

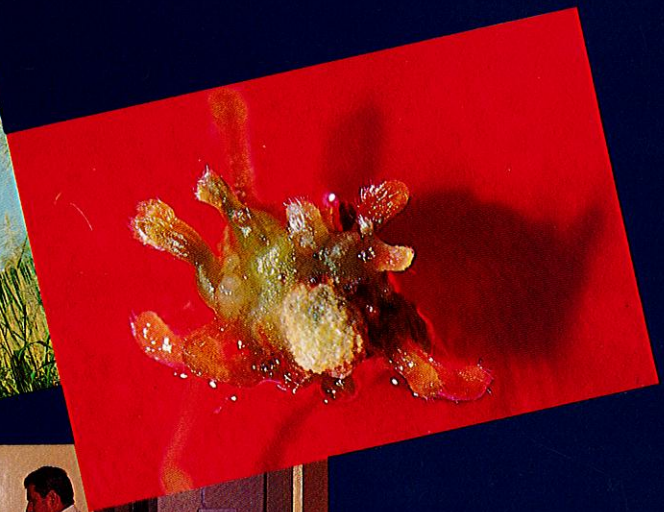


APAARI REPORT: 1993/1

**REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS
(APAARI)**

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

17 DECEMBER 1992



**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
BANGKOK, THAILAND**



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KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

17 DECEMBER 1992

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PART I

**REPORT OF THE
SECOND MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS
(APAARI)**

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

17 DECEMBER 1992

REPORT

ATTENDANCE

1. The second General Assembly Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) was held on 17 December 1992 at Asia Pacific Development Centre (APDC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, during the Expert Consultation on Technology Assessment and Transfer for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in the Asia-Pacific Region organized by the Research Development Centre, FAO, Rome. Twenty-two experts from 13 countries and international organizations participated in the Meeting either in the capacity of a member or an observer. The list of the participants is attached as Appendix I.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

2. Dr. R.B. Singh, Executive Secretary of APAARI, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Secretariat and requested the Chairman Dr. Mohd Yusof bin Hashim to conduct the proceedings of the Meeting.

3. Dr. Yusof extended a warm welcome to all the members as well as observers. He expressed his satisfaction that APAARI, being a new Institution, is now taking an organizational shape and would help in strengthening linkages among agricultural research institutions in the Region. He also expressed his appreciation for the support and Secretarial services extended by FAO Research Development Centre (AGRR), Rome, and FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok. Special mention was made of the personal support extended by Dr. B. Müller-Haye and the outstanding contributions made by Dr. R.B. Singh as the founding Executive Member Secretary of APAARI.

ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

4. The Agenda, as adopted by the Meeting, is given as Appendix II.

ITEM 2: ACTION-TAKEN REPORT

5. Dr. R.B. Singh, Executive Secretary, presented the action-taken report. First of all, he introduced Dr. R.S. Paroda, Regional Plant Production and Protection Officer at RAPA, Bangkok, who, as per the decision of the first General Assembly, would henceforth work as Executive Secretary of APAARI. While introducing Dr. Paroda, Dr. Singh mentioned that his rich experience in the field of agricultural research management would be an asset to APAARI.

6. Dr. Singh briefed the house that the constitution of APAARI was adopted in December 1990 in the first General Assembly Meeting at Bangkok, whereas the first Executive Committee Meeting was held at RAPA, Bangkok in June, 1991.

7. Pursuant to the decisions taken earlier by APAARI General Assembly and the Executive Committee, Dr. Singh informed that most of the recommendations made and activities assigned to the

Secretariat were complete even without using the APAARI funds, as support was enlisted from FAO, particularly the Research Development Centre, and a few concerned Governments and Institutions. He gave an impressive account of the activities undertaken, as under:

I. INFORMATION

- (i) It was decided in the First Meeting that APAARI should bring out a publication on technologies for sustainable agriculture in Asia and the Pacific Region. In this context, the report of the "Consultation on Technology Assessment and Transfer for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in the Asia-Pacific Region" would be published and circulated widely to all concerned in the Region. Other reading materials on the subject will also be distributed.
- (ii) Regarding earlier decision to publish success stories, manuscripts have been received from the following countries:

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| Pakistan | - | Cotton |
| Philippines | - | Tilapia Culture |
| China | - | Hybrid Rice. |

These manuscripts are being edited and will be published soon. In addition, a technology bulletin on "Rice" has recently been published and will be circulated widely (a copy was also provided in the folder). India has been reminded to fulfill its commitment to prepare the success story on cooperatives in selected sectors such as the cooperative dairy production and distribution (Anand).

- (iii) Most of the information concerning the directory of agricultural research institutions has been received, as per the format, and same is being put in the computer presently. The directory is expected to be out in the next 3-4 months.
- (iv) It is encouraging that the Secretariat has brought out both the June and December 1992 issues of APAARI Newsletter and circulated to all the members. Same would be circulated widely and efforts would be made to widen its coverage. The members and observers were urged to regularly feed the Secretariat with appropriate information.
- (v) The Australian participant particularly expressed her appreciation for the excellent efforts made by the Secretariat to bring out the Newsletter. She commended the coverage on the outcome of the Earth Summit concerning agriculture and other topical items. So much so that she found that the effort may induce the fence-sitters (like Australia) to join APAARI.

II. SERVICING OF RESEARCH NETWORKS

The Executive Secretary provided required technical backstopping to the Regional Project on Food Legumes and Coarse Grains (RAS/89/040), which is being implemented through UNDP/FAO support in 14 countries with coordinating unit in Bogor, Indonesia. A proposal concerning sustainability of this project was discussed separately, as elaborated under the Agenda Item 6.

III. MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

Concerning earlier decision to organize a Regional Training Course, a workshop-cum-training

course on bioinformatics was organized from April 7-17 1992 under the auspices of APAARI/FAO. Financial and technical supports were provided jointly by AGRR and the Government of India through the Department of Biotechnology and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Twenty one participants from ten countries, namely Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand participated.

Another training course on research management was organized by AGRR at country level in Laos.

IV. COOPERATIVE RESEARCH

In spite of earlier decision to initiate cooperative research on biological control, no action could be initiated in view of shortage of funds and lack of response from the cooperators. Suggestions were invited about priority areas in which such a collaboration could be supported in future.

V. INSTITUTE PROFILE

As per earlier decision, profiles of agricultural research institutes in the Region have been published in the APAARI Newsletter, as a regular column. These were on Indian Agricultural Research Institution, New Delhi and the Department of Agriculture, Thailand published in the issues one and two, respectively. The future issues will feature MARDI, CAAS, RDA, PCARRD and institutes from the Pacific sub-region.

ITEM 3: MEMBERSHIP OF APAARI

9. The Assembly noted that presently 13 countries, namely, China, Fiji, India, Iran, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Rep. of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Western Samoa have become members. From Philippines, besides PCARRD, recently Bureau of Agriculture (BAR) from the Ministry of Agriculture has also become a member. So far, about US\$ 42,000 (membership + interest) were deposited in the APAARI account and approximately US\$ 52,000 are expected as dues for 1991 and 1992. Rep. of Korea and Papua New Guinea were the only two countries which have paid their dues also for 1992. Others agreed to expedite the payments.

10. The Assembly requested other countries to also become members of APAARI and especially desired that Australia and Japan, being developed countries and having interest in the development of agriculture in Asia and the Pacific Region, should join and extend their full support to APAARI. The delegate from Australia endorsed these views and agreed to expedite action at her level.

11. It was also clarified that the International Research Centres could join as associate members, without voting rights, and support the various activities of APAARI, including participation in future APAARI General Assembly Meetings. Their involvement in joint support to address research needs in the Region would be welcomed.

12. The Assembly unanimously appreciated the excellent support extended to APAARI by RAPA and the Agricultural Research Centre, FAO Headquarters, in its formative stage, and desired that similar support must continue in future, especially till such time APAARI could firmly stand on its feet.

13. The delegate from Papua New Guinea suggested that, as per article VII of the APAARI constitution, new sources of funding could be tapped including some donor support. Dr. Singh clarified that once APAARI's activities become visible, it would be easier to mobilize additional funds and he urged all the members to actively participate in APAARI affairs.

ITEM 4: BUDGET FOR 1993 AND 1994

14. The budget for 1993 and 1994 as per details provides in Appendix III was approved unanimously and adopted by the Assembly. As per provision XIII of the constitution, the budget so approved will be spent as well as monitored by the Executive Secretary at RAPA, Bangkok, where already an office for APAARI has been earmarked.

15. The Assembly suggested that in future also, efforts be made to have General Assembly of APAARI linked with some expert consultation or group meeting. Help of FAO in this regard in the past was highly appreciated. Dr. Singh informed the Assembly that a regional meeting on research impact assessment may be held in Philippines in 1994 and this could be linked with the General Assembly of APAARI. Possibly, the Executive Committee could meet in 1993 at the time of ESCAP/FAO meeting on "Sensitization of Agricultural Research in Asia-Pacific Region".

ITEMS 5 AND 6: TCDC APPROACH AND FOOD LEGUME AND COARSE GRAIN REGIONAL PROJECT

16. Dr. R.S. Paroda introduced these two inter-related items. He explained the philosophy of TCDC approach and how developing countries could take advantage of the same. A handbook on TCDC, published by FAO, was also circulated.

17. The issue regarding sustainability of on-going Regional Project on Food Legumes and Coarse Grains, RAS/89/040, was also deliberated in detail.

18. The Assembly was appreciative of TCDC approach and assured that full advantage of the approach will be taken in view of joint programming exercise already done in earlier meetings held in Philippines and India. Regarding continuity of the Regional Project RAS/89/040 beyond December 1993, it was felt that a concrete proposal be prepared, spelling out priority activities to be continued in future and minimum budget needed for the purpose, presuming all member countries would like to participate and take responsibility of meeting local costs for the implementation of the programme. This exercise could be done either by hiring a consultant in the project or by FAO/RAPA and the Regional Coordinator and the concrete proposal be put up in the next Executive Committee of APAARI. In principle, it was agreed that this network is quite useful and important for many countries in the Region. The Assembly recommended that need based support should be extended for its sustainability. ICRISAT and ESCAP/CGPRT, which are currently cooperating with the Project through sub-contracting arrangements, and other regional programmes, should assist in sustaining the project.

19. Considerable interest was expressed by the Assembly for support to soybean research, production, processing and utilization. The delegate from China offered support for hosting a regional training programme in China on soybean production, processing and utilization, supported under TCP. The UNDP representative suggested that support to an interdisciplinary programme encompassing production, processing and utilization of soybean in the Region could be possible from UNDP, provided such a project is put up for consideration. He was informed by the Secretariat that FAO has already prepared such a proposal and same could be examined by UNDP for further modification/improvement, if necessary. The Assembly recommended that UNDP should consider the proposal positively. It further recommended that should the UNDP support be not available, FAO/APAARI must explore other funding possibilities.

ITEM 7: FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF APAARI - SUGGESTIONS

20. The Assembly suggested that topical regional seminars/conferences be organized by more and more member countries and circulars on such meetings sent to all concerned. It also suggested that annual reports and other publications be shared by all the members of APAARI. It further wanted a good follow-up by the Secretariat, where members could possibly be reminded periodically about action to be taken at their level based on previous decisions.

21. The UNDP representative suggested that in case any research management system in a country wants to have a study made for its possible reorganization for improved efficiency, UNDP will be willing to provide resources for the same. However, a request to this effect must come from the organization/Government concerned.

22. The Assembly noted that there are veritable modes of links between research, technology generation and agricultural development, with varying efficiencies and successes. It felt that it would be useful to critically study and document the existing modes and share with all countries in the Region so that the successful experiences could be adapted by other countries. The Assembly also noted that the extent and mode of funding support to agricultural research and its impact vary considerably from country to country. A critical analysis of this aspect would also provide guidelines for policy makers and research managers in deploying their financial resources in a rational and efficient manner. The Assembly suggested that high level consultants should be engaged to undertake the studies.

23. Suggestions for starting some new activities in the Region as well as for cooperative research in priority areas were invited and it was suggested that the proposals be sent to APAARI Secretariat for scrutiny and possible funding within available resources.

24. Regarding logo of APAARI, all were requested to have the entries sent by February and also give wide publicity.

ITEM 8: ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

25. The APAARI General Assembly, as per constitution, invited nominations for the next Executive Committee as the term of the present Committee would expire on 31 December 1992. The Assembly unanimously elected the following office bearers of the APAARI Executive committee for 1993-94.

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Chairman: | Rep. of Korea: | Dr. Yong Hwa Shin |
| Vice-Chairman: | Papua New Guinea: | Mr. Ted C. Sitapai |
| Members: | 1. China: | Prof. Wang Lianzheng |
| | 2. Pakistan: | Dr. Zafar Altaf |
| | 3. Philippines: | Dr. C.B. Perez |
| | 4. Thailand: | Dr. Vichit Benjasil |
| Executive Secretary: | FAO/RAPA | Dr. R.S. Paroda |

26. The Assembly placed on record its sincere appreciation for the outgoing Executive Committee, especially the Chairman Dr. Yusof and the Executive Secretary Dr. R.B. Singh for their valuable services rendered to APAARI in its formative stage. The Assembly congratulated the new Executive Committee Members.

ITEM 9: REGION'S REPRESENTATION AT THE CGIAR

27. Dr. B. Müller-Haye, Chief, Agriculture Research Development Centre, FAO, Rome, introduced the agenda item. He informed that FAO, World Bank and UNDP are the major co-sponsors of the CGIAR system, which is presently funding 18 International Agricultural Research Centres and Services (IARC). At FAO Regional Conferences, two Regional Representatives to the CGIAR are elected for two years with possibility of one-term reelection who attend the CGIAR Inter Centres Week (ICW) and mid-term meetings. The objective of having Regional Representatives is to give developing countries a stronger voice in guiding the CGIAR and its IARCs in research policy and planning. They also are supposed to provide regional priorities to the CGIAR and inform countries of their constituencies about CGIAR discussions and decisions. At present, India and Western Samoa are representing the Region, but unfortunately both representatives were not able to attend the APAARI meeting although travel funds were available.

28. Most of the members expressed their concern that none of the two representatives have attended this meeting or else it would have provided the right forum for them to interact with national research leaders and have an assessment of regional needs. This kind of interaction is necessary and in future efforts should be made to elect only those members who could commit themselves to the cause and attend all such meetings.

ITEM 10: ANY OTHER ITEM

29. The Chairman, before closing, invited suggestions for any additional item. Having received no response, Dr. Yusof concluded that the new Executive Committee has enormous responsibility to further strengthen APAARI and enhance its visibility. He also assured of his continued support.

30. The Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

APPENDIX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

- AUSTRALIA**
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- LAOS**
Mr. Bountiep Chouthavong
Director
Centre national de recherche agricole, Vientiane

APPENDIX I

- MALAYSIA**
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 Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute
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- PAPUA NEW GUINEA**
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- VIET NAM**
 Dr. Nguyen Huu Nghia
 Deputy Director
 Vietnam Agricultural Science Institute
 Van Dieu - than Tri, Hanoi
- UNITED NATIONS
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 AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP)**
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 Director
 Centre for Coarse Grain, Pulses, Root and
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- PACIFIC INSTITUTE FOR
 RESEARCH, EXTENSION
 AND TRAINING IN
 AGRICULTURE (IRETA)**
 Dr. A. de S. Liyanage
 Associate Director (Research)
 University of South Pacific (IRETA)
 Alafua Campus, Private Bag, Apia

APPENDIX I

**SOUTHEAST ASIAN
REGIONAL CENTRE FOR
GRADUATE STUDY AND
RESEARCH IN
AGRICULTURE (SEARCA)**

Prof. Arturo Gomez
Agronomist/Farming System Expert
Director
SEARCA
Los Banos, Manila

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION, ROME**

Dr. Müller-Haye
Chief, Research Development Centre

Dr. R.B. Singh
Senior Officer, Research Development Centre

Dr. R. Kwaschik
Scientific Officer, Research Development Centre

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION, REGIONAL
OFFICE, RAPA, BANGKOK**

Dr. R.S. Paroda
Regional Plant Production and Protection Officer

APPENDIX II

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION
OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)**

DATE : 17 DECEMBER, 1992

TIME : 09.00 - 12.00

AGENDA

- Item 1. Adoption of Agenda
- Item 2. Action Taken Report - Executive Secretary
- Item 3. Membership of APAARI - A Report
- Item 4. Budget of APAARI for 1993 and 1994 - Its Approval
- Item 5. TCDC Approach - Priority Areas
(Proposal for Network on Soybean Production, Processing and Utilization)
- Item 6. Establishment of A Regional Network on Food Legumes and Coarse Grains - A proposal for its sustainability
- Item 7. Future Activities of APAARI - Suggestions
- Item 8. Election of Executive Committee for 1993 - 1994
- Item 9. Region's Representation at the CGIAR - A Report
- Item 10. Any Other Item.

APPENDIX III

ITEM 4. BUDGET FOR 1993 AND 1994

| ITEMS | 1993 | 1994 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Publications (Newsletter, Directory, Technical Reports, etc.) | \$ 5,000 | \$ 5,000 |
| 2. APAARI Secretariat Support: | | |
| i) Secretary/Tech. Assistant | 10,000 | 12,000 |
| ii) Office Stationery & Postage | 2,000 | 3,000 |
| iii) Miscellaneous Items | 5,000 | 2,000 |
| 3. Consultancy/Travel | 8,000 | 10,000 |
| 4. Training/Selected Research Projects Support | 10,000 | 50,000 |
| 5. Expert/Consultation General Assembly of APAARI (Partial Support) | - | 5,000 |
| TOTAL | 40,000 | 87,000 |

Funds availability position is provided in Agenda Item 3 (Part II of this report).

PART II

**AGENDA FOR THE
SECOND MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS
(APAARI)**

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

17 DECEMBER 1992

ITEM 1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

DATE : 17 DECEMBER, 1992

TIME : 09.00 - 12.00

AGENDA

- Item 1. Adoption of Agenda
- Item 2. Action Taken Report - Executive Secretary
- Item 3. Membership of APAARI - A Report
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- Item 5. TCDC Approach - Priority Areas
(Proposal for Network on Soybean Production, Processing and Utilization)
- Item 6. Establishment of A Regional Network on Food Legumes and Coarse Grains - A proposal for its sustainability
- Item 7. Future Activities of APAARI - Suggestions
- Item 8. Election of Executive Committee for 1993 - 1994
- Item 9. Region's Representation at the CGIAR - A Report
- Item 10. Any Other Item.

ITEM 2. ACTION TAKEN REPORT - EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Pursuant to the decisions taken earlier by the APAARI General Assembly and the Executive Committee, several steps concerning publications, trainings and information dissemination have been taken by the APAARI Secretariat. A detailed verbal account will be given in the meeting by the Executive Secretary, concerning following areas:

- I. Information
- II. Servicing of Research Networks
- III. Manpower Development
- IV. Cooperative Research
- V. Institute Profile

ITEM 3. MEMBERSHIP OF APAARI - A REPORT

Pursuant to the decision of APAARI General Assembly Meeting held in December, 1990, so far 13 countries from the Region have agreed to become members of APAARI since 1991. As per details provided in the enclosed Table, most of these countries, except a few, have already paid their membership for 1991. For 1992, Republic of Korea has paid the fee, whereas intimation for payment has been received from India. From Philippines, besides PCAARD, recently Bureau of Agriculture Research (BAR) has also become member of APAARI. Details of funds received so far are given in the Table. So far, no expenditure has been incurred as APAARI Secretariat has only recently been created at RAPA, Bangkok.

Following issues need to be considered:

- i) New membership of APAARI - suggestions
- ii) Payments of membership dues for 1992 and also 1993

ASIA-PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (APAARI)

STATUS OF CONTRIBUTION AS ON 31 OCTOBER 1992

(CONTRIBUTION IN US DOLLARS)

| Member Govts/ Institutions | Contribution due for 1991 received upto 31.10.92 | Outstanding for 1991 | Contribution due for 1992 received upto 31.10.92 | Outstanding for 1992 | Total Outstanding upto 31.10.92 |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| China | - | 6,000.00 | - | 6,000.00 | 12,000.00 |
| Fiji | 2,000.00 | - | - | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| India | 5,976.00 | 24.00 | - | 6,000.00 | 6,024.00 |
| Iran | - | 4,000.00 | - | 4,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| Malaysia | 4,000.00 | - | - | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| New Zealand | 6,000.00 | - | - | 6,000.00 | 6,000.00 |
| Pakistan | 4,000.00 | - | - | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| Papua New Guinea | 2,000.00 | - | - | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Philippines | 3,800.88 | 199.12 | - | 4,000.00 | 4,199.12 |
| Republic of Korea | 4,000.00 | - | 3,988.00 | 12.00 | 12.00 |
| Sri Lanka | 2,000.00 | - | - | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Thailand | 4,000.00 | - | - | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| Western Samoa | - | 2,000.00 | - | 2,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| Totals | 37,776.88 | 12,223.12 | 3,988.00 | 46,012.00 | 58,235.12 |

Saving A/C Balance as on 31 October 1992 is US\$ 42,833.55 (including interest)

ITEM 4. BUDGET FOR 1993 AND 1994

| ITEMS | 1993 | 1994 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| 1. Publications (Newsletter, Directory, Technical Reports, etc.) | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| 2. APAARI Secretariat Support: | | |
| i) Secretary/Tech. Assistant | 10,000 | 12,000 |
| ii) Office Stationery & Postage | 2,000 | 3,000 |
| iii) Miscellaneous Items | 5,000 | 2,000 |
| 3. Consultancy/Travel | 8,000 | 10,000 |
| 4. Training/Selected Research Projects Support | 10,000 | 50,000 |
| 5. Expert/Consultation General Assembly of APAARI (Partial Support) | - | 5,000 |
| TOTAL | 40,000 | 87,000 |

Funds availability position is provided in Agenda 3.
Above budget proposal is submitted for approval.

ITEM 5. TCDC APPROACH - PRIORITY AREAS

The concept of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) is being encouraged by FAO and UNDP to promote and support high priority areas identified jointly by the developing countries for regional cooperation in agriculture. A booklet on TCDC, published by FAO (already circulated), gives details concerning objective, procedure and logistics of developing and implementing TCDC programmes.

It is felt that there are several priority areas in which TCDC Project support could be obtained. APAARI could initiate formulation of such projects for consideration of UNDP/FAO in selected high priority areas.

Accordingly, matter is put up for deliberation on the subject and possible identification of high priority areas. Alternatively, each member country could take advantage of TCDC support at their own level in view of the programme exercises made last year in Philippines and India in which areas of cooperation between different countries were decided jointly.

One possible priority area for TCDC support could be on soybean production, processing and utilization in Asia-Pacific Region.

ITEM 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL NETWORK ON FOOD LEGUMES AND COARSE GRAINS - A PROPOSAL FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Asia-Pacific Region has witnessed remarkable growth rates in the production of foodgrain crops over the last three decades. The Region has shown great resilience and shed decisively the stigma of "basket case" status. While the production and productivity growth rates of major staple crops such as rice and wheat have shown an encouraging trend, the coarse grains and food legumes have somehow lagged behind. Obviously, these crops need much better support both for the research and development activities, besides appropriate policy support for their promotion. In order to meet this concern, FAO initiated a regional project (RAS/82/002) in May, 1983 under UNDP support for 5 years. The project was named as 'Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) for the Research and Development of Food Legumes and Coarse Grains in the Tropics and Sub-Tropics of Asia'. During this phase, the major achievement of the project were an increased awareness of the need to mobilize resources to improve their production and establishment of a network system for the exchange of information, material, human resource development through study tours, workshops and trainings, and the publication of newsletter and reports.

The project was further extended for a second phase by UNDP as RAS/84/040 with effect from 1 March, 1990 for a period of three years. The main aim of the present programme is to encourage TCDC approach for strengthening national capabilities for sustained and improved production, distribution and utilization of coarse grains and food legumes in Asia. In the second phase, ICRISAT is also involved for adapted on-farm trials and ESCAP, CGPRT Centre in Indonesia is also sub-contracted for the socio-economic research at the macro-economic level. The Regional Office support is being provided presently by the Central Research Institute of Food Crops at Bogor by the Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia. Dr. D.M. Tantera is the Regional Coordinator of this programme. A brief account of the activities undertaken and proposed to be taken up is given in enclosed note prepared by the Regional Coordinator, enumerating past accomplishments and future opportunities.

As stated above, the second phase of the project is likely to be completed by December, 1992. It is very likely that FAO/UNDP may agree for its continuation upto December, 1993 in view of possible savings. Hence, this important regional activity would seize to have funding support in 1993, whereas considering the importance of this programme and commitment to pursue cooperation in this field by all the countries concerned, it is desirable to have continuity of this effort in the spirit of technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC), so that benefits of such an effort are reaped by all the member countries. Accordingly, it is proposed that APAARI General Assembly as well as Executive Committee may deliberate as to how this useful Regional Programme could be supported. Possibly, APAARI could form this as a Network with some funding support to provide facilities for coordination and approach UNDP/FAO for a TCDC Project provided agreed to by all the member countries involved in the on-going programme.

Submitted for deliberation and decision by APAARI.

FAO/RAS/89/040

PREVIOUS PROJECT RAS/82/002

FAO provides support for strengthening agriculture systems to its member countries. Among its concerns were, how to improve food production by small farmers in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific region. To meet this concern, FAO initiated RAS/82/002 in May 1983 entitled the Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) for the Research and Development of Food Legumes and Coarse Grains in the Tropics and Sub-topics of Asia. It was funded with \$ 860,000 by UNDP for a period of 5 years and terminated in June 1989. Among its main achievements were an increased awareness among Asian countries of the need to mobilize resources to improve food legumes and coarse grains, and the provision of a forum for exchange of information, ideas, and materials through newsletter, germplasm exchange, study tours, workshops, and training courses. In its activities RAS/82/002 worked closely with NARCs and IARCs. The project used the TCDC approach and encouraged sharing of experience and information through networking. The Project trained 260 mid-level researchers and distributed 150 improved crop varieties for in-country adaptive tests and evaluation.

PRESENT PROJECT RAS/89/040: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Based on the positive results of Project RAS/82/002, the UNDP has provided \$ 2.4 million over three years effective 1 March 1990, for a second phase called RAS/89/040 - Regional Cooperative Programme for Improvement of Food Legumes and Coarse Grains in Asia. The RAS/89/040 Project Document states that the main aims of this programme is to fully utilize the TCDC approach in strengthening national capabilities to provide improved and sustained production, distribution, and utilization of food legumes and coarse grains in Asia. This will in turn lead to the adoption of improved technologies and commitment to appropriate policies and strategies by each member country.

The major function of the RAS/89/040 Project is to expand and strengthen a regional cooperative network to share experience, information, expertise, and germplasm among the cooperating countries. When the Project's objectives are fulfilled, manpower, activities in research and technology generation, commitment to extension, post-harvest handling and processing of FLCG Crops in the region would be improved. The adoption of some of the technologies by farmers will result in more stable yields of FLCG Crops in rainfed and other stressed areas, higher income of the farmers, and either expand or create new employment opportunities. National food security will be strengthened and improved.

EXECUTION

The Project is executed by FAO and implemented by AARD-CRIFC (Agency for Agricultural Research and Development-Central Research Institute for Food Crops) of Indonesia. The fund is channeled to three main activities; \$ 1.58 million to provide an effective network for the activities, \$ 660,000 subcontracted to ICRISAT for adapted on-farm trials (AGLOR), and \$ 220,000 subcontracted to ESCAP-CGPRT Centre for socio-economic research at the macro economic level.

ACCOMPLISHMENT AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Project activities have been underway for over 24 months. Among these are the First Regional Coordination Committee Meeting held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China in June 1990, followed by participation in an International Soybean Processing and Utilization Conference in Gongzhuling, and a Study

Tour to Southern China in July 1990. From August-November, three training courses were conducted in Thailand involving 30 participants; a Workshop on Unexploited and potential food legumes was held with 40 participants in Thailand; and a workshop on soybean yield gaps was co-sponsored jointly with ESCAP-CGPRT Centre. The list of meetings and TC appears in Appendix I. Two Workshops were attended by RC related to CGPRT component: one on Comparative Advantage Analysis of CGPRT Crops in Bogor and the other on Changes in Food Consumption and its Efforts on Production of Upland Crops in Kandy, Sri Lanka. Two planning meetings of the ICRISAT component, AGLOR, were attended by the Project Coordinator; one was in the Malang Research Institute for Food Crops (MARIF), in Indonesia and the other at ICRISAT Centre, Hyderabad.

RAS/89/040 has shared experience and knowledge among its member countries by publishing the Food Legumes and Coarse Grains Newsletter, a quarterly. Two thousand copies were printed and sent by UN pouch service to member countries for distribution.

Indonesia's location in Asia makes it suitable for coordinating networking activities. The country also provides a very variable FLCG Crops production environment. The AARD, of the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture in Indonesia, has supported this activity. The programme is fully supported by the FAO country representative and the UNDP Resident Representative in each member country which had provided backup to the network.

RAS/89/040 will continue to support NARC programmes by providing training and information exchange, shared experiences, and germplasm exchange. The recent workshop on unexploited and potential food legumes has recommended that FAO support R & D of some of these food legume crops since at the present time they are not handled by any of the international institutions.

Through RAS/89/040 Project, the main activities accomplishment are:

- * Training junior research and extension personnel in processing, post-harvest handling, and utilization of FLCG.
- * Transferring technology, by building stronger links between research and extension in its member countries.
- * Organizing workshops and training, and publishing newsletters and bulletins about research/development activities.
- * Exchanging germplasm of particular interest to participating countries and providing small funds for research on some FLCG Crops which are not the responsibility of IARCs.
- * Sustaining NARCs by providing effective institution building and promoting personnel development.
- * Encouraging private R & D efforts to improve FLCG Crops of the Asian region.

About 350 scientists and officials have been trained to undertake R & D programme on FLCG Crops including adaptive research on production, utilization and socio-economic aspects at the country level. In addition, 56 scientists have been trained in current and modern food processing technologies. Eighty six medium to high level extension workers trained in on-farm trials methodology and proven technologies were already transferred to farmer.

About 200 germplasm accessions have been either exchanged, tested or multiplied for distributions among member countries. Taiwan Green, a mungbean variety from Taiwan, was gaining popularity in the Philippines. Similarly transplanted maize technology has been tested in East Java, Indonesia and looked

promising.

At present, in its third year of operation, RAS/89/040 Project concentrates its main efforts in technology transfer, socio-economic analysis and methodology, and strengthening linkages between R & D and extension.

RAS/89/040 as the Regional Cooperative Programme for Improvement of Food Legumes and Coarse Grains in Asia is assisting its 14 member countries in Asia to improve the FLCG Crops situation through 4 main efforts: production and protection of the crops, processing and utilization, socio-economic analysis, and technology transfer to the farmers.

In its operation, the Secretariat is based in Bogor, Indonesia in the ESCAP-CGPRT Building which is located at the premises of CRIFC of the AARD, Ministry of Agriculture, Rep. of Indonesia. It has continuously maintained an effective linkage with national and international institutions through various activities, training courses, seminars, workshops, regional coordination committee meetings, and small projects related to technology generations, socio-economic studies, technology transfer, pilot programmes and field demonstration trials.

The Project has 3 components: the Networking component, the CGPRT Centre component, and the ICRISAT component. In its third year of operation, the project has maintained activities which are in line with its two main objectives:

1. To assist the developing Asian countries by increasing and stabilizing production and consumption of food legumes and coarse grains in the tropics and subtropics of Asia and to bridge the gap between the growing demand and production of these nutritious and protein rich food and feed based crops for domestic needs and export market.
2. To promote an appreciation for the need of on-going inter-country cooperative activities for a continuing progress in this region.

THE PROGRESS TO DATE

The RAS/89/040 network component has conducted regional training courses, supported and organized seminars and workshops in the region, gave financial support to a number of programmes in the member countries not only to strengthen their efforts but also to obtain higher multiplier effect to the country programmes and also to obtain stronger involvement and wider coverage by the country institutions. It has also maintained two publications i.e. the "Biweekly News Bulletins" and a quarterly "FLCG Newsletter" for information dissemination and information sharing among network members.

The CGPRT component made the following studies in collaboration with selected member countries:

People's Republic of China: "Application of economic matrix in decision making support for the government and farmers on FLCG Crops production and marketing".

Malaysia: "The processing and marketing of fresh soybean milk as source of income and employment generation in Klang Valley, Malaysia".

Sri Lanka: "Post-harvest, processing and utilization of FLCG Crops in the dry zone of Sri Lanka".

The Philippines: "Economics of the operation of small-medium soybean processing plants in a selected province of the Philippines".

Thailand: "Production, marketing and utilization of soybean in Thailand".

Indonesia: "The study of processing and marketing of soybean to expand rural incomes and job opportunities in West Java".

The Centre has also assisted RAS/89/040 Secretariat in database management for FLCG Crops development in the region. Database materials being compiled at the Secretariat are: Directory of FLCG Workers in Asia, a Compendium of Food and Feed Products, A Compendium for Farm Machineries and Processing Equipment for FLCG Crops.

In the past three other activities were completed in cooperation with RAS/89/040 Secretariat: a training course on on-farm research, in Malang, East Java (Indonesia); Soybean Production in Asia in Phitsanulok (Thailand); and A Comparative Advantage Analysis Workshop in Bogor (Indonesia) as well as exposure to the RSDS system in the RAS/89/040 Working Group on Socio-economic Meeting in Chiangmai (Thailand).

In the future, a Regional Training Course on RSDS and other database is also to be conducted in February 1993.

THE ICRISAT COMPONENT

The Asian Grain Legumes On-Farm Research Programme (AGLOR) is one of the activities in ICRISAT which is being sponsored by RAS/89/040 programme.

The objective of this component is the packaging of component technology in production and protection of FLCG Crops. For this task ICRISAT utilizes an adaptive research methodology through the testing and adaptation of the component technology for production in a farming system perspective for increased and stabilized yield of its mandated crops i.e., groundnut, pigeonpea, and chickpea. The task is implemented through multidisciplinary research teams beginning with a rapid rural appraisal to decide the target area, conduct of on-farm trials for effective linkages in technology generation and also the technology transfer process with emphasis to link research-extension-farmers.

The finding and the methodology developed in these three-year activities will be discussed in the study tour on on-farm trials in Nepal and Vietnam and the subsequent workshop to be organized in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in February 1993.

THE NEED TO PROMOTE SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY AT VILLAGE LEVEL

Small scale industry in Asia has the following characters: it employs 2-20 labour force, it is mainly a family operated enterprise or through small farm cooperative, it is labour intensive in nature, and it has a low capital investment.

The strength of these enterprises is its low requirement of highly skilled labour, its suitability for income generation of the mass population in the rural areas, and its little need for capital accumulation. It is also suitable within the Asian theater for AN extended family operation which includes close and distant relatives.

In most of the developing countries in Asia, employment generation at the village level is a great problem that needs to be attended to. The studies in this sectors of knowledge are regrettably scarce.

In a workshop on processing and utilization of FLCG Crops in Asia with Special Emphasis on the role of Small Scale Industry, organized in April 1991 in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) by RAS/89/040 Project, it was clear that based on the limited study that has been completed, the role of the industry is quite significant for the absorbance of labour force.

Several forms of agriculture cooperative or semi cooperative models in small enterprise management were effectively maintained, many of them based on community development leadership or family enterprises. Socio-economic studies should assist in the development of techniques and managerial skill in trade, marketing and operation of small scale industries. We are all concerned about the high rate of urbanization occurring in many large cities of Asia. It will continue to do so unless something is being done to alleviate the problem. One of the alternatives available is the promotion of small scale industry in the rural areas.

APPENDIX 1

**LIST OF MEETING, TRAINING, WORKSHOP, CONFERENCE, AND STUDY TOUR COMPLETED
RAS/89/040 AS PER DECEMBER 1992**

| Activities | Original Scheduled Starting date | Original scheduled completion date | Actual or currently estimated starting date | Actual or currently estimated completion date | Comments |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Meeting | | | | | |
| RCCM-1 | 21-06-90 | 23-06-90 | 21-06-90 | 21-06-90 | |
| RCCM-2 | Mar./Apr. 91 | Mar./Apr. 91 | 22-04-91 | 24-04-91 | |
| RCCM-3 | Jun. 92 | Jun. 92 | 15-06-92 | 17-06-92 | |
| WGM-1 | July 91 | July 91 | 19-08-91 | 24-08-91 | |
| SCM-1 | Jun.92 | Jun.92 | 06-05-91 | 07-05-91 | |
| SCM-2 | | | 18-06-92 | 18-06-92 | |
| Regional Training Course: | | | | | |
| TC on Seed Production of FLCG | 01-10-90 | 26-10-90 | 01-10-90 | 26-10-90 | |
| TC on Quality Evaluation and Utilization of FLCG | 01-10-90 | 28-10-90 | 01-10-90 | 26-10-90 | |
| TC on Unexploited and Potential FL | 27-10-90 | 30-10-90 | 27-10-90 | 30-10-90 | |
| TC on Screening against Discases and Use of Biotechnology for Detection of Pathogens | Feb. 91 | Feb/Mar. 91 | 16-05-91 | 30-05-91 | |
| TC on Post Harvest Handling | | | | | |
| TC on Mechanisms of Host Plant Resistance to Insects in Legumes Crops (organized by ICRISAT) | Feb.91 | Feb.91 | Aug.91 | Aug.91 | Dropped by ICRISAT |
| In-service Training: | | | | | |
| Evaluation and Utilization of Germplasm of Minor Legumes and Coarse Grains | 17-06-91 | 30-06-91 | 13-10-91 | 27-10-91 | |
| On-farm Trials Post-harvest Handling, Processing and Utilization of FLCG | | | 13-05-91 | 25-05-91 | |
| National Training Course: | | | | | |
| Production of Minor Legumes | 14-11-90 | 21-11-90 | 08-04-91 | 14-04-91 | |

APPENDIX I

| Activities | Original Scheduled Starting date | Original scheduled completion date | Actual or currently estimated starting date | Actual or currently estimated completion date | Comments |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Production of Minor Coarse Grains Integrated Pest Management Technology Transfer | Apr. 91 10-09-90 | Apr. 91 20-09-90 | 20-05-91 | 27-05-91 | |
| Technology Transfer Processing and Utilization | | | | | |
| Workshop: | | | | | |
| WS on Increasing Soybean Production in Asia | 21-08-90 | 24-08-90 | 21-08-90 | 24-08-90 | RAS/89/040 as co-sponsor |
| WS on Unexported and Potential FL | 31-10-90 | 03-11-90 | 31-10-90 | 04-11-90 | |
| WS on Post-harvest Handling and Utilization of FLCG | Mar./Apr.91 | Mar./Apr. 91 | 25.04.91 | 27.04.91 | |
| WS on Extension and Technology Transfer | Feb. 93 | Feb. 93 | 18.02.93 | 20.02.93 | |
| WS on Methods and Procedures for Comparative Advantage Analysis for CGPRT Centre | 04-11-91 | 08-11-91 | 04-11-91 | 09-11-91 | RAS/89/040 as co-sponsor |
| WS on Priorities for Soybean Development in Asia | 03-12-91 | 06-12-91 | 03-12-91 | 06-12-91 | RAS/89/040 as co-sponsor |
| Conference: | | | | | |
| International Conference on Soybean Processing & Utilization | 25-06-90 | 29-06-90 | 25-06-90 | 29-06-90 | RAS/89/040 sponsored 24 participating scientists |
| Study Tour: | | | | | |
| ST on Soybean in Southern China | 30-06-90 | 03-07-90 | 01-07-90 | 05-07-90 | |
| ST on Post-harvest Handling & Processing | Apr/May 92 | Apr/May 92 | 12-06-92 | 13-06-92 | |
| ST on On-farm Research/ Technology Dissemination | Feb. 93 | Feb. 93 | 21-06-92 | 27-06-92 | |
| | | | 07-02-93 | 21-02-93 | |

ITEM 7: FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF APAARI - SUGGESTIONS

APAARI as a newly established institution would like to have its proper visibility through activities that are important for the Region and relevant to the needs of various agricultural research institutions. However, limitation of funds in the initial stage would permit APAARI to take up a few selected activities only. As such, it is proposed to continue publishing the APAARI Newsletter with wider coverage and also bring out a 'Directory of Agricultural Research Institutions'.

Some more selected activities could be initiated. Accordingly, matter is put up before General Assembly to offer suitable suggestions concerning future activities of APAARI.

ITEM 8: ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

As per Constitution of APAARI approved in 1990, Article X (para 16) reads as under:

"There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association composed of three officers, namely Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Executive Secretary, and four members. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members shall be elected by the General Assembly from among the member institutions at the biennial meeting and shall hold office until the next biennial session and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office for more than two terms. No country will have more than one representative on the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary, who shall be appointed according to Article XII paragraph 22, shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee."

Accordingly, matter is put up before the General Assembly to elect the new Executive Committee for the biennium 1993-1994.

ITEM 9: REGION'S REPRESENTATION AT THE CGIAR

In the Regional Committee Meetings of the FAO, two Regional Representatives are elected for two years term to represent the Region in the Inter Centres Week (ICW) and mid-term meetings of the CGIAR. FAO meets the cost for their participation. Presently, India and Western Samoa are representing the Asia-Pacific Region. It is felt that these two representatives must have an opportunity to interact with Senior Research Management officials in the Region in order to have a proper assessment of the needs and priority areas which could appropriately be voiced in the CG meetings.

Accordingly, both the representatives have been invited by FAO/AGRR considering that APAARI General Assembly is perhaps the right forum for achieving above objective.

The item will be introduced in the meeting by Dr. Müller-Haye, Chief, Research Development Centre, AGRR, FAO, Rome.

