

**Summary report of the fifth meeting of the Executive Board  
29-30<sup>th</sup> April 2009  
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)  
Philippines**

The following Members of the Board were present:

Dr. Margaret Catley-Carlson  
Prof. Sir Peter Crane  
Amb. Jorio Dauster  
Prof. Adel El-Beltagy  
Prof. Cary Fowler  
Dr. Emile Frison (CGIAR)  
Prof. John Lovett  
Mr. Karl Erik Olsson  
Dr. Modibo Traore (FAO)

Dr. Shakeel Bhatti, Observer (ITPGRFA)  
Mr. Peter Waddell-Wood, Observer (Donors' Council)

The following Members of the Board sent their apologies:

Prof. Wangari Maathai  
Mr. Lew Coleman

The following staff were present:

Anne Clyne	Director of Finance
Julian Laird	Director of Development & Communications
Mellissa Wood	Director of Programme Development Secretary to the Executive Board

### 1. Welcome and Adoption of Provisional Agenda

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed Members. In particular, the Chair welcomed new members Mr. Modibo Traore (new FAO representative), Dr. Shakeel Bhatti (new Observer) and Dr. Emile Frison (as new CGIAR representative).

1. *Decision: The Board adopted the Provisional Agenda (Attachment A)*

### 2. Minutes and actions arising from Executive Board meeting 4

- Members discussed progress in the six actions arising from the last meeting.
  - **Board nominations** – Members discussed the process for identifying the profile and required skills for the upcoming two vacancies.
  - **Board resolution to Government of Norway** – the Chair thanked Members for their rapid response to this inter-sessional activity and the Executive Director provided an update to the Board.
  - **Headquarters Agreement** - The Board noted the latest changes to the Headquarters Agreement suggested by the Italian Government, and expressed its concern that these major modifications were being put forward at the last moment, after the text of the Agreement had already been accepted. The Board expressed particular concern at the suggested change to paragraph (e) of Section 30 of the Agreement.

- **Global System Project mid-term external evaluation** – The Executive Director briefed Members on the evaluation, which is to be undertaken June 8-21. The Board requested a copy of the report when finalized.
  - **Directors and Officer's Insurance** – The Board Secretary informed members that the Insurance contract was signed in April 2009 and provides retroactive coverage to Members.
2. *Action: The Board agreed to undertake a Skills Audit to help identify a profile for future Board candidates*
  3. *Action: The Board noted with concern the latest developments with regard to the Headquarters Agreement, in particular the management difficulties to the Trust in implementing paragraph (e) of Section 30, and requested the Secretariat to try to resolve the outstanding issues.*
  4. *Action: The Board requested a copy of the Global System Project mid-term external evaluation report.*
  5. *Decision: The Board approved the Minutes from EB4*

### **3. Members Report**

Members provided an update on Trust-related activities that they have participated in or would be of interest to the Trust, with a focus on fundraising items.

### **4. Governing Body Meeting**

Members discussed the issues relevant to the relationship between the Trust and the Governing Body and the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> Session and welcomed input from the Treaty Secretariat as an Observer to the meeting.

### **5. Forward Planning – midterm issues**

The Executive Director briefed members on the implications of the possible phase out of the Trust's main (UNF/Gates-funded) project on the Trust's overall programme, its finances and its staff profile. Discussion centered on how the Trust can best position itself and manage the situation through the appropriate balance of short term and long term funding, new fundraising initiatives, staff retention plan, and the use of funds from the endowment.

### **6. Finance and Investment Report**

On behalf of the FIC Chair, Mr. Lew Coleman, Prof. Lovett presented the FIC report and recommendations to the Board.

6. *Decision: The Board accepted the FIC report and approved the two recommendations:*
  - *accepting the recommended selection of two new fund managers (Crédit Agricole and Aberdeen) and the allocation of funds*
  - *accepting the Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for 2008*
7. *Action: The Board complied with the Bylaw Amendment and resigned as members of the Friends of Global Crop Diversity, Ltd. Corporation appointing the Directors of Friends of Global Crop Diversity, Ltd. as Members.*

## **7. Overview of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2009**

The Executive Director provided an overview of all major programme activity since EB4 to Members. He was pleased to announce that the Trust had just entered into a long-term grant agreement with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to ensure 'in perpetuity' funding of the collections of yam and edible aroids, vital crops for food security in the region. The agreement will come into effect when SPC signs the International Treaty of Plant Genetic Resources in Tunis on June 1<sup>st</sup>. This long term award is the first Trust long-term grant to go to a non-CGIAR centre.

## **8. Director General of IRRI presentation to the Board**

Dr. Bob Zeigler provided a presentation on the IRRI work program, its current research and future initiatives for fundraising to Members. He acknowledged that the relationship between the Trust and IRRI as a positive one based on goodwill.

## **9. Other business**

### **10. Next meeting**

8. *Decision: The Board agreed (out-of-session) to hold their next meeting on November 23-24, 2009 in Rome.*

## **Meeting adjourned for Day 1**

### **30<sup>th</sup> April – Field trip**

Members visited the T.T. Chang Genetic Resources Centre (IRRI Genebank) and the Philippines National Plant Genetic Resources Laboratory (NPGRL).

The Board expressed its great appreciation to both institutions for their impressive work and for the enlightening and educational tours. In particular the Board is grateful to IRRI for its gracious hosting of the fifth meeting of the Executive Board.

## **Fifth Executive Board meeting closed.**

## Summary of decisions and actions

No.	Decision
1	The Board adopted the Provisional Agenda (Attachment A)
5	The Board approved the Minutes from EB4
6	The Board accepted the FIC report and approved the two recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>accepting the recommended selection of two new fund managers (Crédit Agricole and Aberdeen) and the allocation of funds</li> <li>accepting the Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for 2008</li> </ul>
8	The Board agreed (out-of-session) to hold their next meeting on November 23-24 <sup>th</sup> 2009 in Rome.

No	Actions arising	Responsibility	Due date
2	The Board agreed to undertake a Skills Audit to help identify a profile for future Board candidates	Members	Before GB3 (June 2009)
3	The Board noted with concern the latest developments with regard to the Headquarters Agreement, in particular the management difficulties to the Trust in implementing paragraph (e) of Section 30, and requested the Secretariat to try to resolve the outstanding issues.	Secretariat	Not provided
4	The Board requested a copy of the Global System Project mid-term external evaluation report	Secretariat	When finalized
7	The Board complied with the Bylaw Amendment and resigned as members of the Friends of Global Crop Diversity, Ltd. Corporation appointing the Directors of Friends of Global Crop Diversity, Ltd. as Members.	Members	EB5

**Agenda, Executive Board meeting 5  
IRRI, Los Baños, Philippines**

<b>28<sup>th</sup> April 18.30 – 20.00 Drinks at IRRI Guesthouse</b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
<b>DAY 1</b>		<b>29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	
9.00 (15 mins)	1	Welcome and adoption of Provisional Agenda and Timetable (Action)	Chair
9.15 (45 mins)	2	Minutes and actions arising from EB4 (Action) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- D&amp;O Insurance</li> <li>- Headquarters Agreement</li> <li>- Mid-term External Evaluation</li> <li>- Board Resolution</li> </ul>	Chair
10.00 (30 mins)	3	Members Report (Information) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inter-sessional activity</li> </ul>	Members
10.30		<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	
11.00 (90 mins)	4	Governing Body meeting (Action) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Situation update</li> <li>- Issues</li> <li>- Strategy</li> </ul>	Cary Fowler
12.30		<b>LUNCH</b>	
13.30 (90 mins)	5	Forward planning – midterm issues (Information) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strategy for 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of project funding</li> </ul>	Cary Fowler
15.00		<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	
15.30 (30 mins)	6	Finance and Investment Report (Action) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Audit</li> <li>- Investments</li> <li>- Friends of Global Crop Diversity Ltd</li> </ul>	John Lovett, Anne Clyne
16.00 (30 mins)	7	Overview of 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2009 (Information) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programme</li> <li>- Fundraising &amp; Communications</li> </ul>	Cary Fowler, Mellissa Wood and Julian Laird
16.30 (30 mins)	8	IRRI presentation	Bob Zeigler
17.00	9	Other Business	Chair
17.05 (10 mins)	10	Next Meeting (Action)	Chair
17.15		<b>CLOSE MEETING – DAY 1</b>	
20.00		<b>TRUST DINNER AT KAMAYAN SA PALAISDAAN</b> (transportation will be provided from the IRRI Guesthouse to the restaurant)	

**Agenda, Executive Board meeting 5**  
**IRRI, Los Baños, Philippines**

**Day 2 - 29<sup>th</sup> April**

Time	Event
<b>DAY 2</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> April</b>
8.30	<i>Pick up at IRRI Guesthouse for field trip to T.T. Chang Genetic Resources Centre (IRRI Genebank)</i>
9.00 45 mins	Tour of T.T. Chang Genetic Resources Centre field facilities: screenhouse, multiplication and demo plots (with Ruaraidh Sackville Hamilton, IRRI)
9.45 45 mins	Tour of T.T. Chang Genetic Resources Centre
10.30 1 hour	Strategic discussion on issues raised during tour and/or previous day
12.00 – 1pm	<b>LUNCH on IRRI Campus</b>
13.15	<i>Pick up at IRRI lunch venue and travel to the National Plant Genetic Resources Laboratory (NPGRL)</i>
13.45 1.5 hours	Tour of NPGRL including regeneration field plots (with Tess Borromeo, NPGRL)
15.15	Pick up at NPGRL and back to IRRI Guesthouse
From 16.00	Shuttle service to commence from IRRI Guesthouse to Manila airport. Transportation to the airport will also be provided on 1 May.