

## **Forthcoming System Council meetings**

### **Proposed Dates and Locations for 2023 and 2024**

#### **Purpose**

This document sets out a proposal for dates and locations for System Council formal meetings sessions to end-2024. It seeks to balance inputs received from System Council members and wider stakeholders on optimal meeting locations.

#### **Action Requested**

The System Council is requested to provide inputs to support finalization of a meeting schedule.

<p><b>Document category:</b> Working document of the System Council. There is no restriction on the circulation of this document</p>
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Prepared by: Secretary to the System Council

## Background

1. Since the System Council's formation in July 2016, it has held 18 formal meetings (including the current one), hosted by a variety of Funders and CGIAR Centers as well as virtually. An overview of these is as follows:

Region	Number of Meetings	Most recent
<i>Virtual</i>	7	<i>July 2022</i>
Europe	4	March 2022
Central/South America	2	Nov 2017
North America	2	May 2023
Africa	1	May 2019
Southeast Asia	1	Nov 2019
Australia/Pacific	1	Nov 2022

2. Several System Council members have indicated a preference to meet where possible in the Global South, specifically in countries where CGIAR research is implemented. In addition, a number of CGIAR Centers have indicated their wish to host the System Council at their headquarters or regional offices.
3. The proposal below builds on that feedback, and is presented for System Council input to inform proceeding with arrangements. In addition, should any System Council funder wish to offer to host a future System Council meeting, such offers are welcomed through the System Council Secretary.

## Proposed meeting dates/venues for 2023-2024

Meeting #	Date(s)	Proposed Location	Rationale
SC19	16-20 October 2023 Q4	Rabat or Marrakech, Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted by a Center – the ability to showcase the great partnership work with national partners and crops in the field</li> <li>• Opportunity to interact with CGIAR's breeders (Genetic Innovation team also meeting in Morocco at that time)</li> <li>• African Breeders Association is also meeting at the time, another partnership opportunity to meet with the National Agricultural Research and Extension System (NARES) actors</li> <li>• CWANA region, to date, has not hosted an SC meeting</li> </ul>
SC20	Q2 2024 (Late- May/early June)	Latin America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brazil or Colombia proposed (and offers to host are welcome)</li> <li>• Shortly following Embrapa's 50 years – the opportunity to showcase the work of a National system partner</li> <li>• Last held in Latin America in 2017</li> <li>• Opportunity to see work in the fields, Genebanks, and meet the scientists working in the region</li> </ul>
SC21	Q4 2024	Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new DGs for Centers in Africa, i.e. AfricaRice, IITA and ILRI, would be completing the first year in office. There is an opportunity to showcase some of their accomplishments in the position.</li> <li>• Opportunity to have a closer view of the impact of the initiatives in various countries where the Centers are located.</li> <li>• Potential hosts might include AfDB (SC member) or a CGIAR Center in any of these countries, i.e. Benin, Ethiopia, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa (noting that the SC visited Ethiopia in 2019)</li> </ul>