



May 18, 2016

Summary of consultation among eligible developing countries in the South Asia region

Introduction

1. As part of the new governance structure of the CGIAR System, a System Council is to be established with voting membership representing funders and developing countries. The agreed distribution of voting member seats on the Council is as follows:
 - a) eligible funders will identify members for up to 15 seats;
 - b) eligible developing countries will identify members for 5 additional seats.
2. Council members, alternates and the formation of constituencies are to be agreed upon by members of the two groups mentioned above based on consultations to be organized prior to the first Council meeting (expected to be held in July 2016).
3. For developing country seats, it is agreed that balance among the following regions should be taken into account in allocating the seats: East Asia and Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and West Asia and North Africa.
4. Consultations are being organized, on a regional basis, to provide an opportunity for developing countries to discuss and agree on the five developing country seats.

Eligibility for a developing country seat on the Council

5. In its decision on the establishment of a new governance structure, the Fund Council¹ agreed that developing countries would be eligible for a seat on the Council if the country is: (a) a funder to the CGIAR Fund, (b) a host country of a CGIAR research center, or (c) a country with a significant national agricultural system, recognizing the critical contributions of such countries to agricultural research and investment for development.

¹ The Fund Council agreed to move to a new governance structure for the CGIAR System at its thirteenth meeting in Bogor, Indonesia, in April 2015. See *Decision on the CGIAR System Organization*, adopted by the Fund Council, on April 29, 2015.

6. The criterion that is being used to identify “developing countries with significant national agricultural systems” is countries with annual agricultural research spending of USD 100 million or above, according to IFPRI’s Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) (See Annex A).

7. Applying the agreed criteria, eligible developing countries listed on a regional basis are:

- a) East Asia and Pacific: China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand
- b) Latin America and Caribbean: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Peru
- c) South Asia: Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka
- d) Sub-Saharan Africa: Benin, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda
- e) West Asia and North Africa: Egypt, Iran, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria and Turkey

Consultation among eligible developing countries in the South Asia region

8. On May 18, 2016, a virtual consultation was held with representatives from eligible countries from the South Asia region. All eligible countries had confirmed their interest in participating on the CGIAR System Council.

9. The purpose of the consultation was to provide an opportunity for the countries of the region to discuss and agree upon the member and alternate who will be responsible for representing the South Asia region on the CGIAR System Council and to reach common understanding for the how the constituency could operate.

10. Representatives from Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka participated in the consultation, and a list of participants is set forth in Annex B to this summary. All three countries expressed their keen interest in the work of the CGIAR System, their support for the work of the Centers, and the importance of agricultural research for their countries.

Agreement on Member and Alternate for the South Asia regional constituency

11. It was agreed that India will hold the member seat on the CGIAR System Council for three years, from July 2016 to June 2019, recognizing that India met all three criteria for a developing country seat.

12. It was further agreed that the alternate will rotate, with each of the other two countries serving as the alternate for an 18 month term. Bangladesh will serve as the alternate from July 2016 to December 2017. Sri Lanka will serve as the alternate from January 2018 to June 2019.

13. The representatives also agreed that they would meet again in advance of the expiration of the current three year term in June 2019 to review the constituency arrangements and representation for the next term of three years.

14. All countries recognized the importance of strong representation of the South Asia region at CGIAR System Council meeting, and in this regard, thought it critical that the member and alternate attend the Council meetings. In this regard, the countries requested that the costs of attendance for both the member and alternate of the developing country constituencies be covered by the Council.

Organization of the South Asia regional constituency

15. The representatives from Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka agreed that they would operate as a constituency, and that the Council member would organize a virtual consultation with other members of the constituency prior to each Council meeting to discuss issues and views of the constituency. Further elaboration on the administrative rules of the South Asia constituency will be decided, if required, by members of the constituency.

Annex A

Agricultural Research Spending²

(Countries with agricultural research spending of US\$100 million or above are shaded)

Low and middle income countries by region	Latest year available	Agricultural research spending - 2011 US dollars (million)
Africa south of the Sahara		
Benin	2011	14.7
Botswana	2011	10.2
Burkina Faso	2011	13.5
Burundi	2011	4.3
Cape Verde	2011	2.2
Central African Rep.	2011	1.9
Chad	2011	9.0
Congo, Dem. Rep.	2011	11.4
Congo, Rep.	2011	4.6
Cote d'Ivoire	2011	28.6
Eritrea	2011	1.1
Ethiopia	2011	25.4
Gabon	2011	0.6
Gambia, The	2011	1.7
Ghana	2011	64.0
Guinea	2011	2.1
Guinea-Bissau	2011	0.1
Kenya	2011	100.7
Lesotho	2011	1.4
Liberia	2011	3.5
Madagascar	2011	4.2
Malawi	2011	15.9
Mali	2011	22.7
Mauritania	2011	4.8
Mauritius	2011	17.3
Mozambique	2011	12.6
Namibia	2011	38.8
Nigeria	2011	264.4
Rwanda	2011	14.0
Senegal	2011	16.1
Sierra Leone	2011	3.3
South Africa	2011	193.7
Sudan	2012	29.4
Swaziland	2011	3.3
Tanzania	2011	32.4
Togo	2011	4.9
Uganda	2011	40.4

² Source: Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (www.asti.cgiar.org).

Zambia	2011	9.5
Zimbabwe	2011	10.2
Asia-Pacific		
Bangladesh	2012	78.0
Cambodia	2010	7.4
China	2008	2,970.7
India	2009	1,092.8
Indonesia	2009	316.8
Malaysia	2010	335.1
Nepal	2012	12.4
Pakistan	2009	83.8
Sri Lanka	2009	21.6
Vietnam	2010	44.5
Latin America and Caribbean		
Argentina	2008	318.2
Belize	2006	1.5
Brazil	2008	1,537.7
Chile	2008	93.8
Colombia	2008	114.7
Costa Rica	2012	24.8
Dominican Rep.	2012	10.4
El Salvador	2006	0.4
Guatemala	2012	7.3
Honduras	2012	4.2
Mexico	2008	404.7
Nicaragua	2012	6.9
Panama	2012	8.5
Paraguay	2006	7.1
Uruguay	2006	63.7
Central and West Asia and North Africa		
Algeria	2012	38.3
Egypt	2012	144.7
Jordan	2012	15.0
Lebanon	2012	21.3
Morocco	2012	66.9
Oman	2012	54.8
Tunisia	2012	26.5
Turkey	2012	316.6
Yemen	2012	13.7

ANNEX B

Participants in the virtual consultation with eligible and interested countries in South Asia on May 18, 2016

Bangladesh

Dr. Abul Kalam Azad
Executive Chairman
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC)
Email: ec-barc@barc.gov.bd
Tel: +88 01517 260 356

India

Dr R. K. Mittal
Assistant Director General (International Relations)
Indian Council on Agricultural Research (ICAR)
Email: adgir.icar@nic.in; rkmittal@icar.org.in
Tel: +91 11 23782600

Mr. Saurabh Vijay
Advisor to Executive Director (EDS12)
World Bank
Email: saurabhvijay@worldbank.org
Tel: +1 202-790-4408

Sri Lanka

Dr. Subha Heenkenda
Additional Secretary (Agriculture Technology)
Ministry of Agriculture, Sri Lanka
Email: subhahkn@yahoo.com
Tel: +94 71 4455690