

CGIAR MID-TERM MEETING 2001
May 21–25, 2001
Durban, Republic of South Africa

Information for Participants

Meeting Arrangements

Meeting Overview

The National Department of Agriculture (NDA), South Africa, is hosting the Mid-Term Meeting (MTM2001) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) in Durban, South Africa, from Monday, May 21, to Friday, May 25, 2001. Hundreds of scientists and researchers from around the world will join CGIAR members for a week of activities.

Highlights include "South Africa Day" (May 21, 2001), "Sub-Saharan Africa Agricultural Research Day" (May 22), and the CGIAR business meetings (May 23-25). The theme of CGIAR business meeting is ***Charting the CGIAR's Future: Change Design and Management***.

Venue and Time

CGIAR business meeting will be held at The Royal Hotel, and will commence promptly at 0830 am:

The Royal Hotel
267 Smith Street, Durban
Tel: (27-31) 304-0331
Fax: (27-31) 307-6884
E-mail: theroyal@iafrica.com
Web site: <http://www.theroyal.co.za>

Invitations

Invitations to MTM2001 are issued by CGIAR Secretariat who can be reached at:

C/o The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
Washington DC 20433
Tel: (1-202) 473-8951
Fax: (1-202) 473-8110
E-mail: cgiar@cgiar.org
Web site: <http://www.cgiar.org>

Participants wishing to attend MTM2001 should contact the CGIAR Secretariat. There is no registration fee but participants are responsible for covering travel, lodging, and subsistence expenses.

South Africa Day, May 21, 2001

Participants will depart by bus from the Royal Hotel at 0800 hrs for a visit to Cedara Agricultural Centre, near Pietermaritzburg in the Natal Midlands. The program will include welcoming statements by several dignitaries, including the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, the Minister for Agriculture and Land Affairs, and King Zwelithini, King of the Zulus. Participants will be get an overview of South Africa's agricultural achievements, and view various agricultural research exhibits at Cedara. During the return trip to Durban, arrangements have been made for groups of participants to visit research farms along the Old Durban Route and also allow participants to view the Valley of a Thousand Hills. South Africa Day will conclude with a reception at Point Yacht Club.

Sub-Saharan Africa Agricultural Research Day, May 22, 2001

This event is organized by the Special Program for African Agricultural Research/Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (SPAAR/FARA), the National Department of Agriculture (NDA), South Africa, and the CGIAR. The program will provide an overview of conclusions reached during the SPAAR/FARA, the Southern African Center for Cooperation in Agriculture and Natural Resources (SACCAR) and associated meetings that will be held in Pretoria during the preceding week. A special focus will be on the CGIAR's Sub-Saharan Africa strategy, programs, and organization. A detailed agenda will be available prior to MTM.

All participants are cordially invited to a cultural evening and dinner to be hosted by the Minister of Agriculture and Land Affairs on Tuesday, May 22, 2001. Further details will be available prior to MTM.

MTM Accreditation

Participants can collect documents and invitations for social functions at the registration desk in the hotel lobby. Registrations will open as follows: (1) Saturday, May 19: 08:30–17:30, (2) Sunday, May 20: 08:00–17:30, (3) Mon-Friday, May 21-25: 08:00-17:30

Simultaneous Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation of business sessions will be provided in English, French, and Spanish.

Hotel Accommodation

Rooms have been block-booked at the five-star Royal Hotel which is also the meeting place, and the four-star Riverside Hotel in Durban North just outside the city. The drive between hotels is approximately eight minutes.

Contact details are as follows:

- **The Royal Hotel**
P O Box 1041, Durban 4001
Tel: (27-31) 304 0331
Fax: (27-31) 337 0586
E-mail: theroyal@iafrica.com
reserve@theroyal.co.za
Web site: <http://www.theroyal.co.za>
- **The Riverside Hotel**
P O Box 35525, Durban North, 4065
Tel: (27-31) 563 0600
Fax: (27-31) 563 0611
E-mail: reserve@riversidehotel.co.za
Web site: www.riversidehotel.co.za

Room Rates

The Royal Hotel (rates include breakfast)

Standard Hotel Rooms

US\$100.00 per person, per night in single accommodation
US\$65.00 per person, per night in shared accommodation
US\$120.00 for two persons sharing a double room

Deluxe Rooms (limited number)

US\$115.00 per person, per night in single accommodation
US\$80.00 per person, per night in shared accommodation
US\$160.00 for two persons sharing a double room

Riverside Hotel (rates include breakfast)

US\$90.00 per person, per night in single accommodation
US\$60.00 per person, per night in shared accommodation
US\$120.00 for two persons sharing a double room

These special rates apply only to reservations made through the CGIAR/MTM2001 hotel reservation process as described below.

Hotel Reservations

To ensure a room reservation and facilitate preparation of official invitations, badges, and a participant directory, all participants must return completed registration forms to:

Congrex USA Inc.
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036, USA
E-mail: cgiar@congrexusa.com
Tel: (1-202) 466-0000
Fax: (1-202) 466 0815

The meeting secretariat will process reservation requests and accommodations will be assigned on a guaranteed arrival basis for the exact dates requested. If the room is not occupied as confirmed, the persons for whom it was reserved will incur a hotel charge. Requests for changes and cancellations must be made in writing and sent to the meeting secretariat no later than 48 hours before the confirmed date of arrival. Persons whose cancellations are received after May 15 may incur a charge if the hotel is unable to fill the unused room.

Note on Departure Date: Please indicate whether you plan to stay until Saturday, May 26, in Durban, or to depart on Friday, May 25.

Hotel Bills

Participants are responsible for their own accommodation and subsistence costs. Please note, reservations not guaranteed by a credit card will require to be paid in full, in cash, when checking in at the hotel.

Other Information

Arrival and Transfer to Hotel

Durban International Airport serves the KwaZulu-Natal area and is located 15 kilometers south of the city center. The airport caters to international, domestic, and chartered flights. A coach service operates at regular intervals between the airport and the city terminus and beachfront.

A special coach service for airport transfers for MTM participants will be on standby from Friday, May 18, to Sunday, May 27, to transport persons to and from the Royal and Riverside hotels. The ride takes approximately 20 minutes and costs R45.00 one way or R90.00 round-trip.

Coach transfers between hotels will be free for participants for the duration of the meeting.

Climate

An idyllic sub-tropical climate prevails in Durban, which is known as “The Sunshine City.” Humidity levels in some parts of the country may be high. Inland areas are more temperate. The average winter temperature is about 18 degrees C. Snow often covers the mountain tops in the midlands area. Many towns lay in a mist belt. Swimming in the sea can be enjoyed year-round. The water temperature in the Indian Ocean rarely falls below 17 degrees C.

In general, South Africa has a perennially sunny climate, but the sun can be extremely fierce. The use of a hat and sunscreen is recommended.

Midwinter occurs in June and July; midsummer occurs in December and January. Climate ranges from Mediterranean in the Cape Peninsula to sub-tropical on the KwaZulu-Natal coast and in the North Eastern interior. Temperate conditions prevail on the Highveld.

Currency and Banking

—Banking Hours

Monday to Friday: 09:00–15:30
Saturday: 08:30–11:00

Johannesburg International Airport offers 24-hour banking service.

—Currency

The local currency is the South African Rand (R), and the International symbol is ZAR. South Africa works on the decimal system; one Rand equals 100 cents (c).

- Denominations of Rand notes:
R200, R100, R50, R20, R10
- Denominations of coins:
R5, R2, R1, 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c, 2c, 1c

The current exchange rate is approximately:

US\$1 = R7.9
Euro1 = R7.4

S Bank Notes in excess of R500 will not be allowed unless you are in possession of the necessary permit. For more information or advice, telephone Customs and Excise at (+27 31) 3682923.

—Foreign exchange

South African banks can accommodate all international transactions and are situated throughout the country.

Traveler's checks and foreign currency notes of all major currencies can be exchanged at airports, commercial banks, and major hotels. American Express, Diners Club, and Thomas Cook operate in South Africa. Fluctuations in foreign exchange markets are reflected in rates quoted on a daily basis.

Automatic teller machines (ATMs) are available in most towns and cities and offer 24-hour access. Commercial banking services at airports are available two hours before and after the respective arrival and departure time of international flights, on a 24-hour basis.

Customs

Visitors are subject to clearance through Customs. Information about what may or may not be brought into the country may be obtained from travel agents. Details of requirements for the temporary importation of exhibition goods can be obtained from the Department of Customs and Excise.

A Customs duty can be levied on items over the non-dutiable limit. The duty is payable before you leave the Customs hall.

Dress

Comfortable and casual attire is recommended. Warmer attire is recommended for early-morning and evening outings. Most restaurants and hotels permit casual wear. Safari clothing and comfortable shoes are recommended for game reserve and hiking expeditions.

Electrical Current

The electricity supply in South Africa is 220/230 – 240 volts – AC 50Hz. US-made appliances of lesser voltage require a transformer. Adapters can be obtained locally.

Exhibition Material

To avoid any Customs complications, all exhibition material for the MTM meetings should be sent directly to the Royal Hotel by international parcel or courier service. The material should be clearly marked "CGIAR."

Health Regulations

No international immunization is needed to enter South Africa. The only inoculation requirement is a yellow fever vaccination certificate for travelers entering South Africa within six days of leaving a yellow fever-infected country. Visitors who travel through or disembark in yellow fever-infected areas are advised to be inoculated against the disease before visiting South Africa.

Hotel Facilities

—Royal Hotel

The Royal Hotel has 271 air-conditioned guest-rooms, each equipped with double beds and a separate bath and shower facility. The property is 3,550 square metres, with one tower of twenty-one stories facing the bay and a second tower of 11 stories facing the City Square. Adjacent to the hotel and accessible through a skywalk is undercover parking for guests.

- **Room Fixtures**—All rooms have a hair dryer, a direct-dial telephone, a color satellite TV, a radio, air-conditioning, a minibar, and 220V electrical outlets. The hotel has nonsmoking rooms and rooms for handicapped guests (please indicate on the reservation request if you need one of these types of rooms).
- **Dining Rooms**—Breakfast is included in the room rate. Participants are invited to use the five onsite restaurants for lunch and dinner and to enjoy two onsite bars.

—Riverside Hotel

This four-star accommodation offers stunning views of the Umgeni Estuary. The Windsor Park and Durban Country Club courses are within easy access to the north. To the south lies the KwaZulu-Natal coast.

- **Room Fixtures**—All rooms have a hair dryer, a direct-dial telephone, a color satellite TV, a radio, air-conditioning, a mini bar, a microwave and a mini refrigerator with cutlery and crockery, and 220V electric outlets. There is no tray charge with room service orders. Desktop modem points are available in all rooms. The hotel has nonsmoking rooms and rooms for handicapped guests (please indicate on the reservation request if you need one of these types of rooms).
- **Dining Rooms**—Breakfast is included in the hotel rate. Participants are invited to use the three restaurants for lunch and dinner.
- **Pool, sauna, and fitness facilities**—The hotel has a fitness center and a swimming pool for hotel guests.

Importation of Computer/Electrical Equipment

Laptop computers and other electrical equipment intended for personal use may be brought into the country on the condition that they are re-exported. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops.

Language

South Africa has 11 official languages. English is understood and spoken by most people, including at hotels, restaurants, and shops. All signs are in English.

Passports and Visas

All international travelers are required to carry a valid passport. Travelers from certain countries also require a visa. Visitors to South Africa should hold

- valid return or onward tickets for travel,
- sufficient means of support for the period, and
- valid entry documents for their next destination.

Please contact your nearest Embassy for more information.

Telecommunications

South Africa has a sophisticated telecommunications network. International dialing and full telex, telefax, and electronic mail facilities are widely available. Phone cards and cellular phones are easily available. International dialing codes can be found in South African telephone directories. Public telephones are common.

Time

South Africa is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), one hour ahead of Central European Time, and six hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time in the United States. Consult the

international section of the local telephone directory for detailed world time zones.

Tipping

Although a service charge is included in the bill in hotels and restaurants, service recipients commonly round up generously. Tipping taxi drivers is not mandatory, but rounding up the fare is a good rule of thumb.

Travel Desk

The travel desk in the lobbies of the Royal and Riverside hotels can assist with confirmation of airline tickets and other travel bookings. Upon request, the Travel Desk will organize a program for accompanying partners.

Value-Added Tax

A value-added tax (VAT), currently at 14 percent, is levied on hospitality services and on the market/quoted price of most goods offered for sale. Refunds of VAT paid for goods (not services) may be claimed by foreign tourists, provided that the total claim (i.e., money spent) exceeds R250 and that the goods are being taken out of South Africa (tax invoices and actual goods must be presented as proof). Leaflets on VAT refunds can be obtained at international airports or by telephoning the VAT Receiver's Office at 27 11-4847530.

Water

Tap water at hotels, inns, lodges, and other public places is purified and is safe to drink. However, water in lakes or slow-moving streams may be unsafe and caution is advised.

For additional information, please contact the following web site:

<http://www.durban.co.za>

POST-MTM 2001 Field Trips

(Details and prices subject to change)

Overview of Post-MTM Field Trips (May 25 [evening] through May 28)

Each program may vary slightly from the descriptions provided below. The final programs will be confirmed closer to the MTM.

Option 1 – Kruger National Park Route (Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and Northern Province)

- Visit Johannesburg and Pretoria.
- Follow route to Loskop Dam, visit the Olifants River basin (a project in the Northern Province led by IWMI), IWMI Water Care Project, and the Land Care Programs.
- Finish with a visit to Kruger National Park.

Option 2 – Cape Town Route

- Fly to Cape Town.
- Visit Robben Island (where President Mandela was incarcerated for more than two decades).
- Proceed to Table Mountain.
- Walk past Parliament buildings.
- Visit the Agricultural Research Centre (ARC) Research Facility, the Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, and various wine farms.

Option 3 – KwaZulu-Natal

This route will be via the North Coast to the KwaZulu-Natal Northern Midland.

- Visit the St Lucia Wetlands (World Heritage Site).
- Visit the reclaimed Richards Bay Mining Sand Dunes.
- Visit Hluhluwe Game Park and the King Zwelithini (King of KwaZulu-Natal) Cattle Farm, site of the Nguni Cattle Breeding Program.
- Visit King Shaka's grave at KwaDukuza.

Important note about return reservations

Those participating in any of the above trips should note that their return international departure will be from the city they visit on their post MTM trip. Participants are responsible for their own international reservations and ticketing.

For further information or to sign up, please forward the Post-MTM Field Trip Registration Form on page 10 **by April 12, 2001**, to the host country secretariat at the following address:

National Department of Agriculture
Attention: Mrs. Lientjie van der Merwe
W-FF-04, Private Bag X250
Pretoria 0001, Republic of South Africa
Tel: (27-12) 3197318
Fax: (27-12) 3251042
E.mail: Lientjievdm@nda.agric.za

For more information on post-MTM field trips, please visit the NDA's Web site at www.nda.agric.za.

Details of Post-MTM Field Trips

OPTION 1 KRUGER NATIONAL PARK ROUTE (Mpumalanga Province and Area)

(Low-risk Malaria area – take necessary precautions)

May 25, 2001

You will depart Durban at approximately 17:30 to arrive at Johannesburg International Airport at 18:30. You will be met by a Representative of Going Africa and transported to Pretoria in a 6-star luxury 33-seater coach, fully air-conditioned with reclining seats. You will stay at the luxurious guest house of Rozenhof. Dinner is included.

May 26, 2001

Travel to Loskop Dam for a visit to the Olifants River Basin Project led by IWMI. After lunch continue through the Province of Mpumalanga to the world-famous Kruger National Park. Here the privately owned area of Sabie Sabie is world-renowned for its excellent camps and game viewing. There are no fences between the Kruger and Sabie Sands, making it well worth a visit. Accommodations will be confirmed on a full-board basis for May 26 and 27. You will depart on May 28, 2001.

Dinner on the 26th will be served in the African bush, under the stars of the Southern Hemisphere. Your landrovers will return you to camp after a little game viewing. Lions and leopards hunt at night, so your chances of seeing them is exceptionally good.

May 27, 2001

Depart at 05:30 to search for game with your qualified tracker and ranger in your 4 x 4.

Return to the camp at approximately 09:30 for a leisurely breakfast. Relax while you watch the game come down to drink at the water hole just outside camp. Take a dip in the pool or ask the ranger and tracker to take you on a game-viewing expedition by foot.

Lunch is served at the camp. Meet late afternoon on the verandah for tea and cake before going out yet again in your 4 x 4 to view game. Enjoy drinks out in the bush watching the sun set and then travel back to camp for a late dinner under the stars.

May 28, 2001

Wake again at 05:30 for a game-viewing drive. A coach will take you to Nelspruit where staff at the Agricultural Research Station on Tropical and Subtropical Fruits will be waiting to welcome you. Enjoy lunch at the institute before heading for Johannesburg International Airport.

Cost per person: US\$ 798.00
Single Supplement: US\$ 249.00

Included in the cost:

- * Air ticket from Durban to Johannesburg
- * Transport in a 33-seater 6-star luxury coach with air-conditioning and reclining seats
- * Accommodation at Rozenhof for one night, bed and breakfast
- * Dinner at Rozenhof
- * Lunch at the Olifants River Basin Project
- * Accommodation at Idube for two nights

- * Breakfast, lunch and dinner at Idube, along with all scheduled game-viewing activities
- * Lunch at the Agricultural Research Station
- * Porterage throughout the trip
- * Drinks on the coach
- * A guide or a member of the Agricultural Research Station to accompany the group

Not included:

- * All items of a personal nature
- * Lunch on May 25
- * All gratuities

OPTION 2: CAPE TOWN ROUTE (Western Cape)

May 25, 2001

Depart Durban at approximately 17:15 for the flight to Cape Town International Airport arriving at approximately 19:15. On arrival our coach will be waiting to take you to the Vineyard Hotel in Constantia, one of the best-run hotels in the Cape. Enjoy the mountain view as you dine at the hotel's fine restaurant.

May 26, 2001

After breakfast travel to South Africa's Mother City for a visit to the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. Tour Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was incarcerated for 27 years. Your guide will be Patrick, one of the island's inhabitants.

On returning to the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront explore shops and restaurants. Weather permitting, you will be taken on an orientation tour of the city and up Table Mountain. The day will end with a visit to the little fishing village of Hout Bay and Camps Bay, where you'll enjoy the sun set over the ocean. No group dinner arrangements are made. Transport is available at a cost of R25.00 for those wishing to return to the hub of the waterfront.

May 27, 2001

Explore the Cape Peninsula. Your day includes visits to Kirstenbosch Gardens, Groot Constantia, the naval base of Simonstown, and the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve (where the Indian and Atlantic oceans meet). Instead of returning to Cape Town, you will cross over the flatlands to the winecountry stopping to tour Vergelegen Wine Estate. This estate, where you will enjoy a tasting, is aptly named the Versailles of South Africa. Spend the night on the Wine Estate of Spiers and enjoy dinner at the Jonkerhuis Restaurant, where you will sample authentic South African cuisine.

May 28, 2001

Wind your way through the historic town of Stellenbosch to the Agricultural Research Council and the Stellenbosch Farmers Wineries where you will be served a lovely lunch. If time allows, you will enjoy a drive through both Paarl and Franschoek on your way to Cape Town International Airport.

Cost per person sharing: US\$786.00
Single supplement: US\$140.00

Included in the cost of the tour:

- * Air ticket from Durban to Cape Town
- * Transport in a 44-seater luxury coach
- * Accommodation at Spiers for one night, bed and breakfast
- * Dinner at the Jonkerhuis Restaurant
- * Accommodation at the Vineyard for two nights, bed and breakfast
- * Visit to Robben Island
- * Trip up Table Mountain
- * Tour to the Cape Peninsular with all entrance fees and lunch included
- * Porterage
- * A member of ARC staff to accompany the group

Not included in the cost:

- * All items of a personal nature
- * Gratuities
- * Two dinners in Cape Town

OPTION 3 – KWAZULU-NATAL

(Low-risk Malaria area – take necessary precautions)

May 25, 2001

Departs by coach from the Conference Centre at 4.30 p.m. for the 3-hour trip to Shakaland, Simunye, or Kwabetitunga. All of these hotels have one thing in common: the culture of the Zulu people. You will enjoy the comforts of traditional-style rooms with private facilities and you will have the opportunity to learn and enjoy the Zulu culture. Enjoy dinner at the hotel as the guests of the President Zulu Family. You will be invited to join the family members in dance.

May 26, 2001

Travel to Ulundi. You will visit the grave of King Shaka and then the Nguni Cattle Breeding Program of King Zwelithini or the Ulundi Battle Area. Lunch at Ulundi. Continue up the Great North Road to one of the local game lodges.

If accommodation becomes available at Hluhluwe or Itala, stay the night at Mkuze or Zulu Nyala.

Enjoy dinner under the African stars.

May 27, 2001

A full day of game viewing, all meals included, awaits you.

May 28, 2001

Travel to Durban stopping at Lake St. Lucia and at Richards Bay to visit the reclaimed Richards Bay Mining Sand Dunes. Lunch and drive to Durban International Airport.

Price per person sharing: US\$622.00
Single supplement: US\$145.00

Included in the cost:

- * Transport in a 44-seater luxury coach
- * Accommodation, dinner, bed, and breakfast at Shakaland inclusive of the cultural program
- * Lunch at Richards Bay
- * Accommodation at Itala or Zulu Nyala or similar facility with full board
- * All game drives
- * Lunch at Ulundi
- * Scheduled visits
- * One person from the ARC to accompany the group
- * Porterage

Not included:

- All items of a personal nature
- Gratuities

Booking conditions:

- Deadline for booking: April 2
- Payment by credit card (American Express, Visa, Diners Club, etc.)
- Rates are based on a minimum of 30 participants
- Cancellation fees will apply after April 2
- Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis

Note: The amounts indicated in the description of the trips above are approximate; the final amount will depend on the size of the group.

Deadline for booking: April 2, 2001

**POST MTM2001 FIELD TRIP
REGISTRATION FORM**

Please type or print clearly

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Name (First, M.I., Last)		
Agency or Organization		
Accompanied by: Name (First, M.I., Last)	Relationship Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
Official Mailing Address: Street/P.O. Box		
City and Postal Code		Country
Telephone No. (inc country & city codes)	Fax No.	E-Mail Address
Credit Card Number:	American Express <input type="checkbox"/>	Diners Club <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/>
Expiration Date (mm/yyyy):	Cardholder's Signature:	

I would like to sign up for the following trip:

Option 1 – Mpumalanga Province & Area

Friday, May 25, 2001 through Monday, May 28, 2001
Cost: US\$ 798,00 per person sharing (double occupancy)

double
 single (supplement US\$ 249,00)

Option 2 – Western Cape

Friday, May 25, 2001 through Monday, May 28, 2001
Cost: US\$ 786,00 per person sharing (double occupancy)

double
 single (supplement US\$ 140,00)

Option 3 – KwaZulu-Natal

Friday, May 25, 2001 to Monday, May 28, 2001
Cost: US\$622,00 per person sharing (double occupancy)

double
 single (supplement US\$ 145,00)

All reservations (air and hotel) for the Post-MTM field trips will be made by travel specialists under the coordination and supervision of BEAF. Participants are responsible for booking their international flights to and from South Africa.

Signature:	Date:
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MAILING ADDRESS

Host Country Secretariat
National Department of Agriculture
Attention: Ms L van der Merwe
Agricultural Building, Block W-FF-04
Private Bag X250
PRETORIA 0001
Republic of South Africa

FAX: (27-12) 325 1042
E-mail: lientjievdm@nda.agric.za