



Nomenclature Change: CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat

Purpose

This document sets out the background to and rationale for an administrative decision requested of the System Council, to enact a change in name for the CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat in relevant governing and policy documents.

Action Requested

The System Council is requested to **approve** the amendment of CGIAR's governing instruments and all relevant governing policy documents to change any and all references to CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat to CGIAR's Independent Advisory and Evaluation Service.

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 Wednesday 13 July 2022.**

Document category: Working document of the System Council

There is no restriction on the circulation of this document

Prepared by: System Council Secretariat (in coordination with CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat)

Background and Rationale

1. The System Council-endorsed integrated operational structure included a ‘holding title’ for the function of the CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat. Following the structure’s endorsement¹, consultations on a future name were undertaken with, and with support from, the System Council’s Strategic Impact Monitoring & Evaluation Committee (‘SIMEC’), CGIAR executive management and other stakeholders.
2. Following those consultations, it is proposed that CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat’s name would change to CGIAR’s **Independent Advisory and Evaluation Service**.
3. The change in name befits the purpose described in the [CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat Terms of Reference](#) (2018), namely the three coordinated functions it provides, including evaluation. The name seeks to identify more clearly where independent evaluation services rest in the overall CGIAR architecture, taking up important feedback from the [2019 MOPAN assessment of CGIAR](#).
4. The nomenclature change is in keeping with the operating modality and service the office provides, *viz*, operational support services to external groups that provide independent advice (namely in its capacity as the secretariat of the Independent Science for Development Council and of the Standing Panel on Impact Assessment); and implementation activities to fulfill the System’s multi-year independent evaluation plan.
5. The name will be used in conjunction with boilerplate text: CGIAR’s **Independent Advisory and Evaluation Service** *provides operational support as the secretariat for the Independent Science for Development Council and the Standing Panel on Impact Assessment, and implements CGIAR’s multi-year, independent evaluation plan as approved by the System Council*.
6. A System Council decision is therefore requested to make conforming drafting amendments to several formally approved terms of reference, and policies that then mention the name of the Advisory Services Shared Secretariat.
7. Consistent with CGIAR’s commitment to transparency, the documents, with the adjusted nomenclature, would continue to be published on www.cgiar.org and would have a note included on the first page that explains that with effect from the System Council’s decision, should it be approved, nomenclature was changes from ‘CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat’ to ‘CGIAR’s Independent Advisory and Evaluation Service’. No change to the substantive content or operational effect of any governing instrument, terms of reference, policy or any other document will occur.
8. Such documents include:
 - [Terms of Reference of CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat](#)
 - [Terms of Reference of Independent Science for Development Council](#)

¹ Decision Reference SC/M12/DP3, 3 March 2021

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- [Terms of Reference of Standing Panel on Impact Assessment](#)
- [CGIAR System Framework](#) and the [Charter of the CGIAR System Organization](#)²
- [CGIAR Evaluation Framework](#) and [Policy](#), with associated guidelines
- Hosting agreements held between CGIAR System Organization³ and CGIAR Centers on behalf of CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat
- Any other governing instrument, policy, information note or other document in which the nomenclature “CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat” is used.

² For substantive content changes, approval by the System Board and two-thirds of CGIAR Research Centers would be required. However, in this instance, such approval will not be sought as the only change is in nomenclature and not function or role. Naturally, the System Board and Board Chairs Network will receive a copy of this paper in advance of the System Council to be well-informed.

³ [Agreement regarding the headquarters of the CGIAR System Organization and its privileges and immunities on French territory](#)