

System Council reconciliation

Purpose

This document presents the background to a previous System Council decision to extend reconciliation of Funder seating on the CGIAR System Council to 2021 and a current proposal to revisit the System Council reconciliation in the context of the transition to One CGIAR.

Action Requested

The System Council is requested approve a proposal to revisit the reconciliation of the System Council in 2022, when the elements of One CGIAR can be used as an important basis for defining appropriate methods and processes for the reconciliation of Funder and other seats of the System Council.

Special notice on 'Consent Agenda' status of this document

This item is presented to the System Council according to Article 7.1(a) of the System Council's Rules of Procedure, permitting a 'consent agenda' consisting of items that require formal System Council decision but are submitted as a group for adoption by the System Council without discussion.

Further to the rules of procedure, **should a System Council member or Active Observer wish to remove an individual item from the Consent Agenda, that request should be communicated to the Secretary of the System Council by close of business Paris time on Thursday 25 February 2021.**

Document category: Working document of the System Council

There is no restriction on the circulation of this document

Prepared by: CGIAR System Organization

Background

1. At its 7th meeting hosted by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle, USA, the System Council discussed and agreed to extend the reconciliation of the 15 Funder seats of the System Council to align with the approved CGIAR System 3-Year Business Plan¹.
2. The original decision- *SC/M7/DP4: Extend reconciliation of Funder seating*
The System Council agreed to align the reconciliation of the 15 Funder seats of the System Council with the business plan concept, such that the reconciliation should take place at the start of the third year of each business cycle based on contributions made during the three prior calendar years; and accordingly agreed to extend the reconciliation period to end 2020 for this first cycle, such that the reconciliation calculations will be undertaken in Q1 2021 (to cover the period 1 January 2016 – 31 December 2020), and the revised System Council 15 Funder seats will operate with effect from 1 July 2021.
3. After this decision, the System Council endorsed, in November 2019, the package of recommendations by the System Reference Group for One CGIAR², with key milestones in the transition to One CGIAR taking place in 2020 and 2021.
4. With the implementation of One CGIAR ongoing, current System Council Funder members are playing key roles in areas including the following, which would not be optimal to disrupt at this important time:
 - a. **Informed members of the collective System Council** undertaking key decision-making and providing strategic guidance on elements of the transition to One CGIAR;
 - b. **System Council Funder representatives on Investment Advisory Groups (IAGs)** which are providing advice to the process of developing the 2022-2024 Investment Plan and CGIAR Initiatives;
 - c. **Members of the Funder Champion Group** which is advising on and providing stewardship in the planning of key pledging moments in the resource mobilization pathways for One CGIAR; and
 - d. **Individual advocates for One CGIAR** in funding governments and organizations towards enabling strengthened political and financial support.
5. The transition to One CGIAR involves key milestones in 2021 around investment, including the offer from CGIAR as reflected in the 2022-2024 Investment Plan and Initiatives, as well as important moments for pledging of financial commitments in support of One CGIAR. There should be an opportunity for this relevant point of investment to play an important role in determining the future membership of the System Council as it carries out its mandate to keep under review the strategy, mission, impact and continued relevancy of CGIAR.

¹ SC/M7/DP12: CGIAR System 3-Year Business Plan (2019-2021). The System Council approved the CGIAR System 3-Year Business Plan (2019-2021), as set forth in meeting document SC7-02.

² https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarg/2019/11/SC9-02_SRG-Recommendations-OneCGIAR.pdf

Proposed adjustment to timing

6. With the 2022-2024 Investment Plan and first set of CGIAR Initiatives anticipated to be approved and financed in time for an early 2022 roll-out as well as the integrated operational structure enabling new systems and mechanics to be in place, this provides an important basis for planning and operationalizing the investment calculations to be applied for reconciliation of the System Council.
7. The System Council is invited to consider a more optimal timing for undertaking steps to reconciliation of the System Council when the elements of One CGIAR can be used as an important basis for defining appropriate methods and processes for the reconciliation of Funder and other seats of the System Council.
8. The System Council is therefore asked to approve the proposal to revisit the reconciliation of the System Council in 2022.