



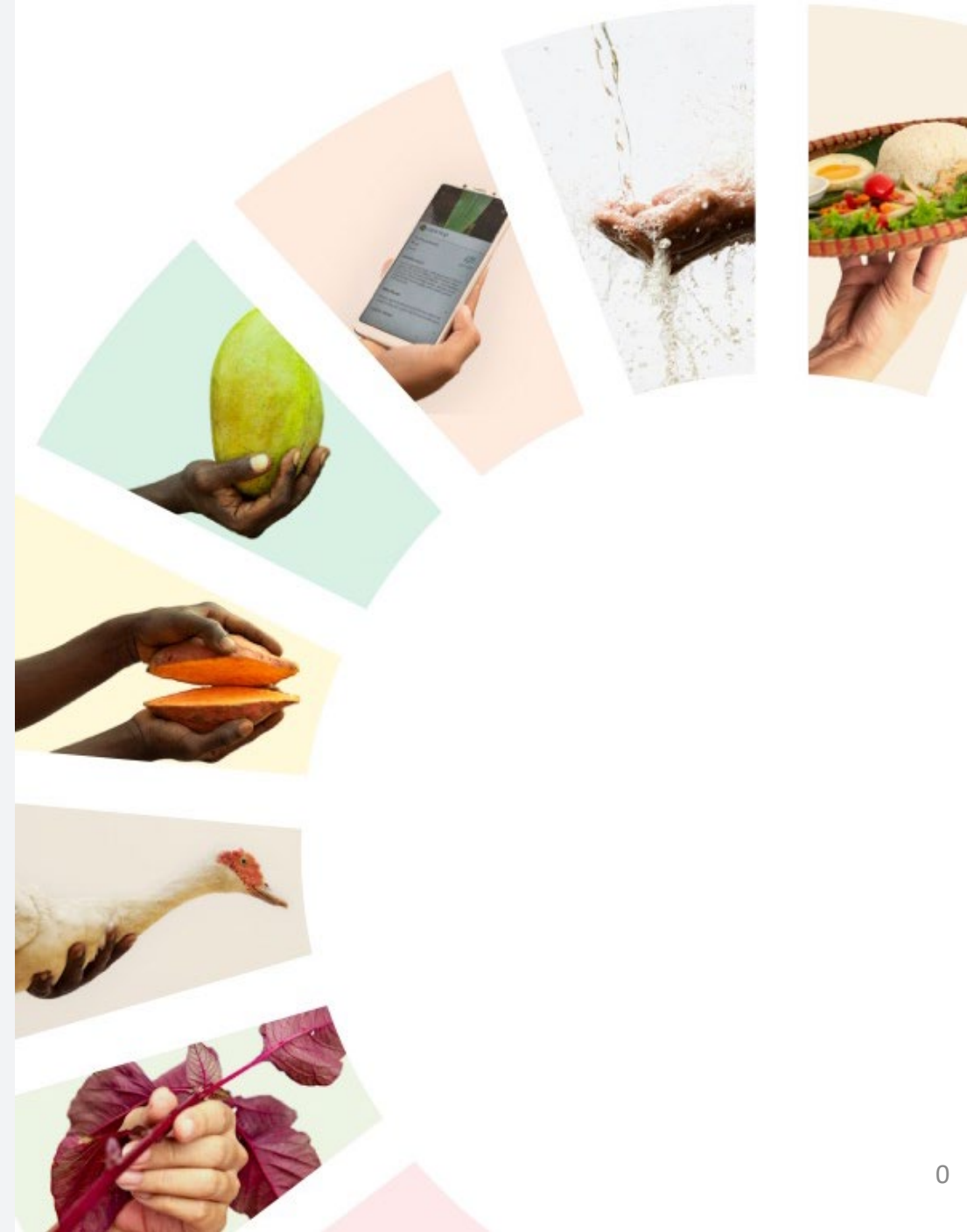
Agenda Item 19  
**Document: SC19-19**  
For information  
Issued: 10 October 2023

## Report from the Strategic Impact, Monitoring & Evaluation Committee (SIMEC)

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Purpose: For information: This document sets out an overview of SIMEC's activities and areas of focus during 2023.

SIMEC met once in person and virtually on three occasions during 2023 – in addition to activities undertaken on an electronic basis between sessions; and service of its members on CGIAR nominations and assessment panels.



## Advisory Bodies

### SIMEC role from its TOR

(Para 2) Advise and make recommendations to the System Council in relation to:

- a. Approval of the ToR for the [...] advisory bodies or committees of the System Council [...] related to strategic impact, monitoring or evaluation
- b. Review and endorsement of the Advisory Bodies annual work programs and budgets

### **SPIA – recommendations/activities included:**

- Provided feedback on and endorsed SPIA's proposed new operating model (approved during SC18)

### **IAES/ISDC/Evaluation – recommendations/activities included:**

- Reviewed and endorsed the proposed changes to the IAES TOR.
- Provided feedback on and endorsed the 2024 work programs for IAES, ISDC, SPIA, and Evaluation. Budgets are under review.

### **Upcoming priorities:**

- Review of Advisory Bodies' self-assessments.

## Advisory Bodies (cont.)

### SIMEC role from its TOR

(Para 1) Advise and guide the SC on any gaps, challenges, and synergies related to the Advisory Bodies.

(Para 2) Evaluate Advisory Bodies' effectiveness in fulfilling their functions

### ISDC program of work

- ISDC appreciated the support of SIMEC in communications, timely planning of the Science Forum, input to the workplan, and feedback on the effective utilization of the organization's capabilities.

### Evaluations endorsed by the SC in 2023 on SIMEC's recommendation

- Evaluation of CGIAR GENDER Platform – the report was broadly supported by SIMEC members, who provided suggestions that were incorporated into the final report approved by the System Council.

### Ongoing Evaluations and upcoming priorities

- Evaluation of CGIAR Genebank Platform – SIMEC members provided input to and endorsement of the evaluation TOR and will review the final report (anticipated Q4 2023).
- Evaluability assessments of Regional Integrated Initiatives – SIMEC members provided significant input to and endorsed the TOR. The synthesis report will be discussed during SIMEC's Q4 meeting

# Appointments, Nominations, and Succession Planning

## SIMEC role from its TOR

(Para 3) SIMEC shall provide advice or recommendations to the SC in relation to:

- a. Selection of ISDC Chair and members
- b. Selection of Head of IAES
- c. Selection of the SPIA Chair

## Selection of SPIA Chair

- Interim SIMEC Chair served as the CGIAR SPIA Nominations Panel Chair. In line with the Panel's TOR (as approved by the SC), they carried out a process to recommend a new SPIA Chair.
- SIMEC members endorsed the recommendation.

## Communications and Building Cohesive Relationships

### SIMEC role from its TOR

(Para 4) ... SIMEC shall provide advice to, and act as liaison between, the Advisory Bodies and the System Organization to ensure and initiate improved communication, transparency of discussions and recommendations... and ensure a CGIAR-wide cohesive, effective, and efficient approach

### Improving communication between Advisory Bodies and System Organization

- SIMEC members received an update on the Performance and Results Management System (PRMS) Advisory Report (joint exercise between Internal Audit and IAES). Members endorsed the Report, praising the progress demonstrated to date and the success of the PRMS. System Council received this report for their information.
- SIMEC Interim Chair met with the Global Head, Portfolio Performance Unit and the IAES Director to jointly discuss 2024 work planning and priorities, in the run-up to the SC endorsement of the new research programme.

## Evolution of SIMEC

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- In early 2023, SIMEC reviewed its TOR and decided that that the SC would be better served if SIMEC had a more limited, clearer and targeted mandate setting out three core deliverables. The System Council adopted the revised TOR during SC18.
- During SC18, the SC recommended that a permanent Chair be appointed to SIMEC. This has been postponed until the Unified Governance Report is released.
- Membership changes: Raphael Nawrotzki stepped down from the committee on 31 July, 2023. In August 2023, the SC approved the appointments of Thomas Miethbauer (Germany) and Ravi Khetarpal (South Asia) as SIMEC members until 30 June, 2026.

## SIMEC feedback survey

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- Eleven System Council members, independent committee members, CGIAR senior staff, and advisory body representatives provided feedback on SIMEC's performance to date and areas for future improvement.
- 73% strongly agreed or agreed that they understood SIMEC's mandate and that SIMEC is meeting its responsibilities well.
- All respondents reported that they find SIMEC's SC reports valuable and felt that the level of detail is appropriate. Most respondents (55%) reported that the level of interaction with SIMEC members is about right.