7th CGIAR SYSTEM COUNCIL MEETING

ANNOTATED
PROVISIONAL AGENDA*

Thursday 15 and Friday 16 November 2018

Hosted by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Seattle, USA

* Presented as a guide, but is subject to evolving events and conversations

Prepared by: System Management Office

<u>DAY 1: Thursday 15 November 2018</u>, 09:00-17:30

<u>Agenda Item 1</u>: Opening Session   FOR ADOPTION
09:00 – 09:15 am

<u>Led by</u>: System Council Chair

<u>Supporting document</u>:

<u>SC7-01 – Provisional Agenda</u>: **Provisional Agenda**, Revision 1, 11 November 2018 *(timing changes)*

<u>Notes:</u> *As an advance item, the System Management Office will have determined whether a quorum is present to conduct meeting business according to Article 7.3 of the CGIAR System Framework ("Framework").*

<u>Agenda Item - Elements and process</u>:

a. **<u>Welcome</u>: Juergen Voegele, System Council Chair, will open the meeting**, and welcome all System Council members, Active Observers, invited attendees and other participants. The Chair is expected to recognize the hosting of this 7th System Council meeting by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, expressing appreciation for the financial and human resources support that has been provided.

   <u>Welcoming others for whom it is their first meeting</u>: The Chair is expected to mention also those people who are attending their first meeting, in their respective capacities as listed in the List of Participants that will be available on the morning of 15 November 2018. [*A list will be circulated on the 1st morning of the meeting, taking note that travel arrangements can change*]

b. **<u>Election of Co-Chair</u>: The Chair will call for the nomination and seconding of a Co-Chair to be elected 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.* <u>The Co-Chair, upon appointment</u>, will be invited to nominate an alternate to fulfil his/her functions as a System Council voting member during the meeting 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 meeting.

   ** <u>Action</u>: The Chair will call for a <u>nomination</u> and a <u>second</u> for the Co-Chair role[1]
   <mark>Eva Ohlsson of Sweden to nominate, Rob Bertram of USA to second</mark>

c. **<u>Adopting the Agenda</u>: The Chair will ask if there are requests for any other business**, and subject to discussion, the Chair will <u>call for adoption</u> of the Provisional Agenda as the formal Agenda for the meeting. Other business items may, on the prerogative of the System Council Chair, will be added to item of 15 of this 7th meeting.

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[1] *System Council tradition is that the host country would typically take on this role, but it may be filled by another System Council member representative*

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

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** <u>**Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 1:**</u> The System Council is invited to:

1. <u>**Adopt**</u> **the meeting agenda**

2. <u>**Elect**</u> **a meeting Co-Chair**

3. <u>**Declare**</u> **any conflicts of interest**

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Agenda Item 2: 2017 Performance

09:15 – 10:30 am
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FOR RECOGNITION

AND DISCUSISON

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Led by: System Council Co-Chair

<u>**Supporting documents:**</u>
2017 CGIAR Annual Performance Report:
- Full Report
- Summary Report

<u>**Agenda Item - Elements and process:**</u>

- **<u>The Co-Chair is anticipated to frame the session,</u>** highlighting that during its 5th meeting the System Council endorsed the concept of delivery of a CGIAR System Annual Performance Report to provide consolidated reliable, program, financial and intellectual assets reporting for the CGIAR Research Portfolio, and noting that this is a key document for Council to reflect on.

- It is anticipated that the Co-Chair will then invite <u>Elwyn Grainger-Jones, Executive Director, CGIAR System Organization</u> to lead the Council through this session.

- The Executive Director is expected to engage with the System Council on three elements:

  1. Presenting key messages from the inaugural 2017 CGIAR Annual Performance Report.

  2. Outlining the progress made towards the CGIAR Program dashboard and providing some snapshots of that dashboard at its current stage of development and functionality.

  3. Highlighting some lessons that will be applied in the drafting of the 2018 Performance Report and seeking feedback to apply to next year's report.

- The System Council Co-Chair will moderate any questions or discussions that emanate from these three interventions.

- The System Council Chair is then expected to provide some overall reflections on the what has been presented and discussed during this session and advise on how these provide particular context for the 2018 performance report.

** Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 2: The System Council is anticipated to take note of the delivery of a new innovation in CGIAR reporting, and taken note that the 2018 CGIAR Performance Report is anticipated to incorporate significant further enhancements

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10:30 – 11:00	BREAK

Agenda Item 3: Strengthening the partnership, creating impact: CGIAR System 3-year Business Plan (2019-2021)

11:00-11:30   FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE
                                                       OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

Led by: System Council Chair

Supporting documents:
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021

Agenda Item - Elements and process:

- This session marks the start of the presentation of the CGIAR System 3-year Business Plan (2019-2021), marking the first time that, as a System, CGIAR has considered setting out a planned implementation strategy for its work aligned around a common set of themes or actions, arrived at after consultation broadly across the System.

- The Session Chair is expected to recall for participants a bit of the history to the Business Plan including that:

  o At the 5th System Council meeting in Cali, Colombia the Council endorsed a business planning cycle concept for the CGIAR System, with a proposed multi-year business plan for the CGIAR System to be brought for final approval to the System Council's November 2018 meeting (and launched from 1 January 2019), and an update on progress being provided to the System Council's May 2018 meeting (Decision SC/M5/DP4)

- o At the 6th System Council meeting in Berlin, Germany the Council agreed that by November 2018 the System Management Office will ensure that the inputs provided during SC6 on elements of the business plan concept are taken up and form the basis of further System-wide consultations to inform development of the initial 2019-2021 CGIAR Business Plan to be presented for approval at the System Council's 7th meeting in November 2018 ([SC/M6/AP6](#))

- It is anticipated that the **Session Chair** will:

  1. **Call on the Chair of the System Management Board, Marco Ferroni,** to take the Council through a high-level context-setting and framing of the CGIAR System 3-year Business Plan (2019-2021), including how it has developed since the concept version shared in May 2018 and what processes have been undertaken in its development.

  2. **Provide the floor to Elwyn Grainger-Jones to speak to <u>Section 1</u> of the Business Plan** which outlines the context, vision and mission.

  3. **Turn then to System Council members to seek observations and inputs**.

- After taking the views of the floor, it is expected that the **Session Chair** will summarize the main outcomes of the discussion.

** <u>Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 3</u>: The System Council is asked to consider providing endorsement of the overall strategic approach of the Business Plan and its context, vision and mission ahead of formal approval of the Business Plan.

<u>Note</u>: It is proposed that a "decision making" session of the System Council (agenda item 14) be the moment that the System Council endorses the Business Plan itself, building on strategic inputs provided during this session.

Agenda Item 4: Implement and enhance the portfolio of CRPs and Platforms. Business Plan Action 1

11:30-12:45   FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE
                                                                    OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

Led by: System Council Co-Chair

Supporting documents:
- **Overall document:** SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 *(Repeat document)*
- **Supported by:** he three sets of documents set out in the table below:

Part 1 – **Items from prior System Council deliberations**	**Part 2 –** **Documents to support broader, strategic discussion**	**Part 3 –** **Implementation approaches on strategic initiatives for high-level input**
SC7-03 – A Common Bean Flagship SC7-E – Gender Equality in Research	SC7-A – Climate change SC7-C – Biofortification SC7-D – Antimicrobial resistance SC7-F – Response preparedness	SC7-B – Crop Breeding With a focus on Part C of the Paper – namely the '**Modernizing CGIAR crop breeding programs: Draft 2019-2021 implementation plan**'

<u>Agenda Item - Elements and process</u>:

- The **Session Chair** is expected to invite **Peter Gardiner, Senior Adviser, Program Performance of the System Organization**, to lead the System Council through the **Business Plan Action 1** on implementing and enhancing the portfolio of CRPs and Platforms.

- He is expected to provide an overview of Action 1 and its sub-actions, which will involve three main parts.

<u>PART I</u>: Items arising from former System Council deliberations on potential Portfolio gaps

A. <u>For decision</u> – **Possible inclusion of Common Bean into the GLDC CRP as part of action 1.1**

- As pre-framing, System Council members are invited to return to the conversation at the System Council's 5th meeting in Cali, in November 2017, where the absence of common bean in the Portfolio was raised. The 5th Meeting Summary[2] notes that:

   o At paragraph 16: The Chair of the System Management Board acknowledged the themes raised on delivery to market, capacity building and partnerships and the need to revisit the question of common beans in the Portfolio and assured the Council that these would be taken forward by the Board; and
   - At paragraph 79: The representative of the USA confirmed to the Council that following further informal conversations on possible avenues to bring common bean research back into the CGIAR Portfolio, it was requested that the System Management Board consider how a flagship program, including an ISPC review process, might be incorporated and *additional funding* attracted to support this. It was confirmed that this would be discussed by the Board at their forthcoming meeting.

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[2] Refer to paragraph 16, at https://www.cgiar.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/SC5-12_MeetingSummary_APPROVED.pdf

- The **Session Chair** is expected to confirm that the System Management Board is recommending to the System Council the addition of a <u>common bean flagship into the GLDC CRP</u> with effect from 1 January 2019.

- In support of this item, it is anticipated that the **Session Chair** will invite the **ISPC Chair, Maggie Gill** to provide some remarks based on the review of the Flagship by the ISPC, available in <u>SC7-03b – ISPC Assessment of the Revised Common Bean Flagship Proposal</u>

- The **Session Chair** will facilitate discussion on this matter and is expected to invite the System Council to <u>consider approving</u> the Flagship proposal for inclusion in the CGIAR portfolio according to its proposed arrangements, noting that the indicative funding amounts to be provided through, almost exclusively, Window 3 of the CGIAR Trust Fund and new bilateral contributions for the approved proposal are included in the FinPlan document (for discussion later in the agenda). i.e. There is no request for funding approval at this point in the agenda.

- The **Session Chair** is also expected to call on the **Chair of the System Management Board** to share the Board's deliberations and decisions regarding this Flagship, and reflections on the ISPC review. It is anticipated that the SMB Chair will indicate that in the view of the System Management Board, the revised flagship and proposal meets relevant quality and relevance criteria.

** <u>Summary of action requested on Agenda item 4</u>, <u>sub-item 1.1</u>

<u>On the Flagship on Common Bean</u>, the Council is requested to <u>consider approving</u> the Flagship proposal for inclusion in the CGIAR portfolio according to its proposed arrangements, noting that the indicative funding amounts to be provided from funds from the CGIAR Trust Fund for the approved proposal will be considered by the System Council as part of its discussions on the 2019-2021 multi-year Portfolio Financing Plan ('FinPlan').

B. <u>For strategic endorsement</u> – **System Management Board's recommended approach to developing a Gender Equality in Food Systems Research Platform**

- As pre-framing sub-action 1.2 on elevating gender equality research to a new CGIAR Research Platform, System Council members are invited to refer to the agreed position and related action from the 6th System Council meeting in May 2018, <u>SC/M6/AP1</u>, namely:

    1. *<u>Agreed Position</u>: The System Council **endorsed** the concept of the currently named 'CGIAR Collaborative platform for gender research'- housed in the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM) - becoming a fully-fledged **CGIAR Platform**, thus the equivalent status of the Excellence in Breeding, Big Data and Genebanks Platforms, to deliver:*

- *Global leadership on gender equality and agriculture research that has transformative impacts*
- *Greater visibility for innovative work on gender equality research conducted across CGIAR*
- *Stronger convening power of the Platform*
- *Full embedding of gender equality in the fabric of CGIAR*
- *Greater ability to absorb and deploy finance to leverage gender equality integration across CGIAR*
- *Facilitating more extensive engagement of CRP directors and other program elements*
- *Access to a wider set of funding pathways*
- *More prominence in System reporting*

2. ***<u>Related Action:</u>*** *By not later than the System Council's 7th meeting (15-16 November 2018)* **the System Management Board ('SMB') will <u>advise the System Council on the outcome of SMB discussions/decision-making</u>** *on the following themes for a **Gender Equality Research Platform**, with the same status as the three other CGIAR Platforms:*
   - *Arrangements: hosting, leadership and partnerships and timing*
   - *Funding modalities*
   - *Scale and scope of activities*

- To begin the Council's discussions, the **<u>Session Chair</u>** is anticipated to invite the Council to listen to a virtual presentation by **<u>Claudia Sadoff, Director General of IWMI, and SMB member and co-gender champion</u>** to formally table the System Management Board's recommendations on elevating gender equality in research, as set out in meeting document [SC7-E – Gender Equality in Research](#).

- Following the presentation, **<u>the Session Chair</u>** is anticipated to invite the **<u>System Management Board Chair, Marco Ferroni</u>**, to make any additional brief remarks, before then turning to System Council members to seek their strategic inputs.

- Noting the highly appreciated financial and personnel support of ACIAR, BMGF and IDRC to facilitate many of the processes behind the System Management Board being able to reach the point of making a recommendation to the System Council at this meeting, it is possible that representatives of these Funders may wish to make early remarks.

- It is expected that other System Council members and Active Observers will also provide strategic observations on the System Management Board's recommended approach and timing.

- It is expected that the **Session Chair** will then ask the System Council whether it is in a position to endorse the approach and timing recommended by the System Management Board which would see a Gender Equality Research Platform in place at the start of 2020, based on a call for proposal issued in the earlier part of 2019, after further deliberations at the System Management Board's 12th meeting on 13 December 2018.

** <u>Summary of action requested on Agenda item 4, sub-item 1.2</u>

On elevating gender equality research to a 'Platform' within the CGIAR Portfolio, the Council is invited to <u>endorse the overall strategic approach and timing</u> to elevating CGIAR's current gender platform into a Platform in the same context as the other three platforms of the CGIAR Portfolio, taking note that further decisions will be taken by the SMB at its 12th meeting in December 2018, in advance of a formal call for a proposal being issued.

<u>PART II</u>: Deepening the portfolio through new thematic strategies and initiatives for which specific inputs are being sought for these to move forward

- Going beyond the near-term specific proposals discussed in the prior items, it is expected that the **Session Chair** will turn to **Elwyn Grainger-Jones** to raise with the System Council some new issues and activity areas **for input as distinct strategies for improvements to the current CRP Portfolio.**

- The **Executive Director** is expected to emphasize that these distinct strategies seek to **enhance the current Portfolio and signal directions that the Portfolio should optimally consider, without being prescriptive about the manner in which these strategies are incorporated**. He is expected to confirm that none of the documents are final – and they are brought to the System Council for strategic input before being further advanced.

- **During his observations, the Executive Director is anticipated to emphasize that the strategies do not represent CGIAR Research Programs in their own right.** Rather, that each topic presents potential improvements to support CRP/Platform implementation over the business plan period:

    a. <u>Climate Change</u>: A System wide strategy to support Global response to climate action.

    b. <u>Crop Breeding</u>: Modernization and enhancement of CGIAR breeding programs.

    c. <u>Biofortification</u>: A strategy to enhance, mainstream, and deliver a scalable solution through biofortification.

    d. <u>Antimicrobial Resistance ('AMR')</u>: Coordinated approach to amplify AMR response through CGIAR portfolio and establish an AMR-Hub.

    e. <u>Rapid Response</u>: For CGIAR to provide rapid response to urgent and developing issues.

- **Before taking inputs from System Council members on this item**, the **System Council** is expected to be presented with **two short videos** to highlight the following initiatives:

    1. Crop Breeding
    2. Rapid response

- Informed by the background papers, and the two 'lightening talks', the **Session Chair** is expected to provide opportunities for System Council members to provide inputs to the underlying initiative papers, so as to inform ongoing System Management Board and Center conversations on these key areas.

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PART III: **Implementation approaches on strategic initiatives for high-level input**

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- Building on conversations from the System Council's 5th and 6th meetings, and the side meeting at this 7th meeting on the Crops to end hunger initiative, the **Session Chair** is expected to **invite initial framing observations from the System Management Board Chair**, who will then in turn invite **Peter Gardiner**, **Senior Advisor, Program Performance** of the CGIAR System Organization to outline the key elements of a draft implementation plan for the Crops to End Hunger Initiative.

- Noting that the 'Crops to End Hunger Initiative' is currently planned for public announcement in mid to late January 2019, Peter Gardiner is expected to outline major highlights of the implementation plan and seek broad input from System Council participants.

- It is expected that the System Council will be invited to provide strategic inputs on the implementation plan, to inform the System Management Board's deliberations on 13 December 2018, with a view for it to be approved and implemented moving forward.

** Summary of action requested on Agenda item 4, sub-item 1.3

a. **On the accompanying companion documents to this agenda item**, the System council is invited to provide overall endorsement for the strategic approach in the materials, noting that they are designed to enhance the **current Portfolio** and signal directions that the Portfolio should optimally consider, without being prescriptive about the way these strategies are incorporated.

b. **On the draft Implementation plan for the Crops to end Hunger Initiative,** the System Council is invited to provide strategic guidance and inputs to inform the further elaboration of the implementation plan, and its discussion at SMB12 in December 2018.

<mark>***** At 12:30pm the Minister of Health of Denmark will enter the room and take a seat to the left of the top table *****</mark>

The Co-Chair will hand over at this point to the System Council Chair

Still continuing with Agenda item 4:

- The **System Council Chair** is expected to announce that another short film will be presented – this time on anti-microbial resistance, highlighting CGIAR's efforts to amplify its response to AMR

- Recognizing the efforts being made, the System Council Chair is anticipated to make some brief observations before opening the floor to brief remarks.

- Taking note of the various interventions – the System Council is expected to recognize the importance of the topic, and then invite the Minister of Health of Denmark, **Ms. Ellen Trane Nørby to join the head table**, and then move to agenda item 5.

Agenda Item 5: Recognizing the new Denmark-CGIAR antimicrobial resistance partnership

12:45-13:00   Partnership signing opportunity

Lead by: System Council Chair

- **Welcome of the Minister of Health of Denmark**: The **Session Chair** is anticipated to welcome Ms. Ellen Trane Nørby to the meeting and emphasize that anti-microbial resistance is one of the biggest threats to global health, prosperity and economic growth. He is expected to share high level remarks on the critical importance of this area of research.

- Drawing the attention of System Council members to the briefing paper that Denmark has prepared for the SC7 meeting (Background Document), the **Session Chair** is expected to invite the Minister to speak to Denmark's initiative to establish an International Center for Interdisciplinary Solutions on Antimicrobial Resistance.

- The **Session Chair** is anticipated to respond to the remarks and emphasize the value of the Center more broadly, and the unique opportunity to engage with CGIAR through ILRI.

- The System Council Chair will then invite brief observations from **Elwyn Grainger-Jones**, Executive Director of the CGIAR System Organization.

- As the meeting adjourns for lunch, the **Minister and the Executive Director** will move to a designated space immediately outside the meeting hall to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between CGIAR and Denmark regarding anti-microbial resistance. Photos will be taken

13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH

Agenda Item 6: Create Financial Sustainability and Growth in CGIAR

14:00-16:00   FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

<u>Lead by:</u> System Council Chair

Supporting document:
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 – **Business Plan Action 2** *(Repeating document)*
SC7-G – 2019-2021 Financing Plan (Business Plan Companion document)

<u>Agenda Item - Elements and process:</u>

- <u>The Session Chair</u> is expected to introduce the session as focusing on Business Plan Action 2 on creating financial sustainability and growth in CGIAR and invite **the Executive Director** to frame this session. He is expected to note that the session will be taken in two parts – first, consideration of the proposed 2019-2021 Financing Plan for the system, and then inviting Funder news.

<u>On Part A: The 2019-2021 Financing Plan</u> (1hr 40 mins)

- It is anticipated that the **Executive Director** will begin this session by providing some overall messages on the financial sustainability and growth in CGIAR during the past year.

- Drawing on meeting document SC7-G, the **Executive Director**, is then expected to turn to **Jamie Craig, the Director, Finance** of the CGIAR System Organization, to take Council members through the following key innovations underpinning the FinPlan:

  1. The FinPlan is presented as a **3-Year outlook** aimed at improving the predictability and stability of available funding. While the plan is presented on a 3-year basis, proposed allocations of W1 funds will be updated annually.

  2. **Growth fundraising targets** are built into the plan to **increase the volume** of funding available for CGIAR resulting in annual increases in planned disbursements to Centers.

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3. In year 'linking' mechanisms between W1 and W2 eliminated to provide maximum **incentive for additional W2 funding**.

4. Mechanisms and **additional funding targets** proposed to support expansion of **research initiatives** (i.e. Climate Change, Crop Breeding, Biofortification, Antimicrobial resistance, Gender Equality in Research, and Response Preparedness) and new **Center Alliances**.

5. Re-purposing of current 'Balancing Fund' into a strategic **'W1 Liquidity and Stabilization Fund'**.

- Drawing on meeting document [SC7-G – 2019-2021 Financing Plan](#), **the Director Finance** is expected to summarize the status of the current FinPlan, indicating that a **total of $178.9M is projected to be received as new funding in 2018** which compares favorably to the 2018 Target of $170M of new funding from the 2018 FinPlan. A key message that may be delivered from the paper is on the stability during the year with respect to achievement of funding against targets.

- **Demand for funding of the CGIAR Portfolio in each of 2019, 2020, and 2021 still exceeds the amount of funding planned for** with the difference representing the 'Stretch Fundraising Targets'

- The **Director, Finance** is anticipated to highlight that the projected Cost Share Percentage (CSP) generated by Window 1, Window 2, Window 3 and Bilateral funding in each of 2019, 2020, and 2021 is as follows:

2019	$17.6M
2020	$18.0M
2021	$18.4M

    The CSP is available to fund System Entities[3].

- It is noted that no decision System Entities 2019-2021 budget envelopes are requested at this time. Rather, that question will be put to the System Council in the decision session (Agenda item 14), after consideration of matters raised during Agenda item 10 (Align high-quality independent advisory services).

- **The Session Chair** is then expected to take questions and observations from the floor, turning to the Executive Director and/or the Director, Finance to respond as appropriate.

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[3] System Entities during 2019-2021 will include: System Council, Evaluation & Advisory Services (ISDC, Evaluations, SPIA, and Shared Secretariat), System Management Board, System Management Office, Trustee Costs for CGIAR Trust Fund, Internal Audit Function, CGIAR System Internal Audit Support Service, General Assembly of Centers, CGIAR System Partnership Forum.

On Part B: Funders' insights on their future funding (20 mins)

- The **Session Chair** is expected to introduce this part of the agenda item as an opportunity for Funders to share news and updates on funding.

** Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 6:

The System Council is invited to:

a. Consider, and if thought appropriate **agree** that the Common Bean flagship is eligible for a maximum of US$16,500 per year of W1/2 funding during 2019-2021 period based upon the proposal as presented and note that the flagship may receive additional W2 funding subject to a further decision of the System Council.

b. Provide **strategic input and guidance** on the 2019-2021 FinPlan before subsequent finalization by the System Management Board at its 12th meeting (13 December 2018), followed by circulation to the System Council for electronic endorsement

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16:00 – 16:30	BREAK

Agenda Item 7: Other Business Plan Actions to consider

16:30-17:30   FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE
                                                                              OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

a.   <u>Action 3</u>: Strengthen program performance management
b.   <u>Action 4</u>: Improve people management

Lead by: System Council Co-Chair

Supporting documents:
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 for both actions *(Repeating document)*
SC7-H – Program Performance Management Standards *(Companion document)*

Agenda Item - Elements and process taking each of the Actions in turn:

<u>Action 3:</u> Strengthening program performance management (16:30 – 17:00)

- The **Session Chair** is expected to frame the session by emphasizing that for CGIAR's Funders, ensuring a robust program performance management system is a fundamental element for the CGIAR System. He is expected to recognize that since delivery of the Results Based Management evaluation in October 2017, significant focus has been placed by the System on implementing necessary elements of an appropriate performance management framework.

- Specifically, may recall decisions and guidance of the System Council at past meetings, including:

  - <u>At SC5 in Cali, Colombia</u> in November 2017, **endorsement of 9 common results indicators** and **the concept of an annual CGIAR Performance Report** (as since delivered and showcased at the opening of this meeting)

  - <u>At SC6 in Berlin, Germany</u> in May 2018, a strong signal to the System that the draft '12-Point Program Performance Management Framework' would be an important element to take forward as a key element of the 2019-2021 CGIAR Business Plan that is currently before the Council

- The **Session Chair** is then anticipated to highlight that the Business Plan document does include an enhanced 12-point Program Performance Framework (at Action 3.1 of the Business Plan), with the proposal that this plan be formally endorsed as part of the plan.

- The **Session Chair** is then expected to turn to **Elwyn Grainger-Jones** to speak to the new element of the 12-point plan on which System Council strategic inputs and endorsement is sought at this meeting – **the first cycle of CGIAR Program Performance Standards** (Action 3.1 of the Business Plan, as supported by companion document SC7-H, refer above).

- The **Session Chair** is then anticipated to call on the **SIMEC Chair, Michel Bernhardt**, to share reflections of the SIMEC group from its earlier consideration of the first cycle of program performance standards.

- Taking note of those earlier conversations, it is anticipated that the SIMEC Chair will confirm that the System Council is being invited to consider, and if thought appropriate **agree:**

  a. **The proposed 2019-2021 CGIAR Program Performance Standards** set out in the Companion Paper, <u>to inform the further development of the assessment levels/stages ('rubrics') that will apply to each of the standards</u>, which rubrics are proposed to be submitted for approval to the System Management Board at its 12th meeting (13 December 2018); and

b. <u>Based on the recommendation of SIMEC</u>, **that the evaluation senior specialist in the new CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat is the responsible officer for undertaking the periodic independent assessment of whether programs met the standards**, working across other advisory bodies as required to obtain expert data.

- The **Session Chair** is then expected to open the session to high-level inputs on the action item and bring the inputs to a synthesis.

Action 4: Improve people management (17:00-17:30)

- The **Session Chair** is expected to frame this part of the session by recalling that preliminary ideas on this action item were discussed at the May 2018 System Council meeting, with a call to the Centers to further expand this section of the business plan, to address immediate issues as well as longer term challenges.[4]

- It is anticipated that **Elwyn Grainger-Jones** will then be invited to take the Council briefly through the 3 pillars of the people management Action of the Business Plan, namely:

  o Developing a people management strategy
  o Reinforcing and strengthening CGIAR's shared ethical frameworks
  o Designing and implementing a gender, diversity and inclusion framework

- Recognizing that System Council participants will have had the opportunity to review the initiatives set out in Action 4 of the Business Plan that have been further elaborated since the May 2018 System Council meeting, it is anticipated that the Executive Director's observations will focus on the following three themes:

  o The energy that has been generated across the System in preparing the business plan – with the Centers' Human Resources Community of Practice excited about the opportunities before the System to better articulate how it attracts, retains and promotes talent

  o The deep commitment of Center Board of Trustees Chairs to be stewards of the respective actions in a coordinated way to have one cross-System policy position, supported by implementation approaches that recognize the very difficult cultural settings in which CGIAR centers operate

  o The System Management Board's recognition that additional capacity to deliver on best-practice gender, diversity and inclusion framework for staff is required, and will be required, such that for the initial 2 years, a senior role will be included to champion

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[4] Paragraph 71 of the System Council's 6th meeting summary

delivery of the framework, with possible additional capacity needs within Centers being identified during the scoping work.

- The **Session Chair** is then expected to turn to System Council colleagues to seek views with a view to the Council expressing support for the overall strategic approach.

** Summary of action requested on Agenda item 7

a. **On the program performance standards for 2019-2021**, the System Council is invited approve the proposed program performance standards for the 2019-2021 reporting period, as set out in companion document SC7-H.

b. **On Action 4 of the business plan – Improving People Management**: the System Council is invited to endorse the overall strategic approach.

17:30   Close of day 1

17:30-18:00   Optional Tour of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Discovery Center

18:00- 20:00   Reception (Discovery Center)

DAY 2: Friday 16 November 2018 (09:35-18:00)

** Requested arrival into the meeting room by not later than 9:20am **

09:35 – 09:50: 'Fireside discussion' with Mr. Bill Gates, Co-Chair and Trustee, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

09:50 -10:20   BREAK (and room re-configuration)

Agenda Item 8: Pursue new cross-Center alliances
10:20-11:00

FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

Led by: **System Council Chair**

Supporting document(s):
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 – Action 5 *(Repeating document)*

Business Plan Companion documents:
- SC7-J – Special funding initiative on Center Alliances
- SC7-K – Developing an action plan on shared services

Agenda Item - Elements and process:

- As framing, it is anticipated that the **System Council Chair** will recall his observations from the Council's May 2018 Berlin meeting that there are two trends occurring globally, whereby **on the one hand** there is the growing need to re-think globalization and the role of the global aid architecture, with multilateralism being challenged, **and on the other hand** there being an increasing understanding that the challenges we face globally need to be solved collectively.

- The System Council Chair may also recall the observations of the SMB Chair from the Berlin meeting that there are major new challenges coming to agriculture which will require adjustment and modernization of CGIAR, including by reducing fragmentation, simplifying, increasing coherence, and focusing more sharply.

- Highlighting both the inherent complexity involved in such discussions, but also the broad opportunities that arise, the **System Council Chair** is anticipated to invite the **System Management Board Chair** to share some high-level messages on the strategic and operational opportunities for greater collaborations across Centers as an introduction into:

    o **A video message** from **Ann Tutwiler** – Director General, Bioversity regarding the CIAT/Bioversity well-advanced alliance conversations

    o **Remarks from the floor** from **Matthew Morell**, Director General of IRRI, to share highlights from the AfricaRice-IRRI joint activities

- A brief round of reflections/comments/questions may be taken now from the floor or held until all presentations are delivered.

- The **System Council Chair** is then expected to invite the **Executive Director** to frame the Special Funding Initiative on Center Alliances

- The **System Council Chair** is expected to invite comments to frame the action plan on shared services from **Matthew Morell**, in his capacity as a member of the Centers' Working Group of identifying opportunities to identify opportunities for closer collaboration.

- It is anticipated that the <u>System Council Chair</u> will thank the contributors for the briefings and moderate any questions and discussion with Council members.

*** <u>Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 8</u>:**

The System Council is invited to **provide strategic input and guidance** on:

a. the inclusion of the action 'Pursue new cross-Center alliances' in the 2019-2021 Business Plan prior to finalization by the System Management Board; and

b. the concepts identified in the paper on the exploration of priority shared services between Centers

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Agenda Item 9: Other Business Plan Actions to consider

11:00-11:40   FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE
                                                          OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

    a. Action 6: Enhance collaboration with delivery partners
    b. Action 7: Align and enhance assurance systems

Led by: System Council Co-Chair

Supporting document(s):
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 *(Repeating document)*

Business Plan Companion documents:
- SC7-L – Country Collaboration
- SC7-M – Deepen Private Sector collaboration
- SC7-N – Assurance

Agenda Item - Elements and process

The **Session Chair** is expected to frame the session in two parts:

- Part 1 emphasizing the importance of CGIAR efforts to ensure impact at scale, via strategies set out in Companion documents **SC7-L, on CGIAR Country Collaboration**, and **SC7-M, on Deepening Private Sector Collaboration**; and

- Part 2 on aligning and enhancing assurance systems, set out in **Companion document SC7-N**, to ensure that the System can continue to improve its assurance activities to ensure that opportunities and risks are effectively identified and managed, where overlaps and/or gaps may exist, and where collaboration can be enhanced.

Part 1 – Business Plan Action 6: Enhance collaboration with delivery partners (11:00 – 11:20)

- The **Session Chair** is expected to make particular note to the importance of partnerships with national programs, and national research institutions, and invite **Matthew Morell**, **the 2018 Convener of the Center Directors General** to introduce the efforts already in progress and at various stages of maturity.

- It is then expected that the **Chair of the System Management Board** will be invited to speak to the action plan to drive forward an action plan to generate social and economic value from investor and industry collaborations as well as embedding CGIAR research within market value chains.

- The Executive Director of the CGIAR System Organization is also expected to set out additional interconnected elements of Business Plan Action 6, on establish new Multilateral Development Bank cooperation platforms and setting up a CGIAR Rome hub.

- The **Session Chair** is expected to invite strategic reflections from the Council to guide the ongoing work on the strategies and action plans set out.

Part 2 – Business Plan Action 7: Align and enhance assurance systems (11:20 – 11:40)

- The **Session Chair** is anticipated to frame this session by noting the System Council's strong support for this part of the Business Plan at its 6th meeting in Berlin, with the companion document setting out specific planned actions over the 2019-2021 implementation period.

- Taking note of that support, it is expected that the **Session Chair** will invite System Council colleagues to provide any further strategic reflections on this section of the business plan, with the **Executive Director** being available to respond to any questions arising.

- It is then anticipated that a presentation will be made to the System Council to provide an overall status update on financial irregularities that have been reported to the System Organization during the 2018 calendar year, actions taken to strengthen systems as a result, and how the System will in future move towards increased transparency and accountability on regard to such topics.

- It is expected that a round of questions on the presentation will be responded to, with the invitation that very specific questions on any specific matter be collated and responded to after the meeting through an in-confidence communication to Funders (if required).

** **Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 9:** On the Business Plan sections, the System Council is invited to consider endorsing the overall strategic approach.

On the accompanying companion documents to this agenda item, the System Council is invited to provide **strategic input and guidance**, noting that the System Management Board will discuss and approve relevant implementation actions at its 12th meeting in December 2018.

Agenda Item 10: Align high-quality independent advisory services into System-level decision-making. Business Plan Action 8

11:40-13:00 (80 minutes) **FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH**

Led by: System Council Chair

Supporting document(s):
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 – Action 8 *(Repeating document)*
SC7-04 – SC IP Group
SC7-05 – Evaluations Review
SC7-P – 2019-2021 Advisory Bodies Work Plans and Budget (companion document)

- **The Session Chair is anticipated to outline that the session involves four parts – each of optimally 20 minutes in duration,** as supported by the work of the System Council's Strategic, Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee ('SIMEC'):

  - **Part A** – Seeking System Council strategic inputs on advisory services priority actions for 2019-2021

  - **Part B** – Better linking the work of the System Council's Intellectual Property Group into System Council discussions

  - **Part C** – Revisiting past evaluations for System Council strategic direction and oversight

  - **Part D** – Tabling a 'Draft 0' approach to forming CGIAR's Independent Science for Development Council

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- Thanking the **Chairs of ISPC and SPIA and the Head, IEA** for the work, support and overall guidance that they have respectively provided to the System of past years, the **System Council Chair** is then expected to take each of the matters in turn:

Part A - Seeking System Council strategic inputs on advisory services priority actions for 2019-2021

- The **Session Chair** is expected to recall that the System Council approved electronically, on 4 October 2018, terms of reference for two independent external advisory bodies: the new **'Independent Science for Development Council' (ISDC)** and the continuing '**Standing Panel on Impact Assessment' (SPIA)**, as well as a the terms of reference for a new **Advisory Services Shared Secretariat** to support to both bodies, and to steward the delivery of external independent evaluations and reviews commissioned by the System Council.

- It is anticipated that the **Chair of the Council's Strategic Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee ('SIMEC'), Michel Bernhardt**, will share reflections from SIMEC's deliberations, including at their Monday 12 November meeting on proposed priorities and workplans for those bodies for the 2019-2021 period. These reflections may include:

  o Recognition that **2019 will be a year of flexibility**, to give the opportunity for the Shared Secretariat to be formed

  o That the new Head of the Shared Secretariat is expected to be in post form March 2019, and that that role will be pivotal in **bringing together the three workstreams** and **continue a focus to find efficiencies** in these arrangements

  o By the November 2019 System Council meeting, **more detailed workplans for the 2020-2021 period** would be brought for approval

  o Taking note of the overall budget request for the System Council's advisory bodies and its supporting secretariat **relative to the projected 'Cost Sharing Percentage' to be collected in 2019-2021** (as discussed during the 2019-2021 FinPlan session under agenda item 6)**,** whether there is specific guidance from the Council on how the proposed workplan and budget for the Standing Panel on Impact Assessment could be financed.

- It is anticipated that the **Session Chair** will invite System Council members to share reflections on the materials presented from SIMEC discussions, **before calling on representatives of the ISPC, SPIA and IEA** to respond to any questions that may arise during the session.

- The **Session Chair** is then anticipated to summarize the main messages heard from System Council members, taking note that:

  o the consensus position on the overall scope of the 2019-2021 budgets for the advisory bodies will inform a decision later during the meeting on the budget envelopes for CGIAR System entities for the 2019-2021 period, subject to annual review and possible further decisions of the System Council; and

  o that the decision session (agenda item 14) also includes a proposal, as recommended by SIMEC, to put in place certain transition arrangements for the ISPC to the Independent Science for Development Council <u>and</u> the transition arrangements from the IEA to evaluations becoming a mandate of the Shared Secretariat in early 2019.

** **Anticipated outcome on <u>Part A</u> of this session:**
The System Council is expected to provide strategic direction for the work of the advisory bodies and its supporting shared secretariat for 2019-2021.

Part B – Better linking the work of the System Council's Intellectual Property Group

- Drawing on the background presentation (SC7-04), the **SIMEC Chair** is then expected to summarize discussions from recent meetings between SIMEC and SCIP Group members – including on Monday 12 November - on how to refresh the Terms of Reference of the SCIP Group to ensure that they are aligned with the post-2016 CGIAR governance nomenclature and overall strategic approach.

- Taking note that the excellent annual reports of the SCIP Group have not been formally discussed by the System Council (or the Fund Council before it) since early 2015, the SIMEC Chair is expected to emphasize that the approach will be to build on the existing strengths of the SCIP Group, such that the exercise to refresh the TOR is to enhance engagement between the System Council and this expert group, but not fundamentally change its focus or overall operational approach.

- The **Session Chair** is expected to invite strategic reflections from the floor, to enable these to be captured into the work that SIMEC will steward, with a view to a new TOR being presented for electronic approval by end 2018.

** **Anticipated outcome on <u>Part B</u> of this session:**

The System Council is invited to **provide strategic reflections to inform a revision of the TOR of the SCIP Group** under the oversight of SIMEC, with **an agreed action** that the revised TOR and approach to continuing membership of the SCIP Group be presented by 14 December 2018 for electronic decision by the System Council, after taking into account the inputs of the System Management Board at its 12th meeting on 13 December 2018.

Part C – Revisiting past evaluations for System Council strategic direction and oversight

- Turning to the next topic, it is anticipated that the **SIMEC Chair** will provide the System Council with overall reflections from SIMEC's review of recent past evaluations, as a means of ensuring that the System Council formally considers evaluations and provides strategic guidance to the System.

- Taking note that several of the recent past evaluations and their advice were already considered by the System, it is expected that the following four past evaluations will be featured in this session:

  o Partnerships
  o Results Based Management
  o Gender (Workplace and Research)
  o Capacity Development

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o   Following brief presentations from SIMEC members on these items, the **Session Chair** is anticipated to take brief comments from the floor, including seeking observations and reflections from the **Head of CGIAR's Independent Evaluation Arrangement, Rachel Sauvinet-Bedouin**.

** Anticipated outcome on <u>Part C</u> of this session:**

The System Council is anticipated to **provide strategic reflections** in reply to SIMEC's consideration of the 4 recent past evaluations, with those reflections informing ongoing actions in the System.

Part D – Tabling a 'Draft 0' approach to forming CGIAR's Independent Science for Development Council

- Taking note of the framing already provided in the background meeting document (SC7-07B), the **Session Chair** is anticipated to turn to System Council members for strategic observations on the two distinct parts of the background paper:

  o   Part 1 - The **revised timetable for the identification and appointment of new members of the Independent Science for Development Council** (at paragraph 6 of the meeting paper, which table updates the information agreed at SC6)

  o   Part 2 - **An initial 'Draft 0' of the key competencies of ISDC members, the ISDC Chair and an advertising strategy**, taking note that System Council members will also be able to provide written inputs following the meeting (At Appendices 1, 2 and 3)

** Anticipated outcome on <u>Part D</u> of this session:**

The System Council is anticipated to:

a. **approve** the updated timetable for the identification and appointment of new ISDC members

b. **provide preliminary strategic inputs** into the Draft 0 documents shared at the meeting, to further inform their elaboration under the oversight of SIMEC, **with an agreed action** that the materials will be presented on 14 December 2018 to the System Council for electronic decision.

13:00 – 14:00   LUNCH

Agenda Item 11: Strengthen collective resource mobilization and communication efforts

14:00 – 14:30   FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE
                                                        OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

Led by: System Council Co-Chair

Supporting document(s):
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 – Action 9 *(Repeat document)*

Agenda Item - Elements and process:

- **By way of introduction, the Session Chair** is anticipated to note the importance of the need for a collective resource mobilization and communications effort, building on a strong narrative. It is anticipated that the Session Chair will applaud efforts to better align communication activities across the system in order to raise the profile and brand value of CGIAR as a System.

- It is expected that the Session Chair will <u>acknowledge</u> the challenge to maintain current levels of investment, and add that stable, predictable, and increasing funding for the shared research agenda will in itself help deliver efficiencies and greater impact.

- The Session Chair is expected to <u>reflect on the important commitments and indications that were made during the FinPlan session of the meeting</u>; and encourage coordinated efforts to bring new Funders to the System Council table as well as explore new funding mechanisms that can contribute to the target of 30% W1/W2 funding.

- it is expected that the **Session Chair** will invite System Council colleagues to provide any further strategic reflections on this section of the business plan, with the **Executive Director** being available to respond to any questions arising.

** **Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 11:** The System Council is invited to **endorse** the overall strategic approach and part of the overall approval of the Business Plan.

Agenda Item 12: Designing AR4D to address trade-offs between the SDGs

14:30 – 15:00   FOR DISCUSSION

Led by: System Council Co-Chair

Supporting document(s): A presentation to be provided by the Chair of the Independent Science and Partnership Council, ISPC (not an advance meeting document).

Agenda Item - Elements and process:

- The Session Chair is expected to invite the **ISPC Chair** to make a presentation on outcomes form the 2018 CGIAR ISPC Science Forum

- It is anticipated that the **Session Chair** will thank the ISPC for the briefing and moderate any questions and discussion with Council members.

** Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 12: No formal action is requested

The session is an information point to provide high-level strategic reflections that serve to pre-inform the System Council's consideration (including at later System Council meetings) of strategic research for development concepts that are critical for inclusion in the CGIAR Portfolio from 2022.

Agenda Item 13: Prepare a longer-term plan. Business Plan Action 10
15:00 – 16:00

FOR ENDORSEMENT OF THE OVERALL STRATEGIC APPROACH

Led by: System Council Chair

Supporting document(s):
SC7-02_CGIAR Business Plan 2019-2021 *(Repeat document)*

Agenda Item - Elements and process:

- The **Session Chair** is expected to frame the session by recalling that this first 3-year business plan period represents the opportunity to set out an ambitious forward vision for the CGIAR System through to 2030 as a 'CGIAR 2030 Plan', aligned to the milestone moment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

- Noting that a process of development of such a plan will be led by the System Management Board, it is expected that the Chair will identify two key consultation mechanisms for providing inputs to guide development of the 2030 plan, in line with the broad timetable set out in Action 10 of the business plan itself

    - An inaugural CGIAR Partnership Forum in 2019, bringing together Centers, Funder and other CGIAR stakeholders in a wide-ranging conversation to feed into the plan's development; and

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- Recalling the action agreed at the Council's 6th meeting in Berlin, whereby a '<u>CGIAR System Reference Group</u>' was established to serve as a platform for Funder and Center participants to have essential 'quid-pro-quo' conversations, informed by dispassionate analysis on what the drivers of the issues are, and how they may potentially be solved. That Reference Group would operate as a consultation platform for development of the plan.

- It is anticipated that the Chair will invite the <u>Chair of the System Management Board</u> to offer some reflections from the System Reference Group's second meeting held on Wednesday 14 November, which may include possible commonalities among visions set out by the group's participants in terms of i) research agenda; ii) business model and iii) global context.

- The <u>Session Chair</u> is then expected to take views from the floor.

- Following this, it is expected that the <u>Chair</u> will summarize the main outcomes of the discussion to be taken forward and incorporated into the Board' reflections on leading the process over the course of the business plan period.

** **Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 13:** The System Council is invited to endorse the overall strategic approach to preparing a '2030 Plan'.

16:00- 16:30   Break

Agenda Item 14: System Council decision session
16:30 – 17:30

<div align="right"><u>FOR DECISION</u></div>

Led by: System Council Chair

Supporting document(s):
- SC7-06 – Nomenclature changes
- SC7-07A – Advisory services transition matters
- SC7-08 – Committees honorarium framework

Agenda Item - Elements and process:

- <u>The Chair</u> is expected to frame the session in two parts:

  - <u>First</u> – that the Council will be guided through proposed administrative decisions arising from previous decisions taken by the Council; and

  - <u>Second</u> – that the Council will be asked to review and confirm a summary of decisions, formal positions and actions agreed during the meeting thus far.

- **For the first part of the agenda item** - It is anticipated that the Chair will invite the **Director, Board and Council Relations**, to introduce the decisions documents for the first part of this item as follows:

  a. **<u>SC7-06 – Nomenclature changes</u>** – noting that this sets out the consequential drafting amendments required to the System's governing documents and its policy relating to the financing of System Entities;

  b. **<u>SC7-07A – Advisory services transition matters</u>** – which sets out a pragmatic way for the Council to ensure uninterrupted delivery of expert independent advice during the transition from CGIAR's ISPC to the new 'Independent Science for Development Council'; and establishment of the CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat. It is anticipated that the Council will hear an overview of the outcome of SIMEC's discussion during their Monday 12 November meeting in support of this approach; and

  c. **<u>SC7-08 – Committees honorarium framework</u>** – recalling that the proposal set out for the payment of a modest honorarium (as provided for in the Council-approved terms of reference for the AOC) was sent to the Council For their inputs by electronic means on 18 October 018, which no amendments being requested at that time.

- The Chair is anticipated to recognize that the proposals made in this part have been informed by prior 2018 decisions of the Council and consultations and discussions that have taken place; and invite the Council to approve the decisions points set out in each document.

- **For the second part of the agenda item**, the Chair is expected to invite the Executive Director to guide the Council through a set of draft 'Decisions Slides', which set out each of the formal decisions, agreed positions and actions to be taken forward at the Council's request.

- The Chair is expected to draw the Council's attention to the final decision point requested; to **approve the CGIAR System 3-Year Business Plan (2019-2021), meeting document SC7-02**, subject to the incorporation of the enhancements identified during the Council's 7th meeting.

- The Chair is expected to express appreciation to the System Management Board, the System Management Office, Center leadership, the System Council and all other stakeholders who have contributed to the development of the business plan.

> ** **<u>Summary of actions requested on Agenda item 14</u>:** The System Council is requested to approve the decisions/agreed positions/actions set out in the draft Decisions Slides shown on screen during this session.

Agenda Item 15: Other Business
17:30- 18:00

<div align="right">FOR INPUT</div>

<u>Led by</u>: Chair

<u>Supporting document(s)</u>: There are no advance documents for this session.

<u>Agenda Item - Elements and process</u>:

- This agenda item is intended to provide space for informal updates, and other items of business to be presented as identified at meeting start, as well as any items raised for 'Other Business' during the Council's consideration and approval of the Agenda for this meeting.

- At the date of issue of this Annotated Provisional Agenda, the following matters are already anticipated to be included in this session:

    - <u>May 2019 System Council meeting dates</u>, Council members are invited to hold **15-16 May 2018** as the official meeting dates, with location being Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

    - <u>November 2019 System Council meeting dates</u>, Council members are invited to hold the dates of **13-14 November 2018**, as the official meeting dates, with the meeting host to be confirmed by end-January 2019

The Chair is then expected to again express appreciation to the host of the System Council meeting, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and recognize the tremendous resources and efforts applied to making the System Council meetings productive and successful, and officially close the meeting.

18:00	Close of meeting