

Dear Secretariat,

On the evaluation recommendation 4 (the Advisory Group meeting of 5 February - summary sent out on 13 February), I note especially Italy's written response:

- " Italy believes that the **mechanism-based system** represents an effective example that should be extended to two other categories that compose the Advisory Group: the International Agricultural Research Institutions and the International Financial and Trade Institutions".

In this context please recall the CGIAR annual report to CFS of last December, specifically on question 1 which began :

'CGIAR comprises 15 international research centers working in close collaboration with hundreds of partners, including national and regional research institutes, civil society organizations, academia, development organizations and the private sector. CGIAR is a member of the CFS Advisory Group, and until CFS 44 that seat was covered by representatives from Bioversity. After that date, the CGIAR will be represented by the System Organization of the CGIAR (Dr. RD Cooke and Mr A Zandstra)' .

I briefed the System Organization before and after the November CFS meetings, and the December report was compiled by me in consultation with the System Organization representing all 15 Centres and their diverse partners in R&D. I also intend to consult with them on future CFS interactions as and when advance notice of the meetings permits. On this basis the CG System Organization is analogous to the term used in the written response from Italy: a **mechanism-based system**.

I hear that there were suggestions in the 5 February meeting that maybe IFPRI should be asked to participate in the AG, but this is just one of the 15 centres of the CGIAR (as is Bioversity which has the advantage of having its HQ closer to Rome). IFPRI may indeed be willing to attend on an ad hoc basis as appropriate to the topic and their availability; they did indeed participate in CFS 44 side events.

I hope that this late addition is useful to the Bureau.
regards,
Rod Cooke