

PAAT Secretariat Meeting

26-27 January 2011

ILRI Campus, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Participants:

Mr A. Ilemobade, PAAT Chairman

Mr J. Wabacha, AU IBAR and ISCTRC Focal Point, Nairobi, Kenya

Mr H. Mahamat, AU PATTEC Coordination Office, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mr S. Haile Mariam, AU PATTEC Coordination Office, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mr P. Simarro, WHO HQs, Geneva, Switzerland

Mr T. Dessie, ILRI, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mr R. Saini, ICIPE, Nairobi, Kenya

Mr O. Diall, FAO RAF, Accra, Ghana

Mr G. Cecchi, FAO HQs, Rome Italy

Ms E. Guerne-Bleich, FAO SFE, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Mr R. Mattioli, FAO HQs and PAAT Secretariat Focal Point, Rome, Italy

Conclusions on Actions to be Taken

Issues:

The meeting was convened to consider the external review of PAAT.

- The meeting expresses profound appreciation to the team leader of the review panel, Dr. Jim Dargie, and members of the panel for an excellent work done. It learned with regret the tragic death of Dr. Peter Van den Bossche, a member of the panel, soon after the completion of their work and acknowledged his contributions to T&T both in the field and in research. It welcomes the report, and considers it as the basis for defining a PAAT roadmap.
- All recommendations made by the PAAT evaluation team were discussed, and a few required more extensive deliberations

Actions identified:

- Steps should be taken to correct in practical terms the perception that PAAT is synonymous with FAO.
- The definition of a strategic framework is seen as a high priority. The focal point of the PAAT secretariat is requested to interact with members of the Secretariat and other participants in the meeting to develop a document in a participatory way. This document should set out the **Vision** and **Mission** of PAAT, its development goals, objectives, membership, etc. Attention should be given to the added-value of PAAT to its stakeholders.

- The meeting acknowledges the need to develop a results-based bi-annual work-plan with realistic goals, budget and timeframes. Nevertheless it recognises that this recommendation will need to take into account the work-plans of the individual members of the Secretariat without prejudice to their independence. Monitoring and evaluation of outputs and outcomes should be considered in developing the work-plan.
- The meeting concurs with the recommendation related to the scrapping of the Research and Development Policy, Planning and Implementation modules, because the roles are already overtaken by events.
- Concerning the structure, membership and funding of PAAT and its organs, it was agreed that this should follow the definition of the Strategic Framework that will set out PAAT future functions.
- Added-values of PAAT should be clearly identified:
 - Already in existence
 - normative and standardization activities
 - development and guidance on policy analysis strategy formulation
 - knowledge sharing (e.g. TTI)
 - technical and scientific publications (T&S Series, etc.)
 - To be promoted/strengthened
 - coordination of capacity building
 - planning and implementation of training activities
 - technical quality control and assurance
 - technical assistance to T&T affected countries
 - production of middle-level training and technical materials
 - assistance in development and quality assurance of project proposals and their implementation
 - support for fund raising and advocacy activities
- Following the adoption of the PAAT Strategic Framework, the PAAT Secretariat will send formal invitations to AU-PATTEC, ICIPE, ILRI, CIRDES to join the PAAT Secretariat.
- A notice on the present meeting will be posted on the PAAT web-site after clearance of PAAT Secretariat members.