MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

30TH NOVEMBER AND 1ST DECEMBER 2006
WASHINGTON D.C., USA

1. The presence of members attending the Program Committee meeting is documented in Annex 1.

2. The proposed agenda of the meeting is documented in Annex 2.

3. The meeting was initially chaired by Dr. Adel El-Beltagy, Chairman of GFAR Steering Committee

4. Welcome remarks by Dr. Adel El-Beltagy, Chairman, GFAR Steering Committee

The Chairman of the GFAR Steering Committee (SC), Dr. Adel El-Beltagy, made his opening remarks. He welcomed the members of the Program Committee to the meeting. He then traced the evolution and transition of the Program Committee from the NARS Sub-committee that was in operation prior to 2004. He stated that the NARS sub-committee was created and supported by the NARS Secretariat, which was located at FAO prior to the formation of GFAR. The GFAR Secretariat was created in 1998. The NARS Secretariat and the GFAR Secretariat were merged in 2000. However, the NARS sub-committee continued its function. In 2002, it was decided to create a Program Committee for GFAR to replace the NARS sub-committee. The 1st Program Committee Meeting was held at Marrakech in December 2005.

He then stated that there are several issues such as the composition of the Program Committee, its Terms of Reference (TOR), its schedule of meetings and the selection of its Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson that need to be resolved by the Program Committee in its current meeting.

4. Adoption of Agenda for the 2nd Program Committee

Dr. Adel El-Beltagy than moved the proposal for adoption of the 2nd Program Committee Meeting. It was approved unanimously. However, the schedule of some presentations was shifted upon request by members to the Chair.

The agenda (Annex 2) was approved unanimously by the members present without change.

5. Approval of Minutes

The Chair then moved the proposal for approval of the minutes of the 1st Program Committee
The minutes of the 1st Program Committee Meeting held at Marrakech in December 2005 were approved unanimously by the members present.

6. Mandate, Role, Composition of the Programme Committee and selection of Chair of the Programme Committee

Dr. El-Beltagy invited Dr. Ola Smith, Executive Secretary of GFAR, to present issues that need to be deliberated by the Program Committee.

Dr. Smith listed the following issues that need to be deliberated by the Program Committee:

a. The composition of the PC
   - As per Charter
   - As per the changes made by including the membership of an IARC representative in the Program Committee by the Steering Committee at its meeting in June at Sanaa, Yemen
   - As per the draft recommendations of the GFAR Evaluation Report submitted by GFAR evaluation team
b. The Terms of Reference (TOR) of the PC
c. The timing of the PC Meeting
d. The election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the PC.

a. Composition of the PC

Dr. Ola Smith presented the current composition of the Program Committee as revised after the Steering Committee Meeting at Sana’a in June 2006. He also drew attention to the composition as proposed by the GFAR Review Team.

Table 1: Composition of PC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prior to Sana’a Steering Committee</th>
<th>Current composition as decided after Sana’a Steering Committee Meeting</th>
<th>Proposed for consideration based on the GFAR Review to the Program Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern RF: ES + another representative from different stakeholder group (total: 10)</td>
<td>Composition prior to Sana’a Steering Committee Meeting PLUS one representative from the International Agricultural Research Centres (IARCs). Balanced representation of stakeholders should be achieved by rotating non-research representatives from the Regional Forum in a programmed fashion with two NGOs, two FOs, and one Private Sector represented from the Regional Forums. Total: 13</td>
<td>3 Representatives from Southern Forums, 2 Representatives from Northern Forums, 1 NGO representative, 1 Farmer Organization Representative, 1 Private Sector Representative, 1 Biological Scientist, 1 Social Scientist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern RF: 1 representative (total: 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 12

Total: 10

After due deliberation regarding the composition of the PC by the members present, it was resolved that:
i. The current composition of the PC, including an IARC representative, as decided Steering Committee Meeting in June, 2006 at Sana’a should stay until a final view on the GFAR evaluation is taken by the Steering Committee.

ii. Efforts should be made to have nominations from Regional Forums that represent different stakeholder groups.

iii. The composition of the PC should be deliberated by the Steering Committee as a separate agenda item at its next meeting.

b. Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Program Committee

The members reviewed the Program Committee’s Terms Of Reference (TOR). They were of the opinion that the TOR of the Program Committee must be considered before discussing the composition of the PC.

The Current TOR as per GFAR Charter and the revised TOR deliberated by the Program Committee and recommended to the Steering Committee for its consideration was decided as follows:

Table 2: Terms of Reference for the Program Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current TOR</th>
<th>Revised TOR recommended to the Steering Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To advise the Steering Committee on Program related issues</td>
<td>To oversee planning, execution, monitoring and evaluation of agreed GFAR programs at global, regional and/or sub-regional level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To oversee planning, execution, monitoring and evaluation of agreed GFAR programs at global, regional and/or sub-regional level</td>
<td>To oversee planning, monitoring and evaluation of GFAR program at global, regional or sub-regional levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To review all GFAR plans and activities specifically related to the GFAR lines of action: “Strengthening of the NARS and of their RF/SRF”</td>
<td>To review all GFAR plans and activities specially related to the strengthening of the NARS through their RF/SRF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To discuss the overall agenda of GFAR from a NARS perspectives in order to develop common positions and ensure that the NARS priorities are full taken into consideration</td>
<td>To discuss the overall agenda of GFAR and ensure that the NARS priorities are fully taken into consideration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To promote interregional cooperation and collaboration both South-South and North-South, as well as the exchange of experiences in how to promote regional/sub-regional cooperation in agricultural research</td>
<td>To identify mechanism to ensure interregional collaboration and exchange of experiences (south-south and south-north) in agricultural research for development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide a forum where NARS can discuss topics of common interest at the global level, such as develop common positions in Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)-related issues as well as in other for a related to ARD</td>
<td>(This term of reference is deleted)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
c. Timing of the Programme Committee Meeting

The timing of the PC Meeting was deliberated by the members.

It was decided that in general, the Program Committee should meet at the latest in September every year so that the GFAR Work Plan and Budget are developed with due deliberation and care by the GFAR Secretariat with the Program Committee for approval by the Steering Committee in their meeting usually held in early December of each year.

Later, arising from deliberations elsewhere during the meeting, the new Chairman of the Program Committee (see below), Dr. R.S. Paroda, considering the extraordinary circumstances of Year 2007 where the GFAR Medium Term Plan for 2007-2009 has to be developed, taking into account the outcomes of the GFAR 2006 Triennial Conference held at New Delhi and the report of GFAR evaluation, resolved that for the Year 2007 an additional meeting of the Program Committee should be held during May 2007 before the Steering Committee Meeting scheduled in May-June 2007.

d. The selection of a Chair and a vice-Chair

The Program Committee unanimously selected Dr. Raj Paroda to be the Chairman of the Committee for the term 2006-2009 (three years). Due to under representation of other stakeholder groups, the Committee decided to postpone the selection of a Vice Chair to its next meeting in May 2007.

8. Report from GFAR Secretariat

Dr. Rupert Best presented the report from the GFAR Secretariat. He highlighted the achievements of GFAR under each of the 4 pillars of the GFAR business plan.

The presentation gained approval of the house and the achievements of GFAR was considered impressive by the Chairman. The Programme Committee noted the progress made in all pillars of GFAR Business Plan.

Specific comments from the Programme Committee were:-

a. The Committee noted that a great deal of process has been made in strengthening the Civil Society Organizations participation in the decision-making bodies and other Regional Forums activities. However, there must be a continuation of the efforts to further support RF to improve stakeholder representation.

b. The Global Partnership Programs review has shown that GFAR has not been able to achieve the desired outcomes and goals. Hence, steps should be taken to address this issue. Moreover, the Program Committee noted the importance of learning about partnerships and how the GFAR proposal submitted to IFAD will contribute to achieving this objective.

c. The committee also noted the need to improve the communication between GFAR Secretariat and the Regional Forums.

d. The committee expressed its concerns relating to certain aspects of Letters of Agreements, one example being the clause in Letters of Agreements on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) that restricts sharing of information. Despite having introduced modifications to this clause, it not been resolved to the satisfaction of some stakeholders. It was recommended that this and
other related issues should be brought to the attention of the Steering Committee with the view to finding solutions with FAO.

9. Progress Reports from Regional Forums

a. The report from AARINENA was presented by Dr. I. Hamdan. He highlighted the various activities of the regional forum especially in ICM and in facilitating and promoting commodity and thematic networks in the region. AARINENA has significant experience in promoting and facilitating networks development. Dr. Paroda suggested that other regions members can join these networks and indicated that APAARI was interested in the Date Palm network. He also stated that this could be a good approach to further build inter-regional collaboration.

Action point: GFAR Secretariat to follow up on this issue.

b. Dr. R.S. Paroda reported the achievements of APAARI. He highlighted the APAARI experience in building partnerships through alliances, consortiums and reciprocal memberships. APAARI has achieved commendable success in the area of building partnerships. He also highlighted how APAARI shares information, knowledge and experience through its Success Stories series of publications. So far, APAARI has developed and published 26 success stories that can be shared.

c. Dr. Paroda, representing CACAARI, also presented the report of CACAARI and its achievements. He reminded the members that CACAARI members are isolated due to various barriers. These transition states from ex-Soviet bloc were trying hard to emerge from geopolitical isolation that brought about isolation from knowledge, global economy and world experience related to agriculture. He stressed the need for GFAR to support the strengthening of this regional forum. This issue was deliberated at some length by the members. They indicated that a strategy to support CACAARI must be developed along with the development of the regions’ ARD needs assessment being taken up early 2007.

Action Point: A strategy to support CACAARI must be developed by CACAARI and GFAR Secretariat along with the development of the regions’ ARD needs assessment being taken up early 2007.

d. The report from FARA was presented by Ms. Myra Wopereis-Pura. She highlighted how FARA was taking lead in Africa’s agricultural development along with NEPAD. She also presented FARA’s leadership of various programs including FARA’s regional initiatives such as Sub Saharan Africa Challenge Program, Building Africa’s capacity to build capacity, dissemination of new and proven technologies, regional agricultural information and learning initiatives and how it contributes to NEPAD’s CAADP. She also indicated the development of the EFARD and FARA inter-regional collaboration to develop more European and African Partnerships in ARD.

c. The FORAGRO report was presented by Mr. Mario Allegri. He highlighted the FORAGRO activities in innovation systems and institutional innovation.

f. After the presentation of the GFAR and Regional Forum reports the chairperson recognized the great diversity of information, knowledge and experience of GFAR and its members. It was of the opinion of the Program Committee that efforts should be made to share and exchange this information, knowledge and learn from experience of the various forums.
through inter-regional collaboration. Members also indicated that inclusiveness of all stakeholders in GFAR activities is another critical issue tied with inter-regional collaboration.

g. After due deliberation, members of the PC outlined a strategy to bring about greater inclusiveness and inter-regional collaboration. The strategy included:

A. For greater inclusiveness:

i. Increased participation of all stakeholders not only on decision-making bodies of GFAR, regional, sub-regional organizations and forums and the NARS but also in conferences, meetings and other events. GFAR should support this participation.

ii. Build databases of all stakeholders for each regional forum and at GFAR Secretariat. The current gaps in the existing databases need to be analyzed and filled in.

iii. Promote learning of lessons between the regions through seminars, conferences and publication of success stories and lessons learned.

iv. Inclusion not only of farmers but the representation of livestock keepers, pastoralists and fishermen in GFAR.

v. Strengthening of NARS especially towards inclusive institution building.

vi. Building NARS capacities in program delivery

vii. GFAR to catalyse inclusiveness through Regional and Sub-Regional Forums

B. For greater inter-regional sharing of lessons learned and collaboration:

i. Collaboration between regional forums must be strengthened through identification of various mechanisms such as reciprocal membership, presence of representatives of various forums in activities of each regional forum especially the general body meetings, development of real inter-regional programs through the Global Partnership Programmes.

ii. The Secretariat must develop a paper on current status of South-South collaboration. The gaps in South-South collaboration need to be identified and highlighted and should also include the benefits expected from North-South collaboration

Action Points:
- The GFAR Secretariat to initiate steps to implement strategy for greater inclusiveness and inter-regional sharing of lessons learned
- The Secretariat to develop a paper on current status of South-South collaboration. The gaps in South-South collaboration need to be identified and highlighted and should also include the benefits expected from North-South collaboration.

10. Progress Reports from Stakeholder Groups

a. The report from the NGOs was presented by Monica Kapiriri. She gave an over view of the objectives behind the establishment of regional NGO consortia. She then reported progress achieved in the consolidation of the SSA NGO Consortium and efforts of the Asian NGOs in establishing their own regional NGO Consortium. During the year, the SSA NGOC convened a sub-regional meeting at which they developed a communications strategy, developed a code of conduct, started NGO profiling activity, and are currently working on five case studies in the area of multi-stakeholder partnerships.
b. The report from Farmers’ Organization was presented by the Ron Bonnet who was sitting in for Jack Wilkinson. He briefly reported the outcomes of the IFAP 37th Farmers’ Congress held in May 2006. He also stressed on the importance of IFAP Farmers Research Committee which aims to strengthen the linkages between small farm holders and researchers at all levels. He also mentioned that the Research Committee has been extensively involved during the year in the regional consultations of the Linking Farmers to Markets and said IFAP strongly supports this initiative.

c. Kwesi Atah-Krah provided the Committee with an overview of the most recent development in the CGIAR and the alliance of the CG Centres. Among other aspects, he detailed the new CGIAR System wide priorities, the programmatic integration in sub-Saharan Africa and the call for new challenge program ideas. He concluded by saying that while there is active participation in GFAR by the CGIAR centres, there has been inadequate engagement in core GFAR functions and governance.

d. Rupert Best presented the recommendations of the recent review of the GPP and the implications that these have for GFAR in general and for the Secretariat in particular. The PC endorsed the definition proposed in the review report. It also endorsed the principles that guide the development and implementation of GPPs, with the sole exception of principle 4 that should be reworded as follows:

\[
\text{GPP themes should take account of the priorities and ensure the participation of at least two regional forums}
\]

The PC recommended to the Steering Committee that the Secretariat be strengthened so as to be able fulfil the implications of the Review Team’s recommendations.

11. Reports from Global Partnership Programs and other GFAR Initiatives

a. Laurence van Veldhuizen presented the PROLINNOVA 2006 progress report. He highlighted how participatory innovation development is integrated in agricultural research, extension and education is integrated through PROLINNOVA activities in several countries.

b. Irmgard Hoeschle-Zeledon presented the progress report of the Global Facilitation Unit for Underutilized Species (GFU-UUS). In her presentation she highlighted the achievements in the recent past: including studies on impact of national policies on underutilized species in Peru, Papua New Guinea, Nepal, Vietnam, Jordan, Uzbekistan, Zambia. GFU-UUS has also recently finalized a draft analysis of international agreements and legislation in the areas of agriculture, natural resource, education, health, and trade. The GPP has also contributed to number global and regional initiative to advocate for UUS, e.g. the Chennai Declaration. She also reported that the GPP web portal has been re-designed and re-launched.

c. Ajit Maru presented the highlights of ICM4ARD GPP including the new developments in EGFAR. Monty Jones informed the Committee how the ICM4ARD initiative is benefiting African ARD and because of it, the African Development Bank is now funding ICM4ARD activities in Africa at the country level. The Program Committee was of the opinion that the capabilities of EGFAR
need to be widely known to all GFAR stakeholders and efforts should be made in that direction.

**Action Point:** Capabilities of EGFAR need to be made widely known to all GFAR Stakeholders.

d. Oliver Oliveros presented the report of the DURAS program. He indicated how DURAS was an innovative multi-stakeholder partnership based program promoting not only South-South but North-South collaboration. He indicated efforts being made for phase II of DURAS whose current phase will end in December 2007.

### 12. New GPP Proposals

a. Miguel Garcia (IICA), Ron Bonnett (IFAP), Shaun Ferris (CIAT), members of the interim committee for the development of Linking Farmers to Markets GPP concept note, explained the process used for preparing the proposal and described the vision, mission, components and outputs of the program through a presentation. They requested the Program Committee to endorse the process for developing the business plan, engaging the donors for financing and laying the ground for the establishment of a permanent governance structure.

The PC manifested its support for this important initiative and endorsed its further development to a full-fledged GPP. In doing so, they requested the interim committee to take the following into consideration as they move forward in transforming the concept note into a business plan:

i) The full engagement and participation of one representative each from RF in the interim committee for decision making on the content and governance of the GPP.

ii) The review of the budget of the inception phase, taking into account the need for allocation of appropriate funds (around US$ 15,000-20,000 each) for documenting the ‘islands of success’ by each RF to move forward rather than waiting further.

iii) The expanded interim-committee to prepare soon a full GPP program for seeking donor support for its funding.

No overhead should be charged by the interim host institution of the interim committee.

b. The Non-Timber Forest Products Global Partnership Program was presented by Ralf Kwaschik. He highlighted the progress, including a survey now in progress, in this program.

The PC endorsed the NTFP, recognized the contribution of IFAD to the program and recommended the partnership program may be placed through the Steering Committee of GFAR for support from the Donor Support Group of GFAR.

### 13. GFAR Work Plan and Budget

Dr. Ola Smith, Executive Secretary of GFAR, presented the work plan and budget of GFAR till the end of May 2006. He stated that in view of the need to consider the
outcomes from the GFAR 2006 Triennial Conference and the GFAR Review into the next GFAR Business Plan, the Program Committee should consider an interim Work Plan and Budget till end of May 2006,

The Committee endorsed the GFAR Work Plan and Budget as presented by Dr. Smith for consideration of the Steering Committee. It also recommended that the Secretariat prepare a revised work plan for 2007 based on the outcome of the Business Plan presentation and have it considered for approval by the Program Committee and Steering Committee in May, 2007.

**Action Point:** The Secretariat to prepare a revised work plan for 2007 following the preparation of the Business Plan 2007-2009.
## Annex 2: Attendance List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nur Abdi</td>
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</tr>
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## Annex 2: Agenda
**DAY ONE: THURSDAY, 30th NOVEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGENDA ITEM</th>
<th>DOCUMENT</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| 08h45-09h00 | Welcome remarks by the GFAR Chair  
Adoption of meeting agenda  
Approval of minutes of the 1st PC Meeting | GFAR-PC-06-01  
GFAR-PC-06-02 |
| 09h00-11h00 | Mandate, Role, Composition of the Programme Committee  
Selection of Chair of the Programme Committee | GFAR-PC-06-03  |
| 11h00-11h30 | Coffee break                  |                |

**PROGRESS REPORTS: REGIONAL FORA (15 min presentation + 15 min discussion)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGENDA ITEM</th>
<th>DOCUMENT</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11h30-12h00</td>
<td>Report from the GFAR Secretariat</td>
<td>GFAR-PC-06-04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 12h00-13h00 | AARGINENA  
APAARI | GFAR-PC-06-05a  
GFAR-PC-06-05b |
| 13h00-14h30 | Lunch break      |                |
| 14h30-16h00 | CACAARI  
FARA  
FORAGRO | GFAR-PC-06-05c  
GFAR-PC-06-05d  
GFAR-PC-06-05e |
| 16h00-16h30 | Coffee break      |                |
| 16h30-17h30 | EFARD  
North America | GFAR-PC-06-05f  
GFAR-PC-06-05g |

**DAY TWO: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1st**

**PROGRESS REPORTS: STAKEHOLDER GROUPS (20 Minutes each)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGENDA ITEM</th>
<th>DOCUMENT</th>
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| 09h00-10h40 | FOs  
NGO  
Private Sector  
IARCS  
Donors | GFAR-PC-06-06a  
GFAR-PC-06-06b  
GFAR-PC-06-06c  
GFAR-PC-06-06d |
| 10h40-11h00 | Coffee break |                |

**PROGRESS REPORTS: UPDATES ON GPPs AND OTHER INITIATIVES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGENDA ITEM</th>
<th>DOCUMENT</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 11h00-11h30 | GPP Evaluation  
➢ PROmoting Local INNOVAtion (PROLINNOVA)  
➢ Global Facilitation Unit on Under utilised Species (GFU-UUS)  
➢ Conservation Agriculture | GFAR-PC-06-07a  
GFAR-PC-06-07b  
GFAR-PC-06-07c |
| 11h30-12h30 | Lunch break   |                |
| 14h00-15h00 (15min each) | Information Communication Management for ARD (ICM4ARD) | GFAR-PC-06-07c |
## NEW GPP Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Document Code(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15h00-16h00</td>
<td>Linking Smallholder Farmers to Dynamic Markets (LFM)</td>
<td>GFAR-PC-06-08a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP)</td>
<td>GFAR-PC-06-08b</td>
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<tr>
<td>16h00-16h20</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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## Programme of Work for 2007 (Presentation and Open Discussion)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16h20-17h30</td>
<td>Programme of Work and Budget for 2007</td>
<td>GFAR-PC-06-09</td>
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