

Meeting Summary
10th System Council Meeting
10 and 11 June 2020

Purpose:

This document presents the formal summary of the 10th meeting of the System Council held virtually on 10-11 June 2020, as approved by the Council on a no objection basis with effect from 27 August 2020 (Decision Ref: SC/M10/EDP7).

It supplements the decisions and summary information provided from the System Council's 10th meeting via the [SC10 Chair's Summary](#) (dated 18 June 2020).

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Prepared by: System Council Secretariat
(System Organization, Board and Council Relations Team)

Introduction:

This document presents a summary of the 10th meeting of the System Council (“Council”) held on 10 and 11 June 2020 as a virtual meeting.

By way of overview:

- **Agenda items.** The meeting considered the seven (7) agenda items set out in the table of contents on the following page.
- **Decisions**** The Council took seven (7) decisions during its meeting, described in the text.
- **Agreed positions and actions**** The Council agreed on five (5) positions and actions during its meeting, described in the text.
- **Participants.** Annex 1 sets out a list of meeting participants.

*** The Decision Points and Agreed positions and actions noted in the text of this document were first shared in the SC10 Chair’s Summary, as issued on 18 June 2020, and available here: https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarorg/2020/06/SC10-10_Chairs-Summary_web.pdf*

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Item 1: Opening Session

1. The System Council Chair, Juergen Voegelé, opened the meeting.
2. With a welcome to all participants, a quorum was confirmed as present. The System Council Chair then introduced and invited brief remarks from¹:
 - a. New System Council voting members including representatives of China (as part of East Asia and Pacific Constituency), Japan, Norway, Sweden and Nigeria (as part of the Sub-Saharan Africa constituency).
 - b. New System Council alternates from Australia, Canada, Indonesia (as part of East Asia and Pacific Constituency) and Turkey (as part of West Asia and North Africa Constituency).
3. The Chair invited Karmen Bennett, Secretary to the System Council, to outline the approach and modalities for this virtual meeting, which included the meeting being guided in content and process by a slide deck² (provided to the System Council in advance), and making use of the features available on the CISCO Webex platform for effective engagement during the meeting.
4. The System Council Chair invited nominations for the Co-Chair of the meeting. The voting member from The Netherlands nominated the voting member from Canada as Co-Chair. The nomination was seconded by the voting member from Colombia on behalf of the Latin America and Caribbean constituency.
5. SC/M10/DP1: Meeting Co-Chair
The System Council **appointed** Stephen Potter, voting member from Canada as the non-voting Co-Chair for the meeting, pursuant to Article 5.2 of the CGIAR System Framework.
6. The Chair tabled the provisional Agenda³, noting that it would be covered in two approximately three-hour sessions over the course of the two days. No 'other business' items were raised.
7. SC/M10/DP2: Adoption of the Agenda
The System Council **adopted** the Agenda issued on 20 May 2020 (document SC10-01), as revised on 5 June 2020.
8. On request by the Chair for any declaration of interests on the Agenda none were received.

¹ The System Council composition is available at <https://www.cgiar.org/how-we-work/governance/system-council/sc-composition/>

² [Presentation materials: SC10 content and process – as delivered](#)

³ [Document SC10-01-Adopted Agenda](#)

Item 2: CGIAR's research response to COVID-19

9. The Chair framed the session by expressing that COVID-19 is an incredibly challenging situation for everyone around the world, with implications for all parts of society and all sectors of the economy – with short and longer-term food security challenges becoming clearer. He pointed to a shift in challenges, from not enough food produced in the world, to issues around affordability and access as supply chains are disrupted. He emphasized that now is the moment for CGIAR to be positioned in the middle of the global stage on this issue.
10. On invitation of the Chair, the Executive Director of the CGIAR System Organization Elwyn Grainger-Jones, introduced the agenda item on CGIAR's research response to COVID-19 which he framed as a clear example of cross-CGIAR co-operation, and one which could have been stronger had the system been already operating as One CGIAR. Participants were encouraged to view the framing video on 'Impact of COVID-19 on food and nutrition security and responses to the pandemic' on the SC10 webpage⁴ following the meeting.
11. The Executive Director outlined key elements of the coordinated CGIAR research response to COVID-19, including:
 - a. Research pillars and themes which comprise food systems, One Health, inclusive public programs, and policies and investments;
 - b. Time frames for the response at short, medium- and long-term trajectories;
 - c. A modality for coordinating the research response in the form of a CGIAR COVID-19 Hub; and
 - d. Budget scenarios for planning a range of research and coordination activities.
12. With reference to the CGIAR research response presented in summary and provided in further detail in advance⁵, the Chair invited reflections and comments from the System Council with the following emerging as themes of the discussion:
 - a. While a challenging situation, the COVID-19 pandemic has also reinforced the need for a 'One CGIAR' to be able to better respond as a system and for taking a food systems approach.
 - b. CGIAR was commended for the quick, coordinated and strategic response developed, as well as the work of Centers to provide important inputs.
 - c. The outlining of short, medium and long term stages of response was appreciated as an approach, with discussion on the balance of effort on those various stages recognizing that CGIAR's comparative advantage traditionally sits with the longer-term resilience, but that it can also offer a lot in the earlier stages of crisis response and recovery and should be pivoting to position itself more in that space.

⁴ [Video: Impacts of COVID-19 on Food and Nutrition Security and Responses to the Pandemic](#)

⁵ [Document SC10-02: A coordinated CGIAR research response to COVID-19](#)

- d. A clearer indication of what activities could be done with accompanying budget resources would be a useful way to understand how CGIAR is already pivoting its work and what further support could offer to this initiative.
 - e. The importance of nutrition was raised, with CGIAR well positioned to play a critical role in this space.
 - f. CGIAR was encouraged to also make good use of innovative internet and mobile systems in its approach.
 - g. Some additional areas were suggested to be woven into the response included addressing deforestation, considering gender dimensions, and taking into account migration.
13. The Chair thanked participants for the interventions adding that a comprehensive approach is essential to be able to make concerted efforts now as well as to anticipate future situations. He noted an endorsement of CGIAR's response from members as well as key recommendations and requests to make this more effective.
14. [SC/M10/DP3: CGIAR research response to COVID-19](#)
The System Council:
- **Endorsed** the CGIAR Research Response to COVID-19 as set out in meeting document SC10-02);
 - **Requested** that the System Management Board provide an update to the System Council on the CGIAR Research Response to COVID-19 at the end of 2020; and
 - **Invited** Funders to reflect on their capacity to, where possible, provide funding to contribute to the research response
15. [SC/M10/AP1: COVID-19 research response](#)
Recognizing the importance of CGIAR's global role in COVID-19 crisis response, recovery and longer-term resilience of food systems, the System Council:
- i. **Recommended** that the System Organization ensure that CGIAR provides an ambitious response to the COVID-19 crisis; and
 - ii. **Requested** that this be done via immediate initiation of the COVID-19 Hub, with leadership of the Hub coordinated across IFPRI, ILRI and the System Organization, and the Hub tasked with, among other roles:
 - Providing a system-wide entry point on COVID-19 for partners and Funders;
 - Delivering an active intelligence service to the System Management Board on COVID-19 impacts and priority responses, so that the Board is best able to make timely decisions to ensure that CGIAR is providing the most strategic response as the crisis unfolds; and
 - Articulating a set of prioritized areas of work on COVID-19 response, recovery and longer-term resilience matched to budget scenarios.

Item 3: Ensuring adequate resources to deliver

16. The Co-Chair introduced the agenda item on ensuring adequate resources to deliver and invited the Executive Director to present a few summary slides on each of the three sub-topics.

3a. Our focus on people

17. The Executive Director started by recalling that during the System Council's recent ad hoc call on 30 April 2020 information had been provided on the current situation and measures taken to safeguard CGIAR's people during the COVID-19 pandemic. He then provided an update on developments since that time on collective efforts around health, current safeguarding and forward planning related to CGIAR's people.

3b. A package of financial responses

18. On the sub-item 3b, the Executive Director framed this as an effort to get ahead of risk around financial resources which is emerging in the current context of COVID-19 and the restrictions being put in place in countries around the world. He noted that this is primarily being looked at in terms of (i) the supply of financial resources and (ii) the ability to utilize funding given restrictions affecting implementation and delivery of research activities, which as twin forces culminate in a foreseen significant loss for Centers in 2020.
19. After outlining the three sets of measures proposed as ways to help address the financial situation, the floor was opened for comments that involved the following:
 - a. Acknowledgement of the financial support needed during this challenging time.
 - b. Communication of commitments already made and being planned to provide financial support and flexibility to ensure adequate resources to the System, for example through making timely and early payments of funding.
 - c. Support provided through adoption of appropriate measures on a case by case basis due to the various conditions that funders operate within.
 - d. Recognition of the link with the CGIAR COVID-19 research response and Hub and what will be offered as research funding priorities.
 - e. Reflection on how CGIAR could be better prepared or buffered for future situations as it transitions into One CGIAR.
 - f. Importance of continuing the discussion on how to best support the eleven genebanks.
20. The Co-Chair noted the open, honest and productive discussion recognizing that while the agreed position took note of important ways in which funders could take up measures on a case by case basis, particularly for window 3 and bilateral agreements, there was encouragement amongst the funders for signaling strong commitment where possible.

21. [SC/M10/AP2: Financial response measures](#)

The System Council:

i. **Took note** of the following measures as important ways for Funders to support adequate resources for CGIAR to deliver in the context of significant disruption having resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Maintaining planned and indicated W1/W2 investments in CGIAR Research Portfolio for 2020 and 2021 to ensure stability and confidence;
- Providing 2020 and 2021 cash contributions at the earliest date possible to optimize liquidity;
- Using the opportunity that is now available to invest funding in the CGIAR COVID-19 Hub within the existing “improving human health” flagship in A4NH (IFPRI lead with co-leads ILRI and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine); and
- Ensuring as much flexibility as possible to Centers and programs under W3 and Bilateral agreements – where such flexibilities are sought, and on the understanding that this would need to be on a case-by-case basis – to renegotiate the terms and conditions of the agreement, by way of, but not limited to certain options such as:
 - (i) Extensions (cost or no-cost as appropriate) to agreements for specified duration;
 - (ii) Temporary increases (for 2020) in level of Indirect Cost Recovery (ICR) rates; and
 - (iii) Reorientation of project level outputs, deliverables and targets.

ii. **Recognized** the need for:

- A temporary increase (for 2020) of indirect Cost Rates (ICR) in recognition of the increased proportion of indirect costs implementing Centers will face during the initial year of COVID-19 response; and
- The partial de-linking rules to be adjusted to ensure Funder interests met⁶.

22. The System Council Chair took the opportunity to express appreciation for the funding being provided to CGIAR and the efforts being made by funders to provide additional support and flexibility at this time. He highlighted the fact that there are more than 2,400 projects to deal with at a time when financing is being challenged in different ways, which provides a strong incentive to work towards One CGIAR.

⁶ A footnote to paragraph 6 of the W1/2 Partial de-linking principles to expand current funding rules will be added to exempt from partial de-linking treatment any additional W2 contributions for which the funder has expressly communicated that their desired outcome is to reduce the amount of W1 otherwise allocated to the Program or Platform

3c. Funding mechanism for the One CGIAR transition

23. The Executive Director introduced this sub-item as a way of providing the opportunity for Funders to invest directly in the transition process through a mechanism that would ensure resources are uniformly directed in effecting the transition towards One CGIAR. He expressed appreciation to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Norway for providing funding for the transition already. He outlined the proposed mechanisms as part of a One CGIAR transitional funding approach⁷.
24. The Co-Chair thanked the Executive Director for providing the overview and invited comments from the System Council, which mainly sought confirmation that a full budget will be developed by the Transition Program Management Unit (TPMU) which will provide more details on what exactly the funds will be spent on in the transition, to be shared with the System Council.
25. [SC/M10/DP4: One CGIAR transitional funding approach](#)
The System Council **approved** the following mechanisms as part of a One CGIAR transitional funding approach, as set out in meeting document SC10-04:
 - a. Repurpose the narrowly defined W1 Alliance Opportunity Fund to a One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility to support more expansive objectives of One CGIAR implementation;
 - b. Transfer \$1.1M provision account balance to the One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility;
 - c. Allocate a \$6.5M draw down facility approved as part of the 2020 Financing Plan to the One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility; and
 - d. Establish an indicative target of \$40M-\$70M to fund investments into One CGIAR through the One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility between 2020 and 2024.

Item 4: Leveraging independent advice

26. The meeting Co-Chair introduced this agenda item on leveraging independent advice by recognizing that this is very important for a science organization, and the advice being received now will be important inputs for the implementation of steps to One CGIAR.

4a. Highlights of the MOPAN independent assessment of CGIAR

27. With appreciation for the support by Norway and the United States of America to the independent assessment of CGIAR conducted in 2019 by the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN)⁸, the Co-Chair first invited their representatives to provide opening remarks as the institutional leads to this assessment.

⁷ As set out in [Document SC10-04: Funding mechanism for the One CGIAR transition](#)

⁸ <http://www.mopanonline.org/>

28. On invitation by the Co-Chair, Maura Barry, Senior Deputy Assistant to the Administrator Bureau for Resilience and Food Security (USA) and Daniel van Gilst, Senior Adviser, Norad (Norway) offered remarks that pointed to:
- a. Appreciation to MOPAN for conducting the assessment, which provides a valuable tool for better understanding CGIAR and ensuring engagement is effective and has more evidence-based decision making.
 - b. Highlighted the importance of addressing some of the areas identified as in need of strengthening, while continuing to build on those areas already highlighted as strengths.
 - c. The report confirms many issues that are already being worked on today including through steps to One CGIAR.
29. Two members of the MOPAN secretariat and assessment team then provided a short presentation⁹ on MOPAN, the assessment process and key findings of the 2019 CGIAR assessment: Mitch Levine, on process, and Francis Watkins, on findings. The overall message was that as a first assessment for CGIAR, although providing a look at the past, the assessment took place at a moment leading up to change and CGIAR came out well overall with some areas where progress could still be made.
30. The Executive Director provided a snapshot of the plans for a One CGIAR management response, to be made available in the expected three month window, by building on inputs starting with this formal session in SC10 and an additional, longer deep dive session open to System Council members to attend on Friday 12 June.
31. The Co-Chair opened the floor to the System Council, with the following questions and comments arising:
- a. Appreciation was expressed to Norway and USA for the support and leadership to the MOPAN assessment.
 - b. Recognition of CGIAR's strengths that were highlighted.
 - c. Acknowledgement of a few areas requiring strengthening that are already being addressed, with examples of the governance system, gender platform and the evaluation work, and in the scope of the One CGIAR transformation.
 - d. Importance of ensuring that the actions around gender are continued to be taken seriously and strengthened, with great opportunities to further integrate gender into One CGIAR.
32. [SC/M10/AP3: Independent advice](#)
- The System Council:
- i. **Took note** of the findings of the MOPAN assessment of CGIAR in 2019 which presented both strengths of CGIAR and some areas for improvement that are relevant to and should be given attention in the transition to One CGIAR.
 - ii. **Requested** that a check-in moment be planned in 2021 as a follow-up to the management response that will be delivered by 18 August 2020.

⁹ [Presentation material: Presenting MOPAN findings](#)

4b. Presentation by the ISDC Chair

33. Before inviting the Chair of CGIAR's Independent Science for Development Council (ISDC) to present, the Co-Chair expressed appreciation also to the Chair of the Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA) for the advance material provided on what is known about impacts of recent CGIAR innovations, the use of impact evidence in stage-gating and decision-making processes in CGIAR¹⁰.
34. The ISDC Chair, Holger Meinke, presented some highlights from more extensive material¹¹ on forward-looking reflections and recommendations on the One CGIAR Research and Partnership Agendas, and update on lean evaluative reviews of 12 CRPs.
35. The interaction with the System Council that followed included comments, questions and suggestions around:
 - a. Appreciation for the work of ISDC and contributions being made in a timely way to the transition process to One CGIAR.
 - b. There could be value in understanding the role of the regional dimension in foresight and trade-off for the One CGIAR research and engagement processes.
 - c. The foresight work provides some important elements to be taken into account, such as the integration from policy to farmer fields, a focus on options for diet quality and nutrition, and engaging in strategic partnerships to achieve system change.
 - d. Welcoming the initial finding on the impact of pooled funding.
 - e. A question on when the results from the evaluative reviews will be available and how these may be able to play a role in the design and implementation of the research and other processes of One CGIAR. There was a strong interest expressed in hearing more on the findings of the light touch evaluative reviews once completed.
 - f. A question on the modality and strength of the reviews being undertaken.
 - g. A comment on the need for clear actionable advice and guidance on diffusion, adoption at scale, and where can expect best value for money.
36. In response to questions and comments raised, the ISDC Chair indicated that:
 - a. Scale matters considerably when undertaking foresight work as very different answers can emerge when doing global level versus regional- or country-level assessments, so it is important to be clear from the start on the scale and objective.
 - b. The evaluations, being carried out as desk studies, will be completed by the end of 2020 as per the agreed workplan and have been staged so they can be available in tranches, with the first set to be available towards end of July.
 - c. The evaluations are independent reviews following a robust methodology.
 - d. There will be a commentary on outputs and outcomes of the CRP reviews once they are completed.

¹⁰ [Additional Resource: SPIA Chair's 6-minute video](#)

¹¹ [Presentation on ISDC and Evaluation Function by ISDC Chair](#)

Item 5: Progress towards One CGIAR

37. The Chair framed the item by recalling the steps to date to implement One CGIAR. With a key agreement made at the System Council's 6th meeting¹² in Berlin in 2018 to form a System Reference Group (SRG), their recommendations¹³ were unanimously endorsed at SC9¹⁴ in Chengdu, China in November 2019. He expressed how pleased he was with the substantial progress that has been made since Chengdu and that the Council will have an opportunity to discuss what has been achieved and what still lies ahead in the transition.
38. On invitation by the System Council Chair, the Chair of the System Management Board (SMB)- Marco Ferroni delivered a statement from the SMB, as an additional part of the update on the implementation of the endorsed recommendations¹⁵. The statement covered the following areas:
- a. Reaffirming SMB's commitment to One CGIAR and delivering against the key timelines.
 - b. Noting the start of the Transition Program Management Unit on 2 June.
 - c. Reflecting on several important transition matters including a clear transition path, stepping up communication efforts, important steps being taken in getting the EMT and OCB in place, collaborative development of the research strategy, and exploring possibilities around earlier forms of investment plans.
 - d. Encouraging all to 'keep up the momentum' by holding the course, keeping up funding, and continuing strong engagement and alignment.
39. The System Council Chair applauded the statement made and the tremendous efforts to date. With an invitation to System Council members to make any interventions, the following were elements raised and discussed:
- a. There was strong expression of appreciation for the ongoing commitment of the SMB and the level of effort from many parts of the System to advancing the One CGIAR agenda.
 - b. The recommendations endorsed in Chengdu are more valid than ever in the current context we find ourselves in which provides a strong value proposition for One CGIAR.
 - c. This is a moment of great opportunity for CGIAR, but it requires focus and redoubling of efforts to position CGIAR as a globally significant player.
 - d. It is important that CGIAR develop a bigger, bolder 'offer' which is compelling and includes the core elements agreed in the recommendations to be able to attract investment.

¹² https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarorg/2018/05/SC6-08_Chairs-Summary.pdf

¹³ SC-endorsed SRG recommendations for One CGIAR: https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarorg/2019/11/SC9-02_SRG-Recommendations-OneCGIAR.pdf

¹⁴ SC9 Chair's Summary: <https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarorg/2019/11/SC9-Chairs-Summary.pdf>

¹⁵ [Document SC10-06: One CGIAR progress report](#)

- e. In addition to the expectation of keeping to the agreed timeline for the transition, there is a need to work towards the windows of opportunity for resources and political support which may need to be taken advantage of sooner rather than later.
 - f. While adaptive management was agreed as an approach, the transition process should not build in any short-term 'flaws' that will be hard to undo later.
 - g. An empowered Executive Management Team (EMT) in place with authority to act and run the system is an urgent priority.
 - h. The on-track progress towards establishing the One CGIAR Common Board in place was well noted.
 - i. The work on the research strategy which will be taken further in the next week's co-creation workshop needs to provide clear signals to the EMT when appointed to take up its important role in moving that forward.
 - j. On the topic of the investment plans that will follow-on from the approval of the research strategy in late 2020, there was strong interest expressed by funders in starting to see the substance of these earlier, to be able to put in place investment decisions to facilitate funding them.
 - k. It was noted that a new funding modality that helps grow and attract funding will also be needed, that can support effective pooling of funding.
 - l. There was encouragement to maintain the momentum and keeping the next System Council meeting later in the year in mind as a key moment in which the system will already be in a very different place.
40. In reflecting on the discussions, the SMB Chair expressed appreciation for the supportive interventions and acknowledged the critical point in time for the transition to One CGIAR.
41. The System Council Chair closed the session with a call to keep up the momentum to deliver on the recommendations and timelines agreed, and to continue conversations to clearly understand what is needed and where progress is being made.

Item 6: The road to doubling CGIAR research funding by 2030

42. The System Council Chair introduced the agenda item as an important conversation to have on how to bring in the research funding at a scale and scope that is an important component of One CGIAR's journey to 2030.
43. The Director of Funder and External Engagement, André Zandstra, presented a brief set of slides showcasing the five Action Areas of a One CGIAR Resource Mobilization, Communications and Advocacy Strategy that is under development as part of the transition and in collaboration with many actors around the system. He also pointed to the need for CGIAR to act now to execute a major campaign and pledging 'moment' in 2021 with the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) providing a unique platform for funders to align commitments and investments in CGIAR.

44. The Chair invited the System Council to reflect on the ask of whether members would be willing to work towards a public pledging moment for One CGIAR in 2021, with the following themes emerging from that discussion:
- a. Overall support for working towards a pledging moment as these have proven to be very successful in raising funds and awareness.
 - b. There is a need for robust preparation of such pledging moments including developing a strong narrative, convincing arguments and compelling communications in advance of the event, so it becomes an 'obvious option' at the actual moment.
 - c. Noting that there can be a complexity to organizing a pledging moment in the context of big events like UNFSS and given its date into 2021, it is worth considering additional and earlier options as well.
 - d. Some other key events were noted including the Tokyo Nutrition Summit to be hosted by Japan in 2021.
 - e. Decisions around funding are already taking place and this opportunity needs to be captured.
45. The Director of Funder and External Engagement thanked the System Council for the support and the strategic guidance provided and welcomed any further ideas and needs to be communicated to the team.
46. [SC/M10/AP4: Achieving a stronger funding pipeline](#)

The System Council:

- i. **Supported** the proposal to work towards a pledging moment in 2021 to elevate the global importance of agricultural research for development, announce the transition to One CGIAR and recognize 50 years of impact, as part of a coordinated, targeted and transparent campaign approach of the One CGIAR Resource Mobilization, Communications and Advocacy strategy;
- ii. **Took note** of the UN Food Systems Summit as a valuable opportunity for Funders to align commitments and investments in CGIAR to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- iii. **Emphasized** the need for a well-developed narrative, a concrete investment case and compelling communication in advance of the event that builds on a clear 'offer' from CGIAR; and
- iv. **Encouraged** that earlier and additional opportunities on the road to UNFSS in 2021 be explored to take advantage of when funding decisions are being made.

Item 7: System Council other business

Consent agenda

47. The Co-Chair introduced the consent agenda recalling that these were items requiring approval as a package but would not be discussed in the meeting unless requested by a System Council member by Wednesday 10 June 2020. With no such requests received, the Co-Chair asked the System Council for its approval of the consent agenda.
48. [SC/M10/DP5: System Council Chair](#)
The System Council **approved** the appointment of Dr. Juergen Voegelé for a second four-year term with effect 12 July 2020, as nominated by the World Bank.
49. [SC/M10/DP6: Membership of Assurance Oversight Committee](#)
The System Council **approved** the extension of the membership terms of Saad Bounjoua and Maurice Goddard on the System Council's Assurance Oversight Committee to 30 June 2021, unless earlier determined by the System Council.

Other business

50. As an operational matter, a decision was put forward to take forward Unified Governance by permitting reconstitution of the SMB that will become the One CGIAR Common Board once relevant appointment decisions are taken by Center Boards. It was noted that the amendments to the Charter have already been approved by the General Assembly of the Centers, and will also be shortly taken to the SMB for approval.
51. [SC/M10/DP7: Amendments to Charter of CGIAR System Organization](#)
Pursuant to the amendment provisions of Article 15.2 of the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization, and subject also to approval by the System Management Board, the System Council **approved** the following amendments to the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization as set out below in “strike-out” and underlined text:

Ref	Proposed Charter text amendment
7.2	The System Management Board shall comprise the following up to ten (10) nine (9) voting members who, when taken as a collective whole, will have the skills, experience and gravitas required to enable the System Management Board to discharge its responsibilities under this Charter. Members of the management and employees of CGIAR System entities, including Centers, are not eligible to sit on the System Management Board as voting members, as follows: a) six (6) Center Board members or Directors General, as appointed by the Centers; and b) three (3) independent members, one of which should, whenever possible, be the Chair.
7.3	The System Management Board shall appoint a Chair from amongst its <u>voting</u> members.
7.8	All System Management Board members, Active Observers and the Chair of the System Management Board's Audit and Risk Committee shall act in good faith in the interests of the CGIAR System and shall act according to the System Management Board's policy on ethics and conflicts of interest and shall respect the conflict of interest obligations of the entities they <u>may be affiliated with</u> represent .
7.9	The term of office of the initial System Management Board shall be three (3) years. Thereafter, new voting members of the System Management Board shall be elected by the Centers every two (2) years at a General Assembly of Centers. In the transition phase terms may be shorter or elections staggered to ensure a gradual replacement of the members of the System Management Board. Members from the Centers' Boards which are members of the System Management Board, when acting at the System Management Board, shall represent the CGIAR System and will not be re-appointed when their term as Center Board members is expired.

52. On the subject of next System Council meetings, the Council was invited to consider proposals for the System Council's 11th meeting later this year as well as meetings in 2021. The following were noted:
- a. As SC10 had originally been planned to be hosted by Germany in Berlin, the representative of Germany expressed a strong interest to host SC11 if in-person meetings will be feasible at that time.
 - b. Further expressions of interest were noted from France (for 2021) and Australia (for May 2022).
53. [SC/M10/AP5: Next System Council meetings](#)
- The System Council:
- i. **Supported** the plan to hold its next formal meeting in Berlin, Germany in December 2020 recognizing the dependence on travel and in-person gatherings being permitted at that time; and
 - ii. **Took note** of the interest of various members to host System Council meetings in 2021 and 2022 which will be followed up on by the System Council Secretariat.
54. In drawing the meeting to a close, the Chair shared his positive reflection on the progress to One CGIAR which was strongly confirmed by the SMB and well received by the System Council, recognizing that this journey is staying the course even in a time of crisis.
55. The meeting was closed.

Annex 1: List of meeting participants

Chair: Juergen Voegelé, Vice President for Sustainable Development, World Bank

Co-Chair: Stephen Potter, System Council member representing Canada

Members and Alternates

Constituency/Country	Name	Role
African Development Bank	Martin Fregene	Member
Australia	Andrew Campbell	Member
	Julianne Biddle	Alternate
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Tony Cavalieri	Member
	Enock Chikava	Alternate
	Rinn Self	Additional delegate
Canada	Stephen Potter	Member (served as meeting Co-Chair)
	Alexandra Johnson	Alternate
East Asia and Pacific	Hao Weiping	Member (China)
	Djati Wicaksono	Alternate (Indonesia) (Day 2)
	Zhai Lin	Additional delegate (China)
	Yanzhou Qi	Additional delegate (China)
European Commission	Christophe Larose	Member
Germany & Belgium	Sebastian Lesch	Member (Germany)
	Carol Durieux	Alternate (Belgium)
	Michel Bernhardt	Additional delegate (Germany)
	René Franke	Additional delegate (Germany) (Day 2)
Japan	Koichi Nakagawa	Member
	Motoaki Komiya	Alternate
	Masa Iwanaga	Additional delegate
	Hiroshi Honjo	Additional delegate
	Shintaro Kobayashi	Additional delegate
Latin America and Caribbean	Jorge Mario Diaz	Member (Colombia)
	Pedro Machado	Alternate (Brazil) (Day 1)
The Netherlands	Wijnand van IJssel	Member
Norway	Even Stormoen	Member
	Daniel van Gilst	Alternate
South Asia	Trilochan Mohapatra	Member (India)
Sweden	AnnaMaria Oltorp	Member
	Philip Chiverton	Alternate
	AnnaKarin Norling	Additional delegate
Switzerland	Michel Evéquoz	Member
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Alan Tollervey	Member
United States of America	Rob Bertram	Member
	Eric Witte	Alternate
West Asia & North Africa	Rasoul Zare	Member (Iran)
	İlhan Aydın	Alternate (Turkey)
	Merve Altan	Additional delegate (Turkey)
World Bank	Mark Cackler	Member
	Michael Morris	Alternate

Non-voting Ex-Officio Members

Organization/Role	Name
System Management Board, Chair	Marco Ferroni
System Organization, Executive Director	Elwyn Grainger-Jones
Center Representative 1: Convener of the Chairs of Center Boards of Trustees	Nicole Birrell
Center Representative 2: Convener of the Center Directors General	Gareth Johnstone
Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Bukar Tijani (Member) Selvaraju Ramasamy (Alternate)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Malu Ndavi (Alternate)

Active Observers

Organization/Role	Name
CGIAR Independent Science for Development Council (ISDC)	Holger Meinke (Chair)

Invited guests

Organization/Role	Name
Trustee of the CGIAR Trust Fund (the World Bank)	Darius Stangu
	Chalida Chararnsuk
	Jorge Fuentes Lanza
	Lydia Tietz
	Marizmelda Dugayo
France, Chair of CRAI (Commission de la Recherche Agricole Internationale)	Bernard Hubert
France, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation	Frederic Lapeyrie
CGIAR System Council's Assurance Oversight Committee (AOC), Chair	Saad Bounjoua
CGIAR Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA), Chair	Karen Macours

Additional Invitees

Organization	Name
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland	Chris Sommerville
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark	Mike Speirs
CGIAR Independent Science for Development Council (ISDC)	Andrew Ash
CGIAR Independent Science for Development Council (ISDC)	Chris Barrett

Session specific invitees

Organization	Name
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	James Birch, Senior Program Officer, Government Relations - Agenda item 6 only
United States of America	Maura Barry, Senior Deputy Assistant to the Administrator Bureau for Resilience and Food Security (USA) - Agenda item 4 only
MOPAN	Mitch Levine; Francis Watkins - Agenda item 4 only

System Council Secretary

Karmen Bennett, Secretary to the System Council, and Director, Board and Council Relations, CGIAR System Organization

Technical resource/operational support

Organization	Name/Role
European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD)	Nathalie Oberson, Executive Secretary
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Thomas Moritz, Lead Counsel for the Bureau for Food Security
World Bank	Jonathan Wadsworth, Lead Climate Change Specialist
CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat	Allison Grove Smith, Director
CGIAR System Internal Audit Function	Madina Bazarova, Head
CGIAR System Organization (Technical inputs for sessions; meeting management; logistics support)	Jamie Craig, Director, Financial and Digital Services
	Elise Perset, Director, Legal and Office Services
	Sonja Vermeulen, Director, Programs
	André Zandstra, Director, Funder and External Engagement
	Kristina Röing de Nowina, Deputy Director, Funder and External Engagement (Day 2)
	Andrew Smith, Deputy Director, Board and Council Relations
	Georgios Solomos, Senior Advisor, Risk Management
	Roland Sundstrom, Senior Advisor, CGIAR System Organization
	Nadia Manning-Thomas, Board and Council Relations Manager
	Olwen Cussen, Board and Council Relations Coordinator
Victoria Pezzi, Meetings and Events Coordinator	

Session specific technical resource/operational support

Organization	Name/Role
CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat	Amy Beaudreault, Senior Manager - Agenda item 4 only
CGIAR System Organization (Technical inputs for sessions)	Jules Colomer, Senior Manager, Results & Program Performance - Agenda Item 4 only
	Ekaterina Krivonos, Deputy Director, Programs - Agenda item 2 only