System Management Board Self-Assessment

**Purpose:** These slides present:

- Background to the undertaking of a Board self-assessment
- Lessons learned from the survey undertaken in June 2017
- A proposed process for an assessment of the performance of the current Board configuration in Q2 2018

**Action Requested:** The Board is requested to endorse the proposed assessment process for the period July 2017-June 2018.
Performance Assessment - Best practice

• The Board’s Rules of Procedure (Article 13.5) state that “The Board shall review periodically its own performance and shall take such action as may be necessary to improve it.”

• Results of assessment generate informed discussion and focus on commitment to address future priorities identified.

• Best practice* seeks inputs from management as well as Board Members

• Other stakeholder inputs could be considered in CGIAR context (active observers, Center leadership)

*June 2017 survey drew on material from McKinsey & Company Nonprofit Board Self Assessment Tool
Self-Assessment undertaken in June 2017

• The 10 members of the SMB for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 were asked to complete an online survey (anonymously)

• 90% response rate was obtained

Perceived areas of strength

✓ Understanding of the mission and vision of CGIAR
✓ Management and oversight of financial resources
✓ Agreement on distinction between responsibilities of each of CGIAR’s governing bodies

Perceived areas where challenges exist

➢ Partnership engagement and resource mobilization
➢ Level of discussion, innovative ideas and strategic thinking generated by Board meetings
Following up on results of 2017 assessment

A number of feedback areas raised have already been addressed:

- External Chair appointed
- Term lengths for new appointments greater than 1 year
- Work underway on areas of strategic focus (allocation strategy; Resource Mobilization strategy)

The Board’s retreat sessions seek to explore strategic issues in more depth, a recommendation identified in feedback from the assessment.
Proposed assessment process for 2017-2018
Board performance

As for previous year:
- Online questionnaire format (anonymous, managed by Head of Board and Council Relations)
- Undertaken at end of Q2 2018
- Questions on:
  - Key areas of performance against core responsibilities
  - Performance of Board as a whole/ Committees/its Chair
  - Key priorities for coming 1-2 years

Suggested changes this year:
- Send to 10 members, active observers and Center DGs/BC who are not on Board – ask respondent to identify their group before responding.
- Modified questions for Center Leadership to explore how effective they perceive the Board to have been in representing them and whether the correct priority areas are being addressed.