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**International Centers Week 1999
October 25 - 29
Washington D.C.**

Reducing Poverty through Cutting-edge Science

Revised Draft Agenda

International Centers Week 1999 (ICW99) will take place in the Preston Auditorium of the World Bank, Washington DC, from Monday, October 25 to Friday, October 29, 1999. The draft agenda and indicative timed agenda are attached. Meeting times are:

morning:	08:30 – 12:30	(coffee break 10:30 – 11:00)
afternoon:	14:00 – 17:30	(coffee break 15:30 – 16:00)

Overview of ICW99

The focus of this year's International Centers Week is *Reducing Poverty through Cutting-Edge Science*. The agenda has been structured to allow full discussion of key aspects of this overall theme. Presentations and discussions could lead to a synthesis that can serve as a guideline for action in the next decade. Additionally, the agenda will cover a number of important business items.

The CGIAR Chairman will open ICW99 on Monday, October 25 with a policy statement entitled: *Towards a New Vision for the Future*. The meeting will thereafter address three broad aspects of the selected theme:

- impact of CGIAR research on poverty
- efforts to sharpen the science practised by the CGIAR institutions through enhanced research partnerships
- efforts to explore new scientific directions to impact poverty.

Impact of CGIAR research on poverty. Following an introduction by FAO, IFPRI will provide an update on the world food situation, on Monday. Connected presentations on the same day will be:

- a review of the recent CIAT-organized CGIAR conference on the impact of agricultural research on poverty alleviation,
- a report on the preliminary results of the IAEG/IFPRI poverty project, and
- three IAEG studies that cover the impact of CGIAR activities in (a) germplasm improvement; (b) environment, and (c) integrated pest management.

These presentations will approach the subject both from a conceptual perspective, and in terms of the specific evidence required to establish the agricultural research/poverty reduction link. These items will enhance the CGIAR's understanding of how the global agricultural research system in general and the CGIAR in particular can serve effectively as instruments of development.

Efforts to sharpen the science practised by the CGIAR institutions through enhanced research partnerships. In recent years the CGIAR has redoubled its effort to broaden its scientific capacity (and thereby create a larger impact on poverty) through widening its network of partnerships with other scientific institutions. A major portion of ICW will be devoted to discussion of current initiatives and efforts in this area. The focal point of the discussions on this theme will be the Centers Forum which will be spread over four days.

Centers' Forum: The theme for center presentations is "Inter-Center Collaboration to Combat Poverty". The presentations will be made in four connected segments:

- On Tuesday, the centers will provide an overview of inter-center collaboration, followed by highlights of their collaborative work in integrated gene management.
- On Wednesday the presentations will be broad-based and cover collaborative efforts in several areas including productivity and natural resources management,
- On Thursday, the presentations will target systemwide/ecoregional programs,

- On Friday, the Centers' Forum will conclude with presentations on the centers' collaborative work on policy questions.

Research Partnerships: Another major thrust of the partnerships topic, will be an exploration on Monday of the evolving visions of partnership-driven agricultural research, covering both global concerns (presented by GFAR), and on Thursday of regional priorities in Africa and Latin America. A third thrust, exploring how the CGIAR could improve the *mechanics* of partnering, will focus on the CGIAR's systemwide programs (discussion led by CBC) and experiences of other research organizations (introduced by TAC), both on Monday, and ways of linking with the private sector (led by the Chairman, with advice from the PSC), on Thursday.

Efforts to explore new scientific directions to impact poverty. Following from the CGIAR System Review, the meeting will explore new thinking in the areas of *integrated natural resource management (INRM)*, *climate change*, and *integrated gene management (IGM)*. Much of Tuesday will be devoted to the INRM theme, with items introduced by TAC (a review of CGIAR's systemwide ecoregional programs and a study on marginal lands) and CDC (a proposal by the centers on INRM). Also on Tuesday, Climate Change, a topic postponed from MTM99, will be covered through presentations by FAO, CDC and TAC. As well, the meeting will be briefed on Tuesday on the results of IPR audits organized by the centers. Finally, on the IGM theme, the meeting will review on Wednesday the outcome of an international conference on biotechnology co-convened by the CGIAR and the US National Academy of Sciences, and held just before ICW99. Of particular interest will be recommendations from the conference for action by the CGIAR.

Business matters. In addition to the above items, the CGIAR will handle its normal business, including review of the 2000 financing plans (Wednesday), the research directions for 2001 (Friday) and recommendations from CGIAR committees (Friday). As a special business item the meeting will consider a report from the Finance Committee Chair on a longer-term financing strategy and related organizational issues, on Wednesday. The Chairman's Science Awards ceremony will be held during the business meeting, on Thursday.

The meeting will end with the Chairman' Summation.

Revised Draft Agenda

Agenda Item 1. Opening Session

- (a) Chairman's Opening Address: *Towards a New Vision for the Future*
- (b) Chairman's Announcements
- (c) Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda Item 2. Confronting Poverty: The Critical Role of Science

- (a) Overview of World Food Situation
 - Introductory Statement by FAO
 - Presentation by the Director General of IFPRI
- (b) Report from a CGIAR Conference on The Impact of Agricultural Research on Poverty Alleviation – Report by CIAT
- (c) Preliminary Results from IAEG Studies on the Impact of CGIAR Research on:
 - Poverty Reduction
 - Germplasm Improvement
 - Environment
 - Integrated Pest Management

Agenda Item 3. Confronting Poverty: The Role of Research Partnerships

- (a) Centers' Forum (Theme: Inter-Center Collaboration to Combat Poverty)
- (b) GFAR: Evolving Global Vision for Agricultural Research
- (c) Funding and Management of Systemwide Programs – CBC Report
- (d) Managing Research Partnerships – Lessons from Experience – Report by TAC
- (e) Proposals for an African Research Strategy – CDC/SPAAR/FARA
- (f) CGIAR Commitments in Latin America – Report by TAC
- (g) High-level Meeting with Private Sector – Report by CGIAR Chairman
- (h) Chairman's Science Awards

Agenda Item 4. Confronting Poverty: Exploring New Directions

- (a) Integrated Natural Resources Management (INRM)
 - i. Ecoregional Review – Report by TAC
 - ii. Study on Marginal Lands – Report by TAC
 - iii. CDC Proposal on INRM
- (b) Climate Change
 - i. Presentations by FAO, ICWG-CC and TAC
- (c) Integrated Gene Management (IGM)
 - i. Report from the Biotechnology Conference on the Role of Biotechnology in Ensuring Food Security, Protecting the Environment, and Reducing Poverty in Developing Countries
 - ii. IPR Audits – Progress Report by CDC

Agenda Item 5. Confronting Poverty: The CGIAR Research Agenda

- (a) 2000 Financing Plan
- (b) 2001 Research Directions

Agenda Item 6. Business Matters

- (a) CGIAR Longer Term Financing Strategy and PA/RM Structures
- (b) Committee Reports
- (c) Composition of CGIAR Committees
 - TAC-IAEG Integration
 - OC, FC
 - PSC, NGOC, SPC
 - GRPC
- (d) Future CGIAR Meetings

Agenda Item 7. Other Business

Agenda Item 8. Closing Session

- (a) Chairman's Closing Remarks