

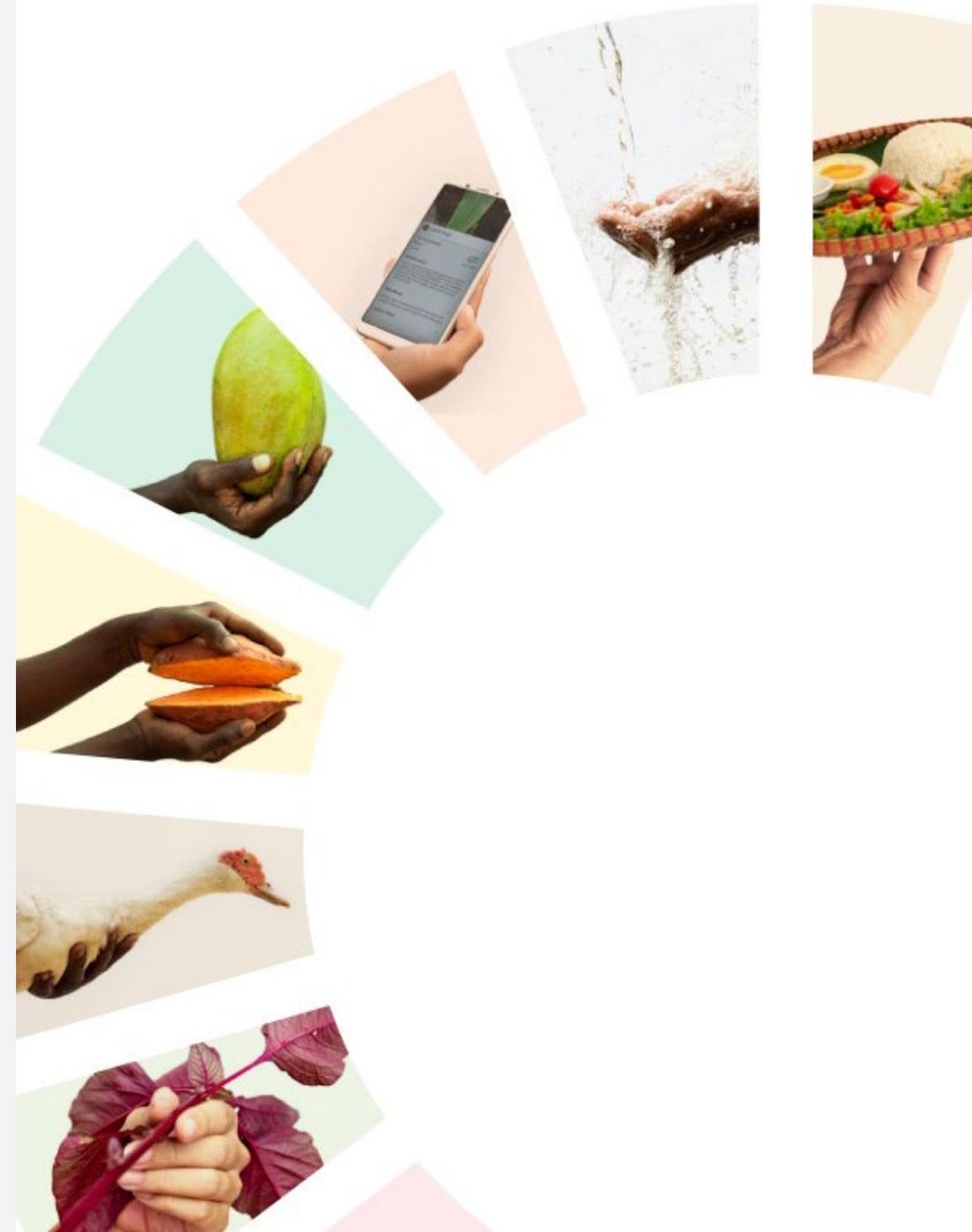


Background Resource for SC19  
Issued: 9 October 2023

## Update on actions agreed with the System Council

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Purpose: This additional resource for the System Council's 19<sup>th</sup> meeting sets out previously agreed action points and decision requests and an update on the status of their completion.



## Open action from previous meetings (SC18)

Action  
SC/M18/AP4

“The System Council requested that the System Board Chair actively facilitate the formal and inclusive integration of Centers not party to the Integrated Framework Agreement (IFA) into One CGIAR.”

Implementation  
progress

- The System Board and ICRISAT Board’s Chairs issued a joint statement on 30 August 2023 on ICRISAT’s intent to sign the IFA. The System Board has held regular discussions on progress.
- The SB Chair has had two virtual discussions with the CEO of CIFOR/ICRAF and intends to have an in person discussion later in October 2023. In addition, CIFOR/ICRAF has reached out to CGIAR with various questions regarding the IFA, to which a response was sent by the CGIAR Global General Counsel.

Milestone of  
completion

- *Subject to outcomes of discussions and potential decisions to be taken by the respective Boards of ICRISAT and CIFOR-ICRAF*

## Open action from previous meetings (SC18)

Action  
SC/M18/AP7

“The System Council requested that the Secretariat make arrangements for the next three regular meetings on the following proposed dates and locations:

- SC19: week of 16-20 October 2023, Morocco (hosted by ICARDA)
- SC20: Q2 2024 (early June), Latin America
- SC21: Q4 2024, Africa”

Implementation  
progress

- SC20 Q2 2024. Discussions are ongoing with Brazil for Embrapa to host SC20. No confirmation yet. Also, parallel outreach was made to Colombia as the current voting member of the LAC constituency for possible hosting of the SC20. SC21 outreach to commence in January 2024.

Milestone of  
completion

- SC19 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023 Rabat, Morocco, hosted by ICARDA.

## Completed action from previous meetings (SC18)

Action  
SC/M18/AP1

“The System Council Secretary is requested to include as standing agenda items both: i) gender in CGIAR’s research; and ii) gender, diversity and inclusion in the workplace, to facilitate the monitoring and advancement of CGIAR’s efforts to foster an inclusive research environment. ”

Implementation  
progress

**Completed at this meeting** – status below – recognizing that this is an ongoing action for all future meetings.

Milestone of  
completion

Both items included on the SC19 meeting agenda and in planning for future SC meetings.

## Completed action from previous meetings (SC18)

Action  
SC/M18/AP2

“The System Council requested that CGIAR’s Senior Leadership Team appoint a gender champion from among its members.”

Implementation  
progress

**Completed** – see details below. Communicated to the SC on 22 September 2023.

Milestone of  
completion

The EMT has agreed that the Interim EMD will serve as a gender champion until the end of his term as interim EMD.

## Completed action from previous meetings (SC18)

Action  
SC/M18/AP3

“The System Council proposed that a joint meeting between the System Council and System Board be arranged in advance of the next formal System Council meeting to consider recommendations arising from the unified governance review process.”

Implementation  
progress

- The Ad Hoc Committee on Governance has developed an approach to multistakeholder engagement on the emerging recommendations of the Unified Governance Review, which include a joint workshop session for the SC and SB, with all IFA Parties and host country representatives. System Board and System Council members will meet just prior to the workshop to discuss specific emerging findings from the independent reviewer’s work relating to System Board-System Council roles-relationship.

Milestone of  
completion

- Workshop in Rabat, 16-17 October 2023 including SB-SC pre-meeting
- Proposed working sessions in early-November 2023

## Completed action from previous meetings (SC18)

Action  
SC/M18/AP5

“Pursuant to Articles 4 and 8 of the System Framework, the System Council requested the Secretary to schedule two ad-hoc meetings for the two categories of System Council voting members (funders and developing countries hosting a Center or countries with significant agricultural systems) for the purpose of consulting and agreeing upon their constituencies.”

Implementation  
progress

Two meetings of CGIAR’s funders were held on 6 July and 21 September. For the Developing Countries Constituencies, meetings were held with 4 of these: LAC, SA, SSA and WANA. Outstanding is the meeting with the EAP constituency as the Constituency membership is not complete. Outreach has been made to Indonesia and is also ongoing with new contacts from other eligible countries in the EAP region. Conclusions will be presented to SC19.

Milestone of  
completion

- Funder Meeting 6 July with follow-up on 21 September 2023
- Constituency Meeting 14 August South Asia
- Constituency Meeting 18 August Latin America and the Caribbean
- Constituency Meeting 21 August West Asia and North Africa
- Constituency Meeting 4 September Sub-Saharan Africa

## Completed action from previous meetings (SC18)

Action  
SC/M18/AP6

“The System Council expressed support for the proposed Finance Model Reference Group and requested that management take forward nominations for Manfred Kaufmann (Switzerland) and Ruben Echeverria (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) as System Council representatives on the Group.”

Implementation  
progress

- Completed.

Milestone of  
completion

- Two meetings held, including the SC’s representatives. Further discussion on progress to date will happen during SC19.

## Completed action from previous meetings (SC15)

Part of decision  
SC/M15/DP4

“The System Council [...] requested that, as a transitional measure to future reporting on CGIAR’s contribution to the Collective Global 2030 Targets, the Executive Management Team present by mid-2023 aggregated data on the aspirational intermediate 2022 targets included in that earlier Strategy and Results Framework.”

Implementation  
progress

- Completed (see details below)

Milestone of  
completion

- Report shared on 1 August 2023.

## Completed action from previous meeting (SC14)

Action  
SC/M14/AP1

Implementation  
progress

Milestone of  
completion

Taking into account deliberations around delivery of the CGIAR Portfolio for the 2022-2024 period, the System Council noted that:

- a. **a proposal will be submitted at SC15 by the Executive Management Team for the establishment of mechanisms to enable funders to engage appropriately with the delivery of Initiatives and Impact Area Platforms;** and
- b. the Q1-2022 updated 2022-2024 CGIAR Portfolio and Designated Financing Plan will provide enhanced clarification on how mapping of funding to the CGIAR Portfolio will be adjusted over time dependent on Funder indications of available financing

- Ad hoc call held on 14 September 2022 included discussion of Science and Innovation Advisory Panels proposal, building on extensive consultations across a wide range of stakeholders. Feedback received confirmed that deeper consideration is required on the way forward, noting differing views on whether an ‘Advisory Panel’ model is appropriate, or something more dynamic.
- In order to provide more inclusive opportunities to engage, a series of drop-in calls throughout 2023 on the CGIAR Initiatives were proposed, and commenced in February 2023. A full schedule and copies of the presentations are available here: <https://www.cgiar.org/meeting-document/special-drop-in-calls-on-cgiar-initiatives-with-the-cgiar-system-council/>. These sessions were well attended and well received, and some are still in progress through Q3 2023.
- Establishing the dashboard report allows funders to view and review data generated by the Initiatives.
- Genetic Innovation established an advisory group comprising 6 System Council Funder representatives and 6 independent regional experts. The group, self-titled ‘Champions and Challengers of Genetic Innovation’, meets regularly to provide informal real-time advice to GI research and innovation.

## Open action from previous meetings (SC14)

Part of decision  
SC/M14/DP3

- [...] 5. Requested that the Secretary of the System Council bring back to the System Council by not later than 1 February 2022, a proposal for approval by the System Council to update the definition of a CGIAR Center after further consultation with Mexico.
6. Further noted that the System Organization has been requested by the System Board to make conforming changes to the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization to reflect the agreed amendments to the CGIAR System Framework, for presentation of the amended Charter for System Council electronic approval as soon as possible.

Implementation  
progress

- A proposed approach to amendments of the definition of a CGIAR Center are to be discussed at SC18 (under agenda item 10b - Approach with respect to CGIAR Centers not parties to the CGIAR Integration Framework Agreement (IFA)). Conforming changes to governing instruments would be presented on the basis of the agreed approach.

Milestone of  
completion

Subject to deliberations on planned approach.