

SMB8-12B

Agenda Item 12.2

For endorsement



## System Management Board Self-Assessment

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**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

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- 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

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- 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

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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

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## 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.