

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CGIAR SYSTEM COUNCIL MEETING

### DRAFT ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Sunday 25 & Monday 26 September 2016

Hotel Camino Real Polanco México  
Mariano Escobedo 700 Col.  
Anzures México D.F. 11590

[Logistical Information Link](#)

## Day 1 - Sunday, 25 September 2016

Salon Girasoles, Hotel Camino Real, 6th Floor

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### Agenda Item 1: Opening Session

FOR ADOPTION

09:00 – 09:30 am

**\* Supporting document(s):**

[SC2-01, Provisional Agenda, 9 September 2016](#)

*\*\* As an advance item, the System Management Office will have determined whether there is a quorum present to conduct meeting business according to Article 7.3 of the CGIAR System Framework (“Framework”) based on attendance at the opening of the meeting. This will be confirmed to the System Council Chair immediately before the meeting starts.*

**Juergen Voegele, System Council Chair** will open the meeting, and welcome participants to the meeting.

**A Co-Chair will be nominated** and elected for the meeting pursuant to Article 5.2 of the Framework. Pursuant to Articles 3.1. (b) and 5.3 of the Framework, both the Chair and Co-Chair of the System Council serve as impartial, ex-officio non-voting members. The Co-Chair, upon appointment into that role, will be invited to nominate a temporary alternate to fulfil his/her functions as a System Council member during the meeting for which the Co-Chair has been elected, pursuant to Article 5.4 of the Framework. There is no requirement that such a nomination be made. However, if not, the voting seat remains empty during the course of the absence.

**The Chair will ask if there are requests for any other business** for inclusion in the meeting agenda, and subject to discussion on potential additional items, then call for adoption of the Preliminary Agenda as the formal agenda for the meeting. ***As one additional item of business, the Chair will propose that the System Council consider a timetable out to end 2017, to facilitate earlier and longer-term planning of CGIAR system-wide strategic decisions that are required to be taken at the System level.***

**Declarations of interest:** System Council members and Active Observers will be asked to make any relevant declaration of interest regarding agenda items for the meeting.

**Action Requested:** The System Council is invited to:

- 1. Adopt the meeting agenda and**
  - 2. Elect a meeting Co-Chair.**
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## Agenda Item 2: Considering the proposed 2017-2022 Portfolio

Part 1 – Reflecting on the Portfolio as a whole

FOR INFORMATION

09:30 – 10:30 am

**\* Supporting document(s):**

[SC2-2B - ISPC Paper to introduce the CRP discussion](#)

*Cover letter to synthesis of the donor-perspective reviews, 18 September 2016  
(as previously circulated through Dropbox and Google Docs)*

**Introduction:** This session follows the Fund Effectiveness Working Group (“FEWG”) led workshop on Saturday 24 September, which is expected to produce the basis of a framework to guide the System Council’s discussions on Sunday 25 September (Agenda Item 3), and decision making session on Monday 26 September (Agenda Item 4). Separating the sessions over two days has been undertaken to provide Funders with the opportunity, over the evening of Sunday and into the early part of Monday to consider the information formally presented during the Sunday meeting day, in advance of System Council decisions on the following day regarding the proposed Portfolio.

**The Chair will frame the session** – highlighting that the session is intended as an introduction to the more detailed discussion at the immediately following session, Agenda Item 3, on the proposed Portfolio.

The session is structured as follows:

- **10-minute introduction – Interim Chair, System Management Board (“Board”).**  
The Interim Chair is expected to confirm the final elements of the ‘Portfolio’ that is being put forward for System Council approval pursuant to Article 6.1(q) of the [CGIAR System Framework](#), and the rationale for the Board’s approach. He is likely to recall for the benefit of System Council members how the Portfolio responds to the call for a comprehensive portfolio of programs, and the diversity and innovation contained therein.
- **40-minute introduction – Chair, CGIAR’s Independent Science & Partnership Council (“ISPC”).** The ISPC Chair is expected to speak to the ISPC’s covering paper (SC2-02) during this session, highlighting the overall approach by the ISPC to the review of the revised full proposals, and identifying high-level reflections to the System Council, as additionally informed by the discussions from the FEWG-led workshop day.
- **10-minute framing session – System Council Chair**  
The Chair is expected to outline how the day is planned to proceed, building on the pre-meeting workshop discussions and outcomes, and taking note of the planned decision session during day 2 of the System Council’s meeting. The Chair is expected to note that the post-11 am session is likely to see proposals considered

in the following two groupings:

- (i) Those considered as strong proposals, with little further definition required before the System Council is able formally approve the proposals, and commit Unrestricted Funding for the 2017 calendar year; and then
- (ii) Those that the System Council is expected to want to devote more time to during the afternoon's discussions, and which may require additional clarifications or revisions prior to the System Council being positioned to approve the proposal from a program perspective, and thereafter commit 2017 Unrestricted Funding on the basis of those revisions.

For the latter group, the System Council Chair is expected to propose that the System Council come together on a virtual basis on Wednesday 16 November to take relevant decisions.

To end the framing of the session, the Chair is likely to emphasize the strategic role of the System Council, and thus encourage System Council members to bring to the Sunday discussions that level of focus, thus differing from what may have been a more operational/ details-focused conversation on the day prior.

**No formal action is requested of System Council members.** Clarifications will be provided during this session, but deliberations on the two groupings of proposals will be held over to Agenda Item 3.

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10:30 – 11:00

BREAK

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### Agenda Item 3: Considering the proposed 2017-2022 Portfolio

Part 2: Exploring the proposals by grouping

FOR DISCUSSION

**The Chair will open the session** with brief introductory remarks.

He is expected to refer to the Funder's support for the 2016 – 2030 Strategy and Results Framework, including the importance that the Funders place on the comprehensive Results Framework contained therein.

He is also expected to address the challenges facing the world in its quest to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and that CGIAR's capacity to meaningfully contribute to those goals will be most effectively realized through highly efficient collaboration within and outside of the CGIAR System, and CGIAR's capacity to harness to the fullest extent, the diverse capacity within the CGIAR System.

Agenda item 3 continued

The Chair is anticipated to nevertheless emphasize that the System Council’s role is to be strategic in the investment of CGIAR’s resources, such that investment choices may need to be made, and the discussion before the System Council is not based on an “all or nothing” choice.

**\* Supporting document(s):**

[SC2-02, ISPC's proposal specific assessments](#)

*Donor-perspective reviews as shared in advance*

**The ISPC Chair will then take the floor to provide analysis on the proposals, in the two groupings that are expected to evolve from the workshop day, as referenced above.**

**The Chair is then expected to invite the Chair of the Fund Effectiveness Working Group to provide additional reflections of the findings and implications of the donor-led review process, and elements that received particular consideration in the preceding day’s workshop.**

The Chair is then expected to invite observations from System Council members as the day progresses, with the expectation that more focus, and thus time, will be required on the second grouping of proposals (those where more attention may be required in advance of System Council endorsement in a potential 16 November 2016 virtual 3<sup>rd</sup> System Council meeting.

**Action Requested:** The System Council is invited to deliberate and agree on the overall framework that will be used during the decision making session planned for Monday 26 September, Agenda Item 4. It is noted that there is additional time on the morning of Monday 26 September, if required, to facilitate informal conversations between Funders in advance of that planned decision making session.

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13:00 – 14:15            LUNCH - Salon Oaxaca, Hotel Camino Real, 4th Floor

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**Presentations and discussions continue.**

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16:00 – 16:30            BREAK

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**Presentations and discussions continue.**

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18:00                      CLOSE OF DAY 1

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**Note for day 2:** *The CGIAR System Management Board (“Board”) will meet also in Mexico over Monday 26 September (07:00 – 09:00am, Hotel Camino Real, Salon Veracruz) and Tuesday 27 September (07:00 – 08:00am, CIMMYT Headquarters). To facilitate participation in that meeting by the System Council’s two representatives who serve as Active Observers on the System Board, the System Council will reconvene on day 2 at 09:30am.*

## Day 2 - Monday, 26 September 2016

Salon Girasoles, Hotel Camino Real, 6th Floor

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### Agenda Item 4: Confirming the 2017 – 2022 Portfolio

FOR DECISION

09:30 – 10:30 am

**The Chair will reconvene the meeting** and is expected to briefly summarize the end of proceedings on day 1. Anticipating that day 1 outcomes include an agreed (or close to agreed) framework upon which the System Council can take decisions during the meeting, the System Council Chair will invite the voting members to identify whether there are any areas upon which they require clarification before moving to a decision on the Portfolio.

Individual Funders will be invited to identify any milestone requirements to the commitment of Unrestricted Funding at the time of identifying support for the proposals.

**At this juncture, it is anticipated that the Interim Chair of the System Management Board will speak** to the decisions taken by the Board in the week prior to the System Council meeting, which decisions resulted in an altered Portfolio being presented to the System Council at this 2<sup>nd</sup> System Council meeting.

The Interim Chair of the System Management Board is expected to identify the Board’s strategy in relation to the proposal that was not submitted as part of the current Portfolio, and the likely timing of a robust CGIAR Research Program on the relevant research area being brought back to the System Council for consideration – which is likely to be in the first half of 2017.

He is likely to explain that the mechanisms by which that additional proposal can be integrated into a coherent whole of the 2017 – 2022 Portfolio will be addressed only when that new proposal is ready to bring to the System Council, and undergo independent review by the ISPC.

**Action requested:** System Council members are invited to:

1. **Approve such of the CRP and Platform proposals as they believe appropriate;** and
2. **As and when relevant, identify any milestone requirements** for the commitment of Unrestricted Funding for 2017.

**Additional note**

*As introduced in the annotations for Agenda Item 2 above, it is anticipated that, collectively, the System Council will require revisions to be made to a number of the proposals prior to approval. The System Council Chair is proposing that the System Council meet again, in November 2016 on a virtual basis, to conclude decision making if required. The timing of that meeting will be discussed under Agenda Item 12.*

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**Agenda Item 5: Exploring available funding for 2017**

**FOR INPUT**

10:30 – 11:30

**The Chair will introduce the objective of this session** – which is to capture, to the extent that Funders are in a position to do so, the following information – in recognition of the importance of delivering predictable sustainable resources to the CGIAR Portfolio:

1. Indications of the final contributions that Funders are expecting to be available for the 2016 implementation period, and thus the current 2010 – 2016 CRP portfolio; and
2. Early indications of Funder positions looking forward to the 2017 calendar year. To the extent that individual Funders are in a position to do so, they are invited to also comment on potential opportunities to enter into multiyear funding agreements, as a renewal of a former arrangement, or perhaps a new opportunity.

Funders are also invited to share whether they have specific information request of the System Organization which would facilitate earlier confirmation of some of the potential funding opportunities being realized.

It is expected that this session will lead in to the System Council's discussions at Agenda Item 6 below.

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11:00 – 11:30

BREAK

**Agenda Item 6: Returning to the possible areas for strategic reflection**

11:30-13:00

FOR DISCUSSION

\* **Supporting document(s):** [SC2-03 Strategic Priorities - Collated Inputs](#)

**The Chair will frame this session**, recalling for Council members the discussions at SC1 in Paris in July 2016, and the identification then of seven (7) areas that System Council members believed were important and deserving of a strategic conversation at a time to be scheduled.

Part 1 of this session will be focused on strategic priority or “bucket” 7:  
*“Securing more – and more stable – funding”*

Council members are reminded that the paper circulated for this meeting noted, amongst other items, that:

*The lack of a stable, secure funding stream has long been recognized as a strategic risk to CGIAR. But the money is there. It’s not that the world doesn’t have the money to spend on agriculture and food security. It is spending \$500 billion every year on things called subsidies – this is money that tax payers around the world are providing to give to agriculture and food security. Unfortunately, 80% of that money is actually part of the problem, not part of the solution – its unsustainable and it makes matters worse.*

During the consultation phase, variously, System Council members noted the importance matters such as:

- CGIAR needs to modernize its approach to attracting and sustaining resource contributions to the research agenda
- A critical element of ensuring a predictable funding is ensuring that CGIAR is progressing a highly focused donor-funded research agenda that merits the necessary attention.
- All parts of the System are required to both be engaged, but also ask themselves difficult questions about the nature of contributions being made to the essential agenda of ensuring predictable and sustainable resources for the research agenda. It was suggested that the System Council itself could and should be doing more – and the question therefore is what, when and how?

**As the Council reflects on the opportunities to be taken in the System to *secure more – and more stable funding* - the Interim Chair of the System Management Board will update the Council on the early work of the new Resource Mobilization Working Group of the System Management Board.**

It is expected that an invitation may be extended to the System Council to identify Funders willing to work in close cooperation with the working group, recognizing the different, yet co-dependent roles of the System Council and System Management in respect of resource availability.

**Action requested:** System Council members are invited to provide strategic insights into:

- i. how the System Council should take this strategic initiative forward;
- ii. specifically, how the Council can support the System Management Board in its resource mobilization efforts; and
- iii. what could be the appropriate mechanism for the Council to be effective in its focus on this critical input into achievement of CGIAR's new research agenda.

Part 2 of this session will be focused on strategic priority or "bucket" 1:

*"Responding to new challenges and developing new solutions for CGIAR to bring to bear"*

Section 1 of the paper presented for this agenda item included, amongst other items the System Council's reflection that:

*While we made strong progress against the Global Development Goals, future gains will be harder to realize. We cannot keep doing the same and just trying harder and expect different outcomes – we have to do things differently. We need to know we're addressing not only today's problems, but tomorrow's. We need to read the signs early enough and respond soon enough. CGIAR needs to ensure that robust foresight and world-class modeling inform our research agenda. New challenges require new science and new solutions that CGIAR could bring to bear. It is crucial for CGIAR to be recognized for the global force it actually is. But that hinges on also being able to respond and be meaningful to the challenges that emerge on the global agenda. It requires an attitude of service to the agenda of global and local communities with an eye for political and societal discussions on fragile environments, migration, gender roles, youth employment, economic/market development, SDGs etc.*

**Against this background the Chair will invite a presentation from Hayden Montgomery, Special Representative, for the Global Research Alliance, before turning back to System Council members to ask how the System Council may take this item forward.**

Will the System Council prefer to address this question when it has a better sense of what is CGIAR's dynamic performance indicator framework, and if so, are there interim measures that will be a helpful set forward? Will it take action beyond the 'CGIAR System' itself, and thus involving CGIAR Partners? What would be the appropriate timeline for focus on this

item, and how can outputs be fed into the ISPC-led process of considering impact pathways, suggested as a possible topic of a proposed System Council workshop in advance of its next meeting (tentatively suggested for May 2017 in Washington, D.C.).

**Action requested:** System Council members are invited to provide strategic insight, including reflecting on how the System Council should position itself so that it is identified by its peers as a world leader.

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13:00 – 14:15

LUNCH - Salon Oaxaca, Hotel Camino Real, 4th Floor

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### **Agenda Item 7: Update on funding system actions and entities**

14:15 – 14:45 PM

FOR INFORMATION

**\* *Supporting document(s):***

*Presentation provided on the day of the meeting*

**At the invitation of the Co-Chair**, the Interim Executive Director of the CGIAR System Organization will frame the discussion, providing a brief presentation on the status of ongoing conversations within the System Management Board’s working group on funding of system actions and entities.

This presentation will build upon the System Council’s endorsement, at its first meeting (12 July 2016) of the overall approach of the System Management Board to the identification of relevant System actions and entities, and a focus first on the “what” should be funded, before next turning to the “how” system action and entities should be funded.

At the present time, the working group’s predominant focus rests on the “what” ought to be funded, with information shared on the overall rationale of the respective entities and actions falling into the “System” definition.

The Interim Executive Director’s update will be provided in his capacity as non-voting ex-officio member of the System Management Board, and Chair of the working group on funding system actions and entities.

Relevant to the System Council’s functions set out in Article 6.1(t) of the CGIAR System Framework, and subject to ongoing consultations, it is expected that the Interim Executive Director will foreshadow the System Management Board’s presentation of a formal proposal for the means by which the administrative costs of the CGIAR System will be funded at a suggested mid- November 2016 virtual System Council meeting.

**Action requested:** System Council members are invited to provide high-level inputs into the presentation delivered by the Interim Executive Director of the System Organization. In particular, it is expected that the Interim Executive Director will seek guidance on elements of the System that the System Council itself believes to be critical to maintaining the System as a system.

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**Agenda Item 8: Indicative system entity budget envelopes**

14:45 – 15:15 pm

FOR CONSIDERATION

\* **Supporting document(s):** [SC2-05 CGIAR 2017 System Entity Budget Envelopes](#)

**This session, chaired by the Co-Chair,** will be framed by the Interim Director of the System Organization.

It is expected that the Interim Executive Director will recall the Fund Council's request at its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting (in July 2016) that it receive indicative budgets for the 2017 calendar year, recognizing that the System Council's 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting (this meeting in Mexico) was considerably earlier than the anticipated November 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> System Council meeting.

Accordingly, the System Council agreed to receive indicative high-level system entity budget information at the Mexico meetings, with the understanding that the topic would return to the System Council during an end-2016 virtual meeting for formal approval of System entity 2016 budgets and work plans, as required according to the Framework.

A precursor to the System Council's November 2016 decision on System budgets will be agreement across the System on what are the appropriate "System" costs to be paid, and the means by which such costs can be financed (refer the earlier discussion above for Agenda Item 7).

**Action requested:** System Council members are invited to provide high-level inputs into ongoing discussions at System Management Board level on the appropriate ceiling for the 2017 budgets for the System-wide entities.

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Agenda Item 9: Revised 2017 – 2022 CGIAR Trust Fund arrangements

15:15-15:45 pm

FOR INFORMATION

\* **Reference document(s):** [SC2-06 Arrangements for the new CGIAR Trust Fund](#)

**The Co-Chair will introduce the session**, confirming that the purpose of the session is to reiterate the important timing for finalization of the various CGIAR Trust Fund related documents as set out in the paper, thus providing the underlying infrastructure for relevant Funders to make 2017 contributions as early as possible into the new CGIAR Trust Fund.

The Co-Chair will note that no discussion on the various appendices to the background paper will be undertaken, confirming that a legal working group (made up of the Funders, Centers and System Organization) has day to day management of such matters,

**Action requested:** System Council members are requested to take note of the consultation process set out in the meeting resource documents. More specifically, the Council members are requested to ensure that their respective legal officers are involved in the timely review of the draft agreements, assuring the finalization of the documents well in advance of year end.

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16:00 – 16:30

BREAK

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Agenda Item 10: System Council Rules of Procedure

16:30 – 16:50 pm

FOR DECISION

\* **Reference document(s):** [SC2-07 System Council proposed Rules of Procedure](#)

**The Co-Chair will introduce the session to Council members.**

Taking note of the System Council being mandated to take decisions according to its Rules of Procedure (Article 7 of the Framework), it is prudent to have such rules in place. The covering paper for the proposed Rules sets out the historical consultation process for the Rules, including an opportunity for all System Council members, Active Observers and other invited guests to provide inputs during two clear consultation cycles.

**Action requested:** Council members are requested to review, and if considered appropriate, approve the Rules as the initial Rules of Procedure of the System Council.

Agenda Item 11: IEA matters

16:50 – 17:10 pm

FOR DECISION

\* **Reference document(s):** [SC2-08 IEA Matters](#)

The **Co-Chair introduce the session to Council members**, drawing members' attention to the paper that sets out the rationale for requesting a renewal of the key role of the IEA head on an interim basis.

**Action requested:** Council members are requested to consider, and if thought appropriate, approve an interim extension of the term of the Head of the IEA. A longer-term decision on the extension is expected to be made after May 2017, when the revised Terms of Reference for the IEA are proposed to have been approved.

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Agenda Item 12: Any Other Business

17:10 – 17:30

FOR DISCUSSION

\* **Reference document(s):**

SC2-09, Draft High-Level System Council work plan (*\*Paper copy of Appendix 1 provided*)

The **Chair will introduce the session to Council members**, recalling the proposal to put before the System Council that the Council returns to two-meetings per year, and that they adopt the model that one meeting is at "home" (i.e. the seat of the Council Chair) and the other is "away", with a preference of meeting at a CGIAR Research Center.

**Action requested:**

System Council members are invited to consider the following proposals from the System Management Office:

- 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, location to be decided;
  
- 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; and

- c. **Whether the System Council is able to extend broad overall support for the timing to address the items in Appendix 1 of the supporting paper (SC2-09), thus serving as the interim 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.**

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17:30

Meeting Close (movement to buses that will take people to the Gala dinner)

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