SYSTEM COUNCIL
WORK PLANNING FOR THE PERIOD END 2016 - 2017

Purpose

This paper puts forward as an interim working document of the System Council, an overview of the key matters that are anticipated to require System Council attention in the forthcoming twelve months. It also proposes, for adoption by the System Council, a return to the two in-person meeting per year model of the former Fund Council.

The material is non-exhaustive, recognizing that a degree of flexibility in terms of scheduling of System Council business may be required.

It is proposed that at its 4th meeting, tentatively proposed for 4 – 5 May 2017 in Washington, D.C., the System Council review a longer term planning tool as presented by the System Management Office, tied to the 34 functions listed for the System Council in the CGIAR System Framework, and mapped to functional responsibilities of the System Management Board and/or other stakeholders as relevant.

Note: Appendix 1 will be provided in paper format at SC2

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Action requested of the System Council

1.   Pursuant to the discussion below, the System Management Office puts forward the following as the proposed items for consideration by the System Council to facilitate effective forward planning.

     a.   **Adoption of the following proposed in-person meeting schedule for 2017:**
  -   Wednesday and Thursday, 4 & 5 May 2017, Washington, D.C.
  -   Wednesday and Thursday, 9 & 10 November 2017.

     b.   **To the extent practicable, identification of the host country for the proposed November 2017 meeting**, with the proposal that the System Council consider the model of one meeting in Washington D.C. each year, and another in the host country of a CGIAR Research Center or Funder country.

     c.   **Confirmation of System Council support for Appendix 1 to this paper serving as the high-level System Council work plan for the forthcoming 12-15 months, including with revisions as proposed during SC2**, with recognition that flexibility may be required to address items of business on an altered basis should demand arise.

Background

2.   The *CGIAR System Framework*[1] ("**Framework**"), provides that the System Council serves as the strategic decision making body of the CGIAR System, with the purpose (at Article 2(b)) of keeping under review the strategy, mission, impact and combined relevancy of the CGIAR System. Article 6.1 of the Framework identifies 34 functions of the System Council. Article 6.2 further provides that the System Council shall exercise any other functions attributed to it in the Framework, and the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization.

3.   Additionally, at its first meeting on 12 July 2016 ("SC1"), the System Council adopted, until such time as amended or revoked as relevant to the subject matter, all of the current policies, procedures, guidelines (together, '**Policies**') and other requirements previously approved by the former Fund Council as part of the 'Common Operational Framework' under the rule of the CGIAR Fund (SC/M1/DP7).[2]

4.   Many of the Policies, including CGIAR's Intellectual Assets Principles, included a requirement for, typically, annual reporting to and consideration by the former Fund Council of the strategic issues arising for the CGIAR System as a whole. This concept was carried into the reformed CGIAR System within the provisions of Article 6 of the Framework.

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[1] http://library.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10947/4371/CGIAR%20System%20Framework%20-%20WEB.pdf?sequence=1
[2] As summarized in the System Council decision register accessible at this link: http://cgiarweb.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SystemCouncil_Decisions_Website_9Sept2016.pdf

Purpose of Appendix 1

5.   Through the various headings and content set out in Appendix 1, the System Management Office has sought to map, for the forthcoming 12 to 15 months only, those matters that on information presently known, appear important for the System Council to address within the stated timetable. Inevitably, a number of the items are standard operating business items, and whenever possible, these are proposed to addressed on an intersessional basis, typically through a consultation phase and then decision making on a no-objection basis.

6.   However, Appendix 1 also includes strategic topics that are proposed to be dealt with intersessionally. For example, progressing the Terms of Reference for the System Council's Independent Science and Partnership Council, and the Independent Evaluation Arrangement because of the importance of moving these topics forward well in advance of the suggested next System Council in-person meeting in May 2017. These topics are thus proposed to be dealt with on an intersessional basis through a detailed consultation phase, including scheduled calls with System Council members, and potentially through ad-hoc System Council virtual calls. Such details would be set out in the relevant paper that is presented to the System Council at the relevant time.

7.   As introduced earlier in this paper, Appendix 1 is not presented as an exhaustive list of all matters that the System Council may be expected to consider in the forthcoming 12 – 15 months. Naturally, not all of the System Council's 34 stated functions should be considered in the same year (or same three years in many cases). Additionally, annual reporting practices such as the provision to the Funders of the Audited Financial Statements of CGIAR Research Centers, are not identified in Appendix 1. This does not speak to the importance of such practices continuing, but recognizes that the review of these materials is not tied to a function of the System Council as set out in the Framework.

8.   Instead, Appendix 1 seeks to identify the most pressing of the broad scope of topics/actions that the System Council may be expected take up over the coming year in view of the details of the Framework and the decisions that were taken at the 1st System Council meeting (12 July 2016)[3].

9.   Whilst Appendix 1 schedules time at the proposed May 2017 meeting for a further discussion on the availability of financial resources to support the implementation of the Strategy and Results Framework as contemplated in Article 6.1(n) of the Framework, it is anticipated that the availability of financial resources will be at the forefront of ongoing deliberations with the System Management Board, and that the topic will come before the System Council on multiple occasions, including through working group and other modalities of engagement.

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[3] The rolling 'Decision Register' of the System Council is set out at this link:
http://cgiarweb.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SystemCouncil_Decisions_Website_9Sept2016.pdf

10.   At the suggested May 2017 System Council meeting, the System Management Office proposes that the System Council consider a more comprehensive rolling System Council calendar for the 2017 – 2022 period that is more directly tied to the five broad categories of strategic functions from Article 6.1 of the Framework, as set out immediately below, with a view to facilitating System Council delivery on its System-wide leadership and strategic decision making role:

Framework Article 6 – Functions of the System Council (broad categories)

- Vision, strategic direction and advocacy
- Governance
- Partnership engagement and resource mobilization
- Financial and programmatic performance
- Evaluations and impact assessment

11.   Beyond scheduling the 34 functions of the System Council, the planning tool to be presented at the System Council's May 2017 meeting is also proposed to incorporate topics that are important for the operations of the System Council, but which are not listed as 'functions' in Article 6.1. Such items include the timing for reconsideration of the membership of the System Council (each three years, pursuant to Article 4.1 of the Framework), and the appointment of the System Council Chair each four years.

DRAFT - System Council Interim Work Plan, September 2016 - December 2017

Purpose: This table sets out, for System Council consideration, an interim, non-exhaustive work plan for the System Council from September 2016 - December 2017.

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
A	Adhoc Workshop, Saturday 24 September 2016, Mexico City, Mexico					
1	Workshop on proposal reviews by ISPC and donor-group appointed reviewers ('donor reviewers') to facilitate discussion and System Council ('SC') familiarity with the review materials from ISPC and donors.	N/A	24-Sep-16	Pre-SC2	Provide the details behind a potential high-level categorization of the Portfolio of proposals into: (a) supported by the review comments of ISPC and donor reviewers, accepting that minor revisions may be required to get to final contracting; and (b) those that warrant devoted time during SC2 and may require additional work in advance of a final decision in November 2016.	Important pre-meeting that will help to inform SC2 discussions. It is anticipated that the outcomes of the workshop day will be the basis of a framework to guide the System Council's discussions on Sunday 25 September, and its decision session planned for Monday 26 September.
B	2nd System Council Meeting, 25 & 26 September 2016 (Mexico City, Mexico)					
2	Review (day 1) and decisions (day 2) of CRP and Platform proposals	Article 6.1(q)	25-Sep-16	SC2	One day of SC2 used for SC to consider proposals (CRPs and platforms), with decision making on the day two.	Recognized that the System Council may need time to consider other colleagues inputs before returning to a decision session on the second day.
3	Exploring available funding for approved proposals for 2017	Article 6.1(o)	26-Sep-16	SC2	Opportunity for individual Funders to provide, to the extent possible, indications of 2017 contribution projections.	Important information that will inform the resource mobilization efforts of the System Management Board.
4	Strategic Areas for System Council focus ('bucket list')	Article 6.1(a)(iii) + Article 6.1(n)	26-Sep-16	SC2	Returning to items 1 and 7 from the earlier paper, as the items that appeared to attract the most focus during the consultation phase.	Agreed follow up action from SC1.
5	Consideration of the work being undertaken by the System Management Board's Working Group on funding system entities and actions	Article 6.1(t)	26-Sep-16	SC2	Update provided on work that is being chaired by the Interim Executive Director of the System Organization.	An opportunity to check-in with the System Council on overall direction, in advance of further work being done in advance of SC3 meeting.
6	Review indicative annual budgets for system entities (ISPC, IEA and CGIAR System Organization, including support costs for SC operations, Trustee)	Article 6.1(u)	26-Sep-16	SC2	Setting out the potential overall framework for preparation of a detailed budget for System Council approval in November 2016	Agreed at SC1 that high-level budgets would be presented at SC2, with detailed work plans to come later in the year for review and, if required from the deliberations at SC2, formal endorsement and allocation of W1 funding.

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
B	2nd System Council Meeting, 25 & 26 September 2016 continued					
7	Consider critical path to ensuring the necessary agreements are in place for the establishment, operation of, and disbursement from the new CGIAR Trust Fund	Linked to Article 6.1(q)	26-Sep-16	SC2	From May 2016 transition meetings, it was agreed that the SC would endorse the final agreements	It is important to have agreed before mid-November, to facilitate any early 2017 contributions into the new CGIAR Trust Fund. This agenda item will not focus on the text of the agreements, but seek to ensure that Funders are working with their respective legal teams to support final SC approval out of session.
8	System Council Rules of Procedure	Article 7.1	26-Sep-16	SC2	Adopting operating procedures of the SC that have been under consultation since SC1	Paper tabled at SC1 proposed that the Rules would be presented for approval at SC2 after two rounds of consultation (which have been completed).
9	IEA Matters - Interim renewal of the term of the Head of the IEA.	Article 6.1(g)	26-Sep-16	SC2	IEA Head appointed for a 4 year term, which may be renewed for up to an initial 4 years (set out in the CGIAR Policy on Independent Evaluation)	This is proposed as measure to ensure continuation of service of the IEA Head whilst the TOR for the IEA is considered and developed by the SC taking into account the inputs of the System Management Board.
C	Out of session decisions and input requests between 1 October and 15 November 2016					
10	Endorse Contribution Agreement; Funding Agreement; Trustee Agreement	Linked to Article 6.1(q)	09-Nov-16	Out of session	Will be presented to the System Council on 25 October 2016 for approval on a no-objection basis, taking into account any inputs received by the Legal Working Group according to the consultation process set out in meeting document SC2-06 (Agenda Item 9 of SC2)	Work is continuing through the respective legal working groups, and the material will not be ready by SC2. However, it is important to have agreed before end November, to facilitate any early 2017 contributions into the new CGIAR Trust Fund.
11	Approve meeting record SC2	Article 7.7	09-Nov-16	Out of session	No objection approval process to ensure accessibility of the 'Meeting Summary' as soon as is practicable.	
12	Membership of the System Council's Intellectual Property Group	Article 8.1	09-Nov-16	Out of session	The IA Principles include, at Annex 1, the Terms of Reference for the System Council IP Group (formerly, the FC IP Group). Article 3 of the TOR notes that IP Group members serve for two year terms, and may be re-appointed on the decision of the System Council.	Two of the IP Group members were appointed on 6 March 2013 (with the two year renewal date having passed, but a decision to reappoint not appearing to have been taken); and one member was appointed with effect from 1 May 2015. It is appropriate that the System Council ratify the membership of the now named System Council IP Group, and confirm terms.

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
D	3rd System Council meeting, Wednesday 16 November 2016, Virtual					
13	Final approval of 2017 - 2022 Portfolio and indicative budgets for CRPs and Platforms, including approval of the allocation of year 1 Unrestricted Funding	Article 6.1(q) & Article 6.1(s)	16-Nov-16	SC3 Virtual	Final approval of the Portfolio elements that are supported by the SC + funding decisions on W1 & 2 if not already made during SC2 based upon the recommendation of the System Management Board	Sufficient time after Mexico meetings to enable further revisions, but also earlier than December timing discussed in May 2016 at the final Fund Council meeting, so as to facilitate contracting before year end.
14	Approve an integrated framework for a performance management system for CGIAR Research	Article 6.1(v)	16-Nov-16	SC3 Virtual	Tied to the System Council's final approval of the 2017-2022 Portfolio (including caveats or milestones as may be required), provide input into the System Organisation's elaboration of a 2017 proposed framework for 2017 performance metrics as an interim step towards a holistic integrated framework for a performance management system for CGIAR Research.	The System Organization, through a working group structure, is collaborating with a number of stakeholders to put in place a first interim framework, recognizing that considerable work will be required over the 2017 calendar year to have - by end 2017 - a robust integrated performance management system upon which to measure CGIAR Research outputs, outcomes and impacts.
15	Approve the means by which the administrative costs of the CGIAR System can be financed	Article 6.1(t) (part only)	16-Nov-16	SC3 Virtual	The Framework provides for the System Management Board to present a proposal for this element (and as proposed for May 2017), the process to approve multiyear consolidated business plans and budget projections for system costs. The Framework provides that this proposal should consider the collective responsibility of the System Council and the System Organization for such costs.	The System Management Board ('Board') has formed a working group on funding system actions and entities, with a mandate to present to the Board a proposal for the means by which identified "System" actions and entities can be funded, An interim report on the work being undertaken will be provided at SC2. It is recognized that the System Council will need to have approved this element in advance before considering the 2017 budgets (with multiyear planning proposed to be introduced during the 2017 operational year for 2018 application).
16	Approve 2017 Work Plans and budgets for system entities (ISPC, IEA and CGIAR System Organization, including support costs for SC operations, Trustee)	Article 6.1(u)	16-Nov-16	SC3 Virtual	Will build on the high-level inputs provided during SC2, and be discussed by the System Management Board before coming to the System Council.	Agreed at SC1 that high-level budgets would be presented at SC2, with detailed work plans to come later in the year for review and, if required from the deliberations at SC2, formal endorsement and allocation of W1 funding. * It is recognized that there is an action for the System Council to approve, pursuant to Article 6.1 (t), a process for the preparation and approval of multiyear consolidated business plans for the administrative costs of the System. This work will be undertaken in 2017, for application from 2018 onwards.

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
D	3rd System Council meeting, 16 November continued					
17	Review, and provide feedback to the System Management Board, on the 2015 Intellectual Assets Report, reporting on compliance with the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets ("IA Principles")	Article 6.1(k) & Article 6.1(aa)	16-Nov-16	SC3 Virtual	The Fund Council's IP Group reviewed, prior to the System transition, the 2015 CGIAR Intellectual Assets Report, and at Chapter 8 of that Report, presents its findings. The System Council's 12 July 2016 (SC/M1/DP7) adoption of existing policies, procedures and guidelines formerly approved by the Fund Council included adoption IA Principles, and thus the System Council is the forum for the former IP Group's report to be tabled.	Whilst, typically, reporting under the IA Principles is required by May of the following year, the 2016 mid-year transition deliberations impacted on the timing of presentation of the final 2015 IA Report to the former Fund Council. With the SC2 meeting being largely focused on the proposed new portfolio, November 2016 presents an important opportunity to have the 2015 report reviewed, and for the System Council to provide feedback to the System Management Board.
18	Consider strategic approach to System Council Standing Committee formulation	Article 8.2	16-Nov-16	SC3 Virtual	The Framework provides for two standing committees: (a) Audit and Risk Committee - with a majority of external independent members; and (b) Strategic Impact, Monitoring & Evaluation Committee. It is proposed that this item set out a proposed overall approach and timetable for developing the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the two committees, and a process for searching for and appointing the external independent members for the System Council's Audit and Risk Committee. The paper will put forward a suggested test for independence also.	Suggested that it is premature to develop TOR and constitute these committees without first considering the System Management Board's work on a holistic system-wide risk management framework (under development), and the related topic of the scope and means to fill an internal audit function for the System. That work on a holistic approach to risk management will help ensure that the focus of the System Council's committees sits at the strategic level, and the similarly named (but differently mandated) System Management Board committees undertake more of the day to day oversight of the key areas that fall under the respective committee mandates.
E	Out of session decisions between 1 December 2016 & 30 April 2017					
19	CGIAR Policies	Article 6.1(k)	31-Jan-17	Out of session	System Council, on the recommendation of the System Management Board, to identify which of the existing policies, procedures and guidelines, are "CGIAR Policies", that are strategic, system-wide policies that are critical to maintaining the reputation of the CGIAR System. This categorization is relevant to then knowing whether reporting against and/or amendment of a policy, procedure or guideline is under the mandate of the System Council or the System Management Board.	The System Management Board will consider an appropriate categorization of policies, procedures and guidelines, taking into account the criterion of whether such policies, procedures or guidelines are critical to maintaining the reputation of the CGIAR System. The System Management Board's work will be undertaken intersessionally, and thus it is suggested that this would come to the System Council for input/endorsement electronically, facilitated through an ad-hoc information call if helpful to System Council members.
20	Terms of reference for CGIAR's ISPC	Article 6.1(e)	28-Feb-17	Out of session	Acknowledged by the System Council at SC1 (July 2016) that it was important to restate the role of the ISPC, taking into account past history, the revised CGIAR governance arrangements, and ensuring clarity about advisory nature of the ISPC's role to the System Council, but then also clarifying the information sharing/broader system-wide engagement role with other stakeholders.	1. Permits SC to reflect on SC2 discussions on what is required by the SC from its ISPC for decision making on funding proposals 2. Facilitates SC agreement on TOR prior to considering ISPC Chair appointment (required in Q2 2017 due to current timing of term of ISPC Chair).
21	Selection criteria for ISPC members and Chair	Article 6.1(f)	28-Feb-17	Out of session	Ensuring that the basis for identification of future ISPC members is directly linked to revised ISPC mandate	As a package, SC to agree on new TOR for ISPC and the criteria for selection of new members. Will facilitate the appointment in May of new ISPC Chair.
E	Out of session decisions between 1 December 2016 & 30 April 2017 continued					

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22	Terms of Reference for CGIAR's IEA	Article 6.1(e)	28-Feb-17	Out of session	At SC1 (July 2016), the System Council also confirmed it would put in place Terms of Reference for the IEA. This would need to draw on the CGIAR Policy for Independent Evaluation, which includes a description of the mandate of the IEA Head.	As for ISPC, permits SC to reflect on the information available for consideration of new Portfolio, before determining overarching role of IEA. Work plan for 2017 need not be delayed whilst this work is being undertaken.
23	Approve terms of reference for the SC's two standing committees: (a) Audit and Risk Committee (with a majority of independent members); and (b) Strategic Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee	Article 8.3	28-Feb-17	Out of session	Committees are mandated by Article 8.2 of the CGIAR System Framework	Proposal is that these Charters are developed after an initial conversation at SC3 (Virtual) on the key elements that they would expect to fall within the mandate of the respective committees, and the manner that the System Council would prefer for formation of these strategic guidance committees (with the System Management Board having similarly named, but differently mandated committees).

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
F	4th System Council meeting, TBC Wednesday 4 & Thursday 5 May 2017 (Washington D.C.)					
24	***Suggested workshop on day prior to start of SC4***	Various	03-May-17	Pre-SC4	Proposed that the workshop consider: (a) impact pathways, and prioritization (b) ongoing development of the comprehensive system-wide integrated framework for performance management, Framework Article 6.1(v) building on SC2 early discussions and ongoing consultation: (c) progress against the CGIAR System's gender strategy, building on the IEA's thematic evaluation titled "Evaluation of Gender in Research and in CGIAR workplace, and a 2016 annual report on gender and diversity in CGIAR Research and the workplace	Variously, these key items will have been considerably progressed between the System Council's September 2016 in-person meeting, and May 2017. Each is a strategic matter that is expected to inform final decisions taken by the System Council, on the recommendation of the System Management Board in regard to the following items, which in turn shape how the 2017 - 2022 Portfolio will evolve over time. (i) a comprehensive risk management framework, (ii) the integrated performance management system for CGIAR Research; and (iii) a review of CGIAR's Gender Strategy approved by the former Fund Council.
25	Strategic session: Revisiting "Bucket 1": Responding to new challenges and developing new solutions for CGIAR to bring to bear	Article 6.1.(a)i.	05-May-17	SC4	At SC1 (July 2016) the System Council identified 7 strategic areas for focus, with intersessional inputs identifying "bucket 1" as being an area that Council members believed was deserving of considerable attention	Follow on from SC2
26	Strategic session: maximizing available resources "Bucket 7"	Article 6.1(n)	05-May-17	SC4	Based on the 1 July 2016 operative Framework and Charter, resource mobilization efforts rest with the System Management Board. However, the System Council remains an important strategic forum for efforts to secure predictable sustainable financing for the CGIAR System and its planned impacts.	Follow on from SC2
27	ISPC matters	Article 6.1(f)	05-May-17	SC4	Current term of the ISPC Chair ends on 31 July 2017.	Important for the System Council to take a decision on renewal at SC4.

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
F	4th System Council meeting, TBC Wednesday 4 & Thursday 5 May 2017, continued					
28	Appoint members of the System Council's two standing committees	Article 8.3	05-May-17	SC4	Audit and Risk Committee + Strategic Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee are prescribed as standing committees of the System Council	This will follow after the SC's approval of the Charter for the two Standing Committees, as both committees will benefit from external independent members (ARC is required to have external independent members from the Framework).
29	Approve the risk management framework of the CGIAR System	6.1(l)	05-May-17	SC4	The work on this is led by the System Management Board pursuant to comparable provisions in the Charter.	The System Management Board's Audit and Risk Committee is overseeing development of a comprehensive risk management proposal, and thereafter the proposed process for fulfilling the Internal Audit Function based on identified system-wide prioritized risks. It is anticipated that the Risk Management Framework will have been well consulted at this time (including with the System Council), and ready for formal approval.
30	Provide input into the terms of reference and process for fulfilling the Internal Audit Function of the CGIAR System	Article 6.1(h)	05-May-17	SC4	Responsibility rests on the System Management Board to approve the TOR and process for fulfilling the Internal Audit Function (Charter, Article 8.1(i).	Related to the item immediately above, it is anticipated that this work will be in an advanced stage, and ready for formal System Council input.
31	Review and approve a process for the preparation and approval of multiyear, consolidated business plans and budget projections for the administrative costs of the CGIAR System	Article 6.1(t) (part only)	05-May-17	SC4	As set out in the Framework, this proposal will come to the System Council from the System Management Board, which in turn has formed a working group to consider how system-wide administrative costs ought be finalized.	At SC3, the System Council will be asked to
32	Strategic review of Policy on management of Intellectual Assets	Article 6.1(k) and Article 6.1(y)	05-May-17	SC4	Existing policy set out a review mechanism each two years.	Appropriate, after the approval of the new Portfolio, to consider the strategic question of whether the current policy needs revision and in which (if any respects) to further enhance CGIAR's capacity to deliver on the SRF and its research goals.

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
G	5th System Council meeting, TBC - Wednesday 9 & Thursday 10 November 2017 (Location TBC)					
33	Approve Integrated framework for a performance management system for CGIAR Research	Article 6.1(v)	10-Nov-17	SC5	Builds on the work over 2017.	Suggested that this is most logical to follow after the Strategic Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee has been able to form, meet and provide inputs to SC5 deliberations. The System Organization will have worked over 2017 based on insights provided by the System Council in late 2016, and also with a number of Funders as integral members of the proposed working groups (should that structure be adopted).
34	Approve guidelines and criteria for prioritization and for annual allocation of Unrestricted Funding across CGIAR Research based on strategic priorities and performance	Article 6.1(p)	10-Nov-17	SC5	This article anticipates that in advance of the approval of new proposals, relevant guidelines and criteria on an multiannual basis would have been put in place.	The allocation of Unrestricted Funding for the 2017 calendar year, proposed to be approved by the System Council in November 2016 will, necessary due to the transition, only be relevant to the 2017 year. This item permits a longer term, more strategic approach to the guidelines and criteria, based on the prioritization work being led by the ISPC.
35	Approve System-wide formats for, and periodicity of, financial reporting for the CGIAR System	Article 6.1(z)	10-Nov-17	SC5	At SC1 (12 July) the System Council adopted the existing policies, guidelines and procedures of the CGIAR System, and a similar decision was taken by the System Management Board. Accordingly, for the reporting on the 2016 financial year, there is already reporting in place. However, there are mutiple policies, procedures and guidelines and taking note of the CGIAR Principles, as annexed to the Framework, there may be an opportunity to streamline reporting, without compromising on essential data.	It is proposed that the new Audit and Risk Committee, formed by not later than May 2017, be the channel through which the System Management Board's proposal comes to the System Council for consideration. This
36	Approve cost-effective multi-year evaluation plan covering evaluations of the CGIAR Portfolio and the structure and functions of the CGIAR System Organization	Article 6.1(cc)	10-Nov-17	SC5	Identified as an opportunity to tie the evaluation cycle more directly to the review and revision of successive SRFs and also mid-term reviews of the System Council's investment decisions.	Suggested that this is most logical to follow after the Strategic Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee has been able to form, meet and provide inputs to SC5 deliberations. SC3 will have provided budget information for 2017, and an early indication into 2018, and so this would be timely to move to perhaps a two year cycle for 2018- 2019, and the a three to five year cycle thereafter.

No	Topic/Function	Framework reference	Formal Action/ Decision due by	System Council number	Explanation	Rationale for timing (or other comment)
G	5th System Council meeting, continued					
37	Approve Year 2 funding (2018) for Portfolio	Article 6.1(s)	10-Nov-17	SC5	Annual allocation of Unrestricted Funding for CGIAR Research taking into account the advice of the ISPC and proposals from the System Management Board	Proposal is for the System to be forward allocating funding - or moving closer to that annual goal.
38	Approve CGIAR Policies that are strategic, system-wide policies that are critical to maintaining the reputation of the CGIAR System	Article 6.1(k)	10-Nov-17	SC5	SC1 adopted as continuing rules and procedures unless and until amended. This is a holding place for any necessary updates to "CGIAR Policies" if they have not already been dealt with intersessionally.	Potential for some policy revisions to be presented in May 2017 meeting
39	Approve 2018 annual Work Plans and budgets for system entities (ISPC, IEA and CGIAR System Organization, including support costs for SC operations, Trustee)	Article 6.1(u)	10-Nov-17	SC5	It is proposed that the System Council's new Audit and Risk committee provide the services formally undertaken by the Peer Review Team	Annual requirement from the Framework.
40	Review the 2016 Intellectual Assets Report, reporting on compliance with the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets ("IA Principles")	Article 6.(k)	10-Nov-17	SC5	Reporting on compliance with the IA Principles, being a CGIAR Policy that is adopted by the System Council	Whilst, typically, reporting under the IA Principles is required by May of the following year, it is again expected that reporting for the 2016 annual year will be finalized after the May 2017 planned SC4 meeting. This is because of the cycle and timing of CRP reporting under the 2010 - 2016 Portfolio, which reports are required by the IP Group to cross-reference before completing the IA report. It is proposed that there is a new reporting approach for the 2017 - 2022 Portfolio that delivers to the System Council more strategic reporting, and earlier in each calendar year.