARI at the India International Center (IIC)**

**Annexure III****Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions****A Brief Report on the Status of APAARI Activities:  
2005-2006\***

Dr. Raj Paroda  
Executive Secretary, APAARI

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\* Report presented by Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI to the APAARI General Assembly held in New Delhi, India, on 7 November 2006.

## **Highlights of Accomplishments and Status of APAARI Activities: 2005-2006\***

### **Introduction**

The Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), established in 1991 as an apolitical, non-profit and neutral forum of National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) in the region, strengthens the research capabilities of NARS and promotes information sharing among them in order to alleviate poverty, increase agricultural productivity and resource use, protect/conserves the environment and improve sustainability. Besides the NARS, several International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs) and CGIAR Centers are its associate members and regional organizations as reciprocal members. To date we have 38 member institutions (Annexure A)

The APAARI programs are aimed to enhance exchange of scientific and technical know-how and information in agricultural research for development; assist in strengthening research capability of member institutions and promote cross-linkages among national, regional and international research organizations. APAARI, in consultation with its stakeholders, has developed a long term perspective plan and strategies to address relevant issues, including regional collaboration, networking of research programs, human resource development, policy advocacy, resource generation, and publication enhancement.

### **APAARI Mission**

“To promote the development of national agricultural research systems in the Asia-Pacific region through facilitation of intra-regional, inter-institutional and international cooperation”

### **Functions**

- Convene General Assembly to develop Policies, Priorities and Programmes; Organize working groups, meetings, seminars, expert consultations on regional thematic issues;
- Collect, collate and disseminate research information; maintain links with agencies/institutions/organizations engaged in similar activities within and outside the region; and
- Promote collaborative research among member institutions; Partnership with CGIAR/IARCs, ARIs, GFAR, Regional, Sub-Regional Fora, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the Private Sector

### **Significant milestones: 1990-2006**

As a background, we would like to highlight first the significant milestones that APAARI had to date to better appreciate the fact that we are building on the previous initiatives and taking on new challenges in ARD. Since its establishment by FAO and many NARS in 1990, APAARI has grown into a self-sustaining regional forum with 38 members composed of the NARS, CGIAR centers, international agricultural research institutes and regional organizations. We have developed our strategic Plan:

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\* Report presented by Dr. Raj Paroda, Executive Secretary, APAARI to the APAARI General Assembly held in New Delhi, India, on 7 November 2006.

APAARI Vision 2025 and have involved different stakeholders in translating it into specific annual work plans, updating regional research priorities, intensifying partnerships in information and knowledge exchange, and addressing specific issues of regional and global importance. We have also made a significant progress of involving the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as the NGOs, Farmers' Organization (FOs), private sector and the young professionals group (YPARD) in our priority setting exercises and expert consultations, and documentation of "success stories" in ARD. We wish to grow and become a stronger regional organization, with diverse membership allowing the participation of smaller NARS/NARIs in the region, and gaining the full support and confidence of international organizations such as FAO, CGIAR, GFAR, donors and other stakeholders.

Below are the significant milestones for which we acknowledge the contributions and support of our members and generous support of GFAR, many donors such as ACIAR, FAO, JIRCAS, the private sector, among some others.

Year	Milestone	Remarks
1990	Establishment of APAARI	Initiated by FAO and many NARS of the Asia-Pacific.
1994	APAARI Work plan (1995-2000)	Developed as a 5 Year Plan.
1999	Development of APAARI Vision 2025 (APAARI Strategic Plan)	Vision document provides future road map for APAARI.
2000	Development of Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS)	With support from ACIAR and GFAR, APAARI established APARIS as a major program that is quite dynamic and being steered by its Steering Committee.
2001	Regional Priorities for the Asia-Pacific Region Discussed	The 2001 regional priorities have helped shape global perspectives and priorities of GFAR and the CGIAR to maximize their contribution to the challenge of meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Moreover, these regional priority setting exercises have resulted into two regional programs initiated and supported by APAARI and other donors, namely, the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) and the Asia-Pacific Regional Agricultural Information System (APARIS-Phase 2), and currently work is in progress on Linking Farmers to Market (LFM) Global Partnership Programme (GPP) being facilitated by GFAR.
2003	Integration of Delhi and Bangkok APAARI offices, on the premises of FAO Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand and strengthening of the Secretariat	For cost effectiveness and greater efficiency to deliver expected outputs.
2004	Establishment of Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB),	APCoAB was established to promote and harness the benefits of agricultural biotechnology in the region. In last two years, it has made significant progress and playing an important facilitation role as neutral body governed by its own Steering Committee involving different stakeholders. A Private sector representative sits on the Steering Committee, beside FAO, GFAR, CGIAR and NARS representing all three sub-regions. The Secretariat is being hosted by ICRISAT-New Delhi Office.



2005	High level policy dialogue on biotechnology	It was conducted in November 2005 and attended by high government officials, NARS managers, scientists, academe, private sector, NGOs, FOs and donors. It acknowledged the important contributions of both traditional and modern biotechnologies to alleviate poverty and ensure food security. The role of APAARI as key facilitator was recognized. This highly successful meeting was jointly organized and supported by FAO, GFAR and APAARI
2006	Strengthening of APAARI Governance through inclusion of other stakeholders, i.e. GFAR, CGIAR and CSOs, in APAARI decision making body (Executive Committee)	The Constitution is proposed to be amended, specifically for the membership in the Executive Committee, for approval by the General Assembly on 7 November 2006 in New Delhi, India.
2006	Regional priority setting for ARD- accomplished through greater participation of all stakeholders	Farmer/farmers organization (IFAP), NGOs (ANGOC), the youth, (YPARD), private sector were actively involved during the Workshop on Regional Synthesis of Research Needs, held on 18-19 August 2006 in Bangkok.
2006	Set the stage for the proposed establishment of Asia-Pacific NGO Consortium - in partnership with GFAR	A small group meeting will be convened by ANGOC during the APAARI meeting in November 2006 in New Delhi to evolve strategies and plans for establishing this important consortium.

### Major Accomplishments: 2005-2006

The major accomplishments of APAARI during the period 2005-2006 are given below. The activities reported are along the major themes consistent with APAARI's strategic thrusts and the approved work plan.

**Research Priority Setting involving all stakeholders:** APAARI provided a platform for the regional priority setting based on the needs identified by the different stakeholders in the Asia-Pacific region. During the last decade, APAARI has done its best to bring together all stakeholders to collectively decide on regional research priorities, its strategic plan, the networks it is associated with, and some new initiatives such as on ICT/ICM and biotechnology. While it took time to bring in NGOs and FOs, they are now more actively engaged and involved in the process.

During 2004 and 2005, APAARI conducted research needs assessment for the three sub-regions, taking into consideration new developments and challenges. One of the major challenges the Asia-Pacific region faces is the on-going shift from a focus on increased production to meet national food security targets, to increased farm productivity that factors in environmental concerns and profitability. Since majority of the producers in the region are small scale farmers, moving them beyond the subsistence level to market - oriented and environmentally sound sustainable production systems will not be easy. This, therefore, constitutes a major paradigm shift for ARD. In South and West Asia for instance, new research areas deserving additional emphasis include agro-enterprise development (focus on post-harvest technology and value addition), emphasis on sustainability of farming/cropping systems rather than individual crops/commodities, INRM approach using watersheds managed by the communities, greater emphasis on eco-regional research (arid, semi-arid, mountain, coastal beside irrigated eco-systems), thrust on low input use technologies/varieties with emphasis on abiotic stresses and IPM using biotechnology, greater role of legumes, precision farming and policy and institutional reforms with special emphasis on strategies to encourage higher investments in infrastructure, and enabling policies on marketing, credit and commodity pricing. In the Pacific, serious gaps have been identified in important research areas such as value adding and post-harvest management, markets

and marketing. In Southeast Asia (SEA), main priority areas include (i) food safety and security, specifically agriculture and fisheries product quality, value adding of products for competitiveness, productivity and profitability, export/import competitiveness, policy researches related to food safety, market changes, biotechnology and other emerging issues; and (ii) farmers/fisher folks capability enhancement including value chain analysis and improve market access, entrepreneurial development of farmers and fisher folks, provision of access to credit, and intra/inter-household production access. There is growing recognition that research must transform subsistence farming into agro-entrepreneurship.

The Regional Synthesis of Research Needs in Asia-Pacific conducted on 18-19 August 2006 in Bangkok brought together key stakeholders from the three sub-regions, namely, the NARS, CGIAR centers, NGOs, farmers' and Private Sector organizations, donor representatives, regional and international organizations, and the youth sector. It identified six regional research themes:

- i) Natural Resource Management,
- ii) Genetic Resources and Biotechnology,
- iii) Enterprise Improvement,
- iv) Post harvest and Value Addition,
- v) Policy and Institutions,
- vi) Capacity Building.

The anticipatory research suggested includes climate change and biofuels. Monitoring and evaluation of collaborative activities was suggested as an additional role which APAARI and GFAR should play. A number of follow-up actions by all stakeholders, beside continued support to research networks, APARIS and APCoAB activities, were recommended, including the establishment of the Asian NGO Consortium on ARD, joint ANGOC-YPARD planning meeting on partnership in ARD, synthesis of on-going biofuels initiatives for informed decision making, establishment of LFM working group in the region, including a global partnership program (GPP) among others.

***APAARI – a forum for regional and global issues:*** APAARI has a responsible role to gather, and synthesize information and knowledge on important and emerging issues for sound, science-based decision making such in the priority areas of plant genetic resources, biotechnology, and ICT, among others. It also facilitates dialogue among its stakeholders on thematic issues. Some of these had been:

- (i) In November, 2005, APAARI jointly with IPGRI facilitated a roundtable meeting of NARS leaders, specifically to: (a) increase awareness of the International Treaty on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITGRFA) implementation process at international and national levels; (b) develop harmonized regional PGR Strategy; and (c) identify modalities for technical assistance for the implementation of the Treaty. The participants highlighted the need for national level technical legal assistance for the implementation of the Treaty and endorsed the joint program for technical assistance to countries being developed by FAO and IPGRI. They recommended that APAARI and IPGRI jointly provide a forum for Asian National Negotiators, preferably before the next meeting of the Contact Group to develop the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA), by April 2006. Hence, APAARI in collaboration with IPGRI facilitated a meeting in April, 2006 of the seven Asian representatives nominated by the Chairs of the FAO Regional Groups for the purpose.

The meeting provided an opportunity to prepare a well coordinated Asian position which they used for negotiation during the 24-28 April 2006 SMTA Contact Group meeting held in Sweden. Based on the feedback from the Asian Group, the output of the meeting was also adopted by Japan, China and South Korea, as they were unable to join the Bangkok meeting.

Hence, APAARI, in partnership with IPGRI, was pleased to have facilitated the process of arriving at a common understanding to develop SMTA, which would have greater implications on APAARI NARS for dealing with exchange and benefit-sharing of genetic resources in the future. Since then, we are pleased that the Governing Council of ITGRFA has approved the draft SMTA in its first meeting.

- (ii) A high level policy dialogue on biotechnology was conducted on 7-9 November 2005 to create awareness about the important role of biotechnology and how various countries can promote them to ensure effective conservation of valuable genetic resources, increased productivity of crops and income of the resource poor farmers, while ensuring environmental safety as well as agricultural sustainability. It was strongly recommended that organizations such as FAO, GFAR, APAARI should henceforth play a proactive role with regard to facilitation functions such as: advice in regulatory mechanisms and their harmonization and biosafety issues; proper knowledge dissemination and public awareness; catalyzing policy makers for more support for R&D; enabling environment for building strong public private partnerships; and the capacity building especially in those developing countries that are to move forward in order to harness the benefits of biotechnology. The need to build regional cooperation and to strengthen Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) was emphasized.
- (iii) In keeping with the need for safe application of biotechnology, several countries in the Asia-Pacific region have evolved biosafety regulations and guidelines for research, development and transboundary movement of GM crops and their products. Harmonizing regulation at the regional level and building capacities that are critical for harmonized implementation of the regulations are essential for transferring the benefits of biotechnology to the farmers and consumers in the region. In this context, a workshop on “Biosafety Regulations for Transgenic Crops and the Need for harmonizing them in the Asia-Pacific Region” was jointly organized by APCoAB and ICRISAT on 31 July - 2 August 2006 at ICRISAT, Patancheru, India involving 30 participants from 12 countries of the region. Important recommendations on priority areas for harmonization, capability building and future strategies were made. It is our hope that the recommendations of the workshop will be useful for policy makers, research managers, researchers and the industry in developing appropriate policies and programs that synergise regional cooperation for enhanced crop productivity, greater food security and poverty alleviation, while addressing the concerns of biosafety and environmental protection.
- (iv) Public Private Partnership (PPP) is a continuing challenge in ARD in the region. Dialogues have been conducted at the national and regional levels to understand better existing models of partnership and generate confidence building between public and private institutions for enhanced partnership in future. APAARI/APCoAB organized two workshops on PPP in 2005, namely:
  - a) “Public Private Partnership on the Use of Agribiotechnology for Sustainable Solutions to Brassica Pest Problems” organized in New Delhi on 10 February, 2005. The meeting was co-sponsored by AVRDC, APAARI/APCoAB and CIMBAA (Collaboration for Insect

Management in Brassica in Asia and Africa). It was attended by professionals from various ministries, representatives from Indian and overseas universities; farmers representatives; international organizations and private sector. The issues discussed were related to PPP for Sustainable Control of Insect Pests of Brassicas, particularly Diamond Black Moth (DBM); biosafety; resistance management; economics and public acceptability of GM vegetable crops. The meeting supported formation of a Consortium (Nunhems Seed Company from private sector and Indian Agricultural Research Institute from public sector) and voiced that international organization such as FAO, GFAR etc. should support such initiatives. The partners must ensure acceptability of the technology (also socially and ethically), biosafety issues (in terms of long term impact on environment and management of insect resistance). The technology as far as possible should be scale neutral and thus should benefit both small and marginal farmers.

- b) Brainstorming Session on “Public Private Partnership in Agricultural Biotechnology on March 14, 2005 in New Delhi. A clear message that emerged was the need of a mutual trust between the public and private partners. The meeting recommended the following: developing countries in the region interested to promote biotechnology should come out with a national strategy on Public Private Partnership identifying the specific priority areas of cooperation between the public and private partners; need for a macro-level policy change and a well-defined mechanism for IPR and benefit sharing, using existing models of partnership; required attitudinal change and corporate culture in public institutions necessary with decentralized decision-making; capacity building in the field of scientific policy and legal matters; private sector must invest in basic research and must have a balance between profits and meeting their social obligations; set up incubation facilities specially for nurturing start-up companies thereby encouraging early stage innovations through appropriate partnership mechanisms.

***Aiming towards more inter-regional collaboration:*** Inter-regional collaboration is a modality to maximize the use of resources and derive benefits from these partnerships (see related section on *improving the functioning of ARD networks*). APAARI would continue its efforts to strengthen these partnerships, while working with the international ARD organizations such as GFAR, CGIAR, FAO, etc. In future, we wish to build a stronger Regional Forum with full support and confidence of our stakeholders.

APAARI and other donors have been supporting two major regional programs, namely: the Asia-Pacific Regional Information System (APARIS) which was developed in 2000 and the Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) which was established in 2004. Under these and other network initiatives, APAARI has been quite active in recent past to build stronger inter-regional partnerships. Some of the major efforts had been:

- (i) Inter-regional Cooperation for ICT and ICM in ARD is a modality being facilitated by GFAR. During July 2006, APAARI organized an inter-regional workshop at AIT, Bangkok jointly with GFAR. It was attended by 21 participants from various RFs, selected Asia-Pacific NARS, GFAR, FAO, and representatives from other international initiatives on ICM4ARD. The workshop’s objectives were to (1) identify the role of regional fora (RF) in the emerging global alliance for ICT and ICM in ARD through their Regional Agricultural Information Systems (RAIS) and (2) develop collaborative activities of RAIS such as APARIS, AARINENA-RAIS, FARA-RAIS, InfoSys+, AgroWeb, CAC-RAIS, and



FORAGRO-INFOTEC. The workshop was also an opportunity for the new AGRIS Task Force on Advocacy to discuss with RFs the future directions and specific actions to be undertaken.

- (ii) As a follow up on the recommendations of an Expert Consultation organized by APAARI in December, 2004 on Post-harvest Technology, a priority area identified earlier among research priorities for the region, APAARI has taken lead to participate in the GFAR Global Partnership Program on Linking Farmers to Market (GPP-LFM) through its *Ad Hoc* Working Group (RWG) which was convened in June, 2006 in Bangkok. The regional LFM program envisions “*enhanced livelihoods of farming communities by providing opportunities of choice for market integration through responsive R&D*”. Its four components are: information and documentation, cluster and linkages, responsive R&D, and training. The following initial commitments were expressed and acknowledged by concerned stakeholders: Farmer group training (APRACA); NGO training (FAO); Information and documentation (APAARI, FAO); Research responsiveness (BPRE-Phil and CFTRI-India; JIRCAS- dispatch of experts on market analysis; Private sector (Nuhem Seeds) – Research to deliver products); and CLT/FFF/IFAP as partners in the long term. To date APAARI has initially documented success stories on LFM in India and the Philippines which will soon be published and disseminated. The regional LFM program was inputted into the GPP-LFM which was designed during the inter-regional workshop convened by GFAR in Cairo, Egypt on 11-15 September, in which APAARI actively participated.
- (iii) The more recent addition to these networks is the Inter-regional Network on Cotton in Asia, and North Africa (INCANA) established in 2003 involving AARINENA, APAARI, CACAARI, AREO, and ICARDA. In 2005 and 2006, INCANA organized two traveling workshops, namely, (1) on hybrid and Bt cotton in India jointly supported by AARINENA, APAARI and GFAR, and (2) on IPM in Syria involving participants from more than ten countries, of which two participants from India and Pakistan were supported by APAARI. The participants interacted with scientists, farmers and field managers and have learned great deal about significant progress made in these fields in the two countries. It is proposed to organize a traveling workshop next year to learn about the success of predominant cotton-wheat cropping system in Pakistan and India.

**APAARI's Governance being strengthened:** Considering the need for greater ownership and inclusiveness of all stakeholders in the decision making process, APAARI Executive Committee agreed in June, 2006 to propose to the General Assembly an Amendment to APAARI's Constitution pertaining to Article X which provides for the composition of the Executive Committee. The Amendment, once approved by the GAM in November, 2006, will provide one additional seat each in the Executive Committee for the following:

CGIAR, GFAR and the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

APAARI has also invited NGO representation in the management of one of its major programs on biotechnology (APCoAB). It hopes that as the NGOs and FOs get more organized and establish their legitimacy, both CSOs will have greater roles in APAARI's future decision making process. Similarly, we anticipate effective partnership with Private Sector in the future. Presently, APSA is our reciprocal member and on APAARI's recommendation now represents on GFAR Steering Committee. As APAARI broadens its partnership with other key stakeholders, it will ensure further strengthening of its governance and management. List of present APAARI members is given in Annexure I.

**Information exchange further intensified:** One of the APAARI's objectives is to promote the exchange of scientific and technical know-how and information in agriculture. In order to demonstrate that science for agricultural development has an extensive track record of delivering *real* benefits to farmers and consumers through new and improved crop, livestock, fish, and farming technologies that improve productivity and farmers' incomes, APAARI has institutionalized the documentation of "success stories" and "best practices" which are disseminated region-wide in print and through APAARI web site (<http://www.apaari.org>). To date, 24 success stories have been documented along the following areas/disciplines: crops (11: cereals, horticulture and industrial crops); pest management (2); fisheries (4); livestock (2); farming systems (2); effective institutional linkages/partnership (1); and agro-tourism (1). In 2005 and 2006, beside a success story on Tront farming in Nepal, two status reports on commercialization of Bt corn in the Philippines and Bt cotton in India were published. Success stories on ICT/ICM applications and linking farmers to markets will be released soon. A list of APAARI publications is given in Annexure B.

It is hoped that these success stories and case studies will be used effectively by our members and partners to raise awareness, gain and sustain support of policy/decision-makers and donors regarding agricultural research for development. They have been very useful in sensitizing NARS leaders, policy makers and other stakeholders on partnership building for effective agricultural innovation capacities and adoption of technologies. They can also be shared by GFAR with its other regional fora in different languages.

APAARI regularly updates CD-ROM publications such as "APAARI on CD" and "NARS on CD," which will provide NARS databases and publications in a searchable form on a CD. In 2005 and 2006, these were up-dated and published in print, on CD and on the web. Likewise, posters of APAARI, APARIS, APCoAB and the major ARD Networks associated with APAARI were up-dated and displayed/distributed in the meetings of FAO, CGIAR-AGM, GFAR-SCM etc.

APAARI and APCoAB web sites have been redesigned and made more user-friendly. The web pages have been reconstituted and comprehensive links provided to related web sites. All APAARI and APCoAB publications are available at these sites (<http://www.apaari.org>; <http://www.apcoab.org>).

APAARI's achievements during the last 15 years have also been documented and a comprehensive publication on "Fifteen Years of APAARI: A Retrospective" will be released during the General Assembly, on 7 November 2006, in New Delhi. We hope that our 15 years of experience and lessons learned will be shared with all stakeholders and other regional fora, and we will get proper guidance for our future road map.

**Improving the functioning of existing ARD Networks:** To date, the networks associated with APAARI are predominantly crop-based, and majority of them are facilitated by the CGIAR centers. Some are more active than the others. Some are faced with funding constraints, and lack of enthusiasm by concerned partners. Important among these are: CLAN (ICRISAT); CORRA (IRRI); TAMNET (FAO-APSA); GoFAR (World Fish Center); PGR Networks (IPGRI); Biosaline Network (ICBA); UTFANET (ICUC) and INCANA (AREO).

One of the more active networks is the Cereals and Legumes Asia Network (CLAN) with membership of 13 countries in Asia, namely, Bangladesh, China, India, Iran, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and Yemen. ICRISAT, AVRDC, ICARDA and other regional and international institutes in the Asia-Pacific region are a part of the network, providing genetic material, technology and research information, and training input. The expanded CLAN is

now co-facilitated by ICRISAT, ICARDA and AVRDC. The coordination unit is located at and supported by ICRISAT-Patancheru. APAARI has been actively involved in provided needed support to help sustain the network activities. Recently, a project proposal has jointly been submitted to IFAD for funding.

On rice, with the leadership role of IRRI, CORRA Network is playing an important role in catalyzing NARS leaders on important issues relating to technological and policy related developments. CORRA is acting as a Think Tank for all related ARD issues on rice.

The Tropical Asian Maize Network (TAMNET) has served good purpose in testing parental lines of various single cross and three way hybrids of maize. The Network was earlier facilitated by CIMMYT and currently by FAO and APSA. Somehow, the Network has suffered some setback lately for funds and proper coordination mechanism. APAARI proposes to have this Network revived in view of importance of maize crop in the region.

The PGR Networks are being facilitated by IPGRI regional office in Asia and activities are reported regularly to APAARI. Also MoU is in place for working of these networks under APAARI umbrella. Recently, initiatives were taken to evolve and endorse a regional PGR Strategy. The genetic resource activities, including the Gene Banks, are likely to be supported in future based on this strategy by the Global Crop Diversity Trust (GCDDT).

A Network on fishery research is facilitated by the World Fish Center with partnership of APAARI. GoFAR has organized regular meetings in the past to exchange information and technologies for the development of aquaculture and fishery sector in the region. The activities of GoFAR have lately slowdown. APAARI would work with World Fish Center to have this Network again activated.

Currently, APAARI and ILRI are exploring the possibility for moving forward with a knowledge network on livestock and to illustrate a practical example of how the APAARI, APHCA, NARS and CGIAR centers (with lead role of ILRI) partnership can add-value through regional collaboration.

**Participation in Regional and International Fora:** APAARI has been actively participating in important meetings of the regional and international fora such as GFAR Steering Committee, the Steering Committee on Generation Challenge Program, AGM of CGIAR, FAO Regional Conference, meeting of Global Consortium for Higher Education and Research in Agriculture (GCHERA) etc.

Also APAARI has participated in the meeting of our other stakeholders such as NACA, Asian IFAP, and Regional Fora such as European Forum on Agricultural Research, FARA, AARINENA, CACAARI etc.

**Capacity Building:** In continuation of APAARI's efforts to build further capacity for improved information exchange and communication in agricultural research in the region, APAARI/APARIS organized a training workshop on Integrating National Agricultural Information Systems (NAIS) from 1-5 November 2005 at AIT, Bangkok. The workshop recommended further development of APARIS integration tools through Regional Agricultural Expert Locators (RAEL) and Regional Agricultural Information Gateway (RAIG) and also developing some success stories on ICT. Since then, efforts are on way, though active involvement of AIT, to meet these objectives.

During 2005, two experts on Biotechnology were trained in Japan in functional genomics, for which support was provided by JIRCAS. Earlier, experts from the region were also trained on GM seeds detection technology in partnership with FAO in Bangkok, Thailand.

## Epilogue

Overall, APAARI's diverse activities have provided further thrust on strengthening partnership, collaboration and networking in agricultural research for development in the Asia-Pacific region, addressing the emerging needs and expectations of NARS and other stakeholders. APAARI looks forward to strengthen and sustain the partnership with ARD organizations in pursuing common goals and objectives, especially in the six regional priorities identified during the 18-19 August 2006 synthesis workshop. These are listed in this report.

APAARI also looks forward to pursue inter-regional partnership on linking farmers to market with other Fora engaged in agricultural research and development through active support and involvement of GFAR. The success stories shall be shared and new approaches on LFM shall be put on the ground. Similarly, initiative of INCANA will be further strengthened.

APCoAB's activities are now gaining momentum and will follow through on the important recommendations from the high level policy dialogue such as increase awareness, policy advocacy, harmonization of biosafety standards, public-private partnership, inter-regional collaboration and capacity building.

The commitment of member NARS and the continuous involvement of the National Information Nodal Persons (NINPs) will be critical in further developing, maintaining and updating our information exchange system, through facilitation role of APARIS. Capacity development for those which are still in the initial stage of ICT/ICM development will be our priority, with funding support co-shared by all support institutions and donors. The current user base will have to be expanded to include other stakeholders who are also generators of knowledge and agricultural information, such as the students, farmers, private sector and NGO's. APARIS shall endeavor to maintain contact with the national focal persons to sustain the interest and learning shared during the previous training and advocate at the national levels for more support to ICT/ICM related initiatives. Ownership of Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS) at the national level by NARS leaders will be critical to strengthen APARIS and we shall continue our efforts in this direction.

In order to meet increasing expectations of our members, APAARI proposes to intensify its activities during the next biennium so that various networks and consortia activities are further strengthened and thematic issues, as per identified research priorities and needs, are properly addressed. Details of proposed work plan for 2007 are provided in Annexure VI.

We remain committed to adopt the principles of inclusiveness and subsidiarity in APAARI activities, and foster the culture of learning among members to gain the support and confidence of donors and our stakeholders. As we grow and share the responsibility to manage an efficient and effective forum like APAARI, we will always aim for more meaningful partnerships among stakeholders for the benefits of our small farmers in the region and to continue accelerating the growth of agricultural sector in the Asia-Pacific region.

## **List of APAARI Member Institutions**

### **NARS Members**

#### **West Asia**

- Agricultural Research and Education Organization (AREO), Tehran, Iran

#### **South Asia**

- Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India
- Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC), Lalitpur, Nepal
- Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Islamabad, Pakistan
- Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy (CARP), Colombo, Sri Lanka

#### **South-East Asia**

- Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Department of Agriculture (DoA), Bangkok, Thailand
- Philippines Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD), Los Baños, Philippines
- Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Vietnam

#### **East Asia**

- Japan International Research Centre for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS), Tsukuba, Japan
- Rural Development Administration (RDA), Suwon, Republic of Korea
- Council of Agriculture (CoA), Chinese Taipei

#### **Pacific Island Countries & Oceania**

- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Canberra, Australia
- National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI), Lae, Papua New Guinea
- Koroniva Research Station, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF), Fiji
- Ministry of Commerce, Forests and Fisheries (MCFF), Apia, Western Samoa
- Institut Agronomique Neo-Caledonien (IAC), New Caledonia
- University of Technology, Papua New Guinea

### **Associate Members**

- AVRDC - World Vegetable Center (Chinese Taipei)
- CIMMYT - International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (Mexico)
- ICARDA - International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (Syria)
- ICBA - International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (United Arab Emirates)
- ICIMOD - International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (Nepal)
- ICRISAT - International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics, (India)
- IFPRI - International Food Policy Research Institute (U.S.A.)
- ILRI - International Livestock Research Institute (Kenya)
- IPGRI - International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (Italy)
- IRRI - International Rice Research Institute (Philippines)
- IWMI - International Water Management Institute (Sri Lanka)
- UNESCAP-CAPSA - Center for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific (Indonesia)
- WFC - World Fish Center (Malaysia)

### **Reciprocal Members**

- AARINENA - Association of Agricultural Research Institutes in the Near East and North Africa (Jordan)
- AIT - Asian Institute of Technology (Thailand)
- APAFRI - Asia-Pacific Association for Forestry Research Institutions (Malaysia)
- APSA - The Asia and Pacific Seed Association (Thailand)
- NACA - Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific (Thailand)



### APAARI Publications

- Bi-annual APAARI Newsletter (30 issues)
- APAARI Success Stories (**listed below**)
- APAARI – A Decade of Progress, 2001
- Proceedings of Expert Consultations and APAARI Meetings (**listed below**)
- APAARI Vision 2025
- ICT in ARD: Status and Progress in the Asia-Pacific Region. 2004
- APAARI on CD (updated annually)
- **15 years of APAARI: A Retrospective. 2006**
- **Agricultural Research Priorities for Asia and the Pacific – A Synthesis. 2001, 2006**
- **Directories of Agricultural Research Institutions (CD). 2006**
- **Posters: APAARI, APARIS, APCoAB, ARD Networks. 2006**

### Success Stories

- Baby Corn Production in Thailand (1994/1) by Dr. Chamnan Chutkaew and Dr. R.S. Paroda
- Tilapia Farming in the Philippines (1994/2) by Dr. Rafael D. Guerrero III
- Hybrid Rice in China (1994/3) by Mr. Lou Xizhi and Dr. C.X. Mao
- Dairying in India (1994/4) by Dr. R.P. Aneja
- Hybrid Cotton in India (1995/1) by Dr. A.K. Basu and Dr. R.S. Paroda
- Palm Oil Industry in Malaysia (1995/2) by Dr. Y.B. Basiron
- Transformation in Korean Farming – A Success Story of Effective Linkages (1996/1) by Dr. Chae Yun Cho
- Cotton Production in Pakistan (1996/2) by Dr. Badaruddin Soomro and Dr. Parvez Khaliq
- Orchids in Thailand (1997/1) by Dr. Kanchit Thammasiri
- Wheat Production in Iran (1997/2) by Dr. Abbas Keshavarz and Dr. M.J. Mirhadi
- Agro-Tourism in Australia (1997/3) by Dr. Tom Connors
- Direct Seeded Rice in Malaysia (1998/1) by Dr. Cheong Ah Wah
- Groundnut in China (1998/2) by Dr. Duan Shufen, Dr. Hu Wenguang and Dr. Sui Qingwei
- Oilseeds in India (1999/1) by Dr. Mangala Rai
- Integrated Pest Management in Rice in Indonesia (1999/2) by Dr. Soejitno
- Bivalve Mariculture in India (2000/1) by Dr. V.N. Pillai, *et. al.*
- Farming of Carrageenophytes in the Philippines (2001/1) by Dr. Rafael D. Guerrero III
- Resource Conserving Technologies: Transforming the Rice-Wheat Systems of the Indo-Gangetic Plains (2002/1) by Dr. Raj K. Gupta, *et. al.*

- Success Story on Control of Newcastle Disease in Village Chickens (2003/1) by Dr. Robyn Elders
- A Success Story on Lentil Improvement in Bangladesh (2004/1) by Dr. Ashutosh Sarker, *et. al.*
- A Success Story on Sustaining Green Revolution (2004/2) by Dr. S. Nagarajan
- A Success Story on Biological Pest Control in India (2004/3) by Dr. S.P. Singh
- **A Success Story on Trout Farming in Nepal (2005/1) by Dr. A.K. Rai, *et. al.***
- **Commercialization of Bt Corn in the Philippines: A Status Report by APCoAB, 2005, R.V. Ebor, A.C Ampil, M.B. Palacpac, and C.G. Custodio, Jr.**
- **Bt Cotton in India: A Status Report by APCoAB, 2006**
- **Selected ICT Initiatives and Success Stories on Agricultural Information System. 2006**

### **Proceedings of Expert Consultations and Meetings**

- NARS-CGIAR Partnership for Agricultural Research and Development, 1996
- Research Priority Setting by the NARS, 1996
- Management and Strengthening of Research Networks, 1997
- Research Management Mechanisms of NARS, 1998
- Developing APAARI Vision 2025, 1999
- Development of Asia-Pacific Agricultural Research Information System (APARIS), 2000
- Regional Priority Setting for the Agricultural Development in the Asia-Pacific Region, 2001
- Status of Biotechnology in Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific, 2002
- Development of Second Phase of APARIS, 2002
- Strengthening of Research Partnerships Through Networks and Consortia, 2002
- Establishment of Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology, 2003
- Strengthening Regional Agricultural Information System and Regional Research Networks, 2003
- Post harvest Technologies for Ensuring Food Security and Value Addition for Enhanced Income, 2004
- **Brainstorming Session on Public-Private Partnership in Agricultural Biotechnology, 2005**
- **Research Needs Assessment for South Asia, 2004; Southeast Asia, 2005; and the Pacific, 2005**
- **High Level Policy Dialogue on Biotechnology for Food Security and Poverty Alleviation: Opportunities and Challenges, 2005**
- **Roundtable meeting on Implementation of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, 2005**
- **ASIAN Contact Group on SMTA Meeting, 2006**
- **Ad hoc Working Group on Linking Farmers to Market Meeting, 2006**
- **Inter-regional Meeting on APARIS, 2006**
- **Regional Synthesis of Research Needs, 2006**

Note: Those in bold are the publications brought out during 2005-2006 period

## APAARI CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE X: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### **Present Provision**

16. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association composed of three officers, namely Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Executive Secretary, and four members. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members shall be elected by the General Assembly from among the member institutions at the biennial session and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office for more than two terms. No country will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary, who shall be appointed according to Article XII, Paragraph 22, shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

#### **Proposed Amendment**

16. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association composed of three officers, namely Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Executive Secretary of APAARI, and seven other members. The following three will be the ex-officio members: the Executive Secretary, who shall be appointed according to Article XII under paragraph 22, the Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) and one CGIAR Center Director General from among associate members. The outgoing Chairman will be a member for the next term, whereas three members would represent the Pacific, South-East Asia and South-West Asia sub-regions. The remaining one member will be from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and the seven other members shall be elected by the General Assembly from among the member institutions at the biennial meeting and shall hold office until the next biennial session and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office. No country will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee.




**SUMMARY ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF APAARI**  
**01 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2005**  
**(Amount in US Dollars)**


ITEMS	RECEIVED	DISBURSEMENTS		BALANCE
		Budget	Actual Used	
31/12/2004 Balance B/F:				807,123.74
1. NARS Membership Fee	99,511.13			
2. Associate Membership Fee	27,000.00			
3. Interest Income	19,244.50			
4. Other Income:				
4.1 Refund	38,308.00			
4.2 <u>Profit</u> and Loss on Transfer	1,326.53			
5. Publications		25,000.00	12,871.74	
6. APAARI Secretariat Support:				
6.1 Assist. Exe. Secretary, Accountant & Web Master		60,000.00	26,037.63	
6.2 Office Stationery & equipment, Communication		25,000.00	11,420.46	
6.3 Miscellaneous		20,000.00	12,685.40	
7. Consultancy/Travel/SSA		50,000.00	38,336.94	
8. Training/Selected Research Projects/Network Support		70,000.00	42,954.00	
9. Meetings		60,000.00	16,989.00	
9.1 Expenses for APARIS Meeting				
9.2 Expenses for General, Expert Consultation Meeting				
9.3 Expenses for Ex.Com, Expert Consultation Meeting			4,848.97	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185,390.16</b>	<b>310,000.00</b>	<b>166,144.14</b>	<b>826,369.76</b>

Total amount in BKK office:  
Total amount in Tashkent office:  
  
Remark : Retr transferred from APCoAB

US\$ 820,487.67  
US\$ 882.09  
  
US\$ 5,000.00

Grand Total:	US\$ 826,369.76
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.....  
Dr. Raj Paroda  
Executive Secretary APAARI

  
.....  
Ms. Urairat Rujirek  
Accountant & Secretary APAARI

  
.....  
Mr. Rattanachai Dumnersawat  
External Auditor

Details of total amount in BKK office:

Amount in Fixed Account	US\$ 777,260.65
Amount in Saving Account	US\$ 39,398.07
Amount in Current Account (Baht 105,196.75)	US\$ 2,690.43
Amount in Saving Account (Baht 44,472.43)	US\$ 1,137.37
Cash in hand (Baht 46.-)	US\$ 1.15
Total	US\$ 820,487.67



## SUMMARY ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF APAARI

01 JANUARY – 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

(Amount in US Dollars)


ITEMS	RECEIVED	DISBURSEMENTS		BALANCE
		Budget	Actual Used	
31/12/2005 Balance B/F:				821,206.68
1. NARS Membership Fee	64,355.17			
2. Associate Membership Fee	96,827.29			
3. Interest Income	16,097.46			
4. Other Income:				
4.1 Refund	127,359.50			
4.2 Profit and <u>Loss</u> on Transfer	-2,415.95			
5. Publications		25,000.00	4,775.59	
6. APAARI Secretariat Support:				
6.1 Assist. Exe. Secretary, Accountant & Web Master		70,000.00	39,500.74	
6.2 Office Stationery & equipment, Communication		25,000.00	11,725.97	
6.3 Miscellaneous		20,000.00	7,683.66	
7. Consultancy/Travel/SSA		50,000.00	36,778.35	
8. Training/Selected Research Projects/Network Support		70,000.00	45,000.00	
9. Meetings		60,000.00		
9.1 Expenses for APARIS Meeting			18,751.00	
9.2 Expenses for Ex.Com, Expert Consultation Meeting			5,381.34	
9.3 Expenses for General, Expert Consultation Meeting			23,618.58	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>302,223.47</b>	<b>320,000.00</b>	<b>193,215.23</b>	<b>930,214.92</b>



Total amount in BKK office:  
Total amount in Tashkent office:

US\$ 924,872.83  
US\$ 5,342.09

Grand Total:	US\$ 930,214.92
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17/11/06

Dr. Raj Paroda  
Executive Secretary APAARI

  
.....

Ms. Urairat Rujirek  
Accountant & Secretary APAARI

  
.....

Mr. Rattanachai Dumnersawat  
External Auditor

Details of total amount in BKK office:

Amount in Fixed Account	US\$ 813,594.77
Amount in Saving Account	US\$ 109,777.19
Amount in Current Account (Baht 1,356.25)	US\$ 33.22
Amount in Saving Account (Baht 59,462.65)	US\$ 1,456.01
Cash in hand (Baht 475.-)	US\$ 11.64
Total	US\$ 924,872.83

## Annexure VI

## APAARI PROPOSED WORK PLAN FOR 2007

Activity	Details
1. Publications	Proceedings of the Expert Consultation on Agricultural Innovations: Linking Farmers to Markets, and General Assembly, 5-8 November 2006, New Delhi, India and circulation
	APAARI Newsletter (December 2006, June and December 2007)
	A Comprehensive publications on R&D investments in Asia-Pacific (book form and policy briefs) - in partnership with ASTI-IFPRI
	Publication of two new success stories on Linking Farmers to Markets, and other topics
	Compendium of institutions (public and private, NGOs, FOs) working on areas related to linking farmers to markets (LFM)
2. Meetings and Expert Consultations	Expert Consultation on R&D Status on Biofuels in the Asia-Pacific and other regions (An inter-regional initiative)
	Expert Consultation on Strengthening Research Collaboration in Asia-Pacific: Progress of Networks and Consortia Approach and Building on Inter-Regional Collaboration
	Two Executive Committee Meetings (May & October/November 2007) and their Proceedings
3. APARIS related activities	<p>Web site enhancement linked to other Members' web sites, RAEL to become operational, networks data base updated. Specific activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) New Content Management System for APAARI web site using new web technologies and tools sites for easier (de-centralized) upload of new information and better linkages to NARS and other ARD stakeholders' web sites.</li> <li>(2) Institute Directory (NARS on CD): Database needs to be updated and integrated with the ASTI information on APAARI web site.</li> <li>(3) Regional Agricultural Expertise Locator (RAEL): This new service needs to be implemented on APAARI web site.</li> <li>(4) ARD Information Gateway Function using new web spidering and auto update tools.</li> <li>(5) APARIS Steering Committee Meeting.</li> </ol>
4. APCoAB	APCoAB Steering Committee Meetings (June & October/November) and Proceedings
	Forum on Public Awareness on Conventional Biotechnologies and their adoption by resource poor farmers in the Asia Pacific and other regions
	A workshop on capacity building for marker assisted selection (MAS) and functional genomics in partnership with IRRI, Syngenta etc.
	Developing and understanding models for strengthening Public Private Partnership for reaping benefits of biotechnology (in partnership with MAHYCO Foundation)
	Publication of Status Reports on success of tissue culture technology in potato, sugarcane, date palm, orchids, production of viral tree saplings of citrus, papaya etc.

**Annexure VII****Proposed Budget for 2007-2008****(Amount in US Dollars)**

S. No.	Items	Approved		Proposed	
		2005	2006	2007	2008
1	Publications (Newsletter, Success Stories, Directory, Technical Reports, etc)	25,000	25,000	25,000	30,000
2	APAARI Secretariat Support				
	i. Assistant Executive Secretary & Office Secretary	60,000	70,000	80,000	85,000
	ii. Office Stationary & Postage	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
	iii. Miscellaneous Items	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
3	Consultancy/Travel/SSA	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
4	Training/Selected Research Projects/Network Support	70,000	70,000	60,000	70,000
5	Expert Consultation (s)/General Assembly, Executive Committee meetings of APAARI	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>310,000</b>	<b>320,000</b>	<b>320,000</b>	<b>340,000</b>

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