

Memorandum of Understanding for Collaboration on Agricultural Research and Development in Central Asia

Based on the needs of the national agricultural research systems (NARSs) of Central Asia, the undersigned CGIAR Centers have a mutual and complementary interest to contribute to agricultural research and development in the Central Asian Republics namely Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. These Centers agree to form a Consortium to meet NARSs needs and use more effectively the limited resources available to have impact on agricultural research and development. Such a Consortium, which is open to other CG Centers having interest in Central Asia, aims at ensuring a coordinated approach of the CGIAR Centers to the five NARSs in Central Asia. Considering the urgency for taking action to meet NARSs' needs in Central Asia and the trans-Caucasian region (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia), the members of the Consortium agree to abide by the following articles:

Article I: Cooperation among Centers

Members of the Consortium agree to:

- share information on actions and plans
- coordinate activities at national and regional levels
- develop joint activities
- where appropriate, share facilities, country agreements, etc. on cost sharing basis

Article II: Implementation

In order to achieve Article I, members agree:

- that ICARDA will be the focal point to support the activities of the Consortium and to facilitate its implementation
- to set up an information system
- to meet at least annually

Article III: Project Development and Funding

Members of the Consortium will develop proposals for funding either individually or jointly, as appropriate. Members agree to coordinate particularly in areas of common interest to avoid the development of an un-related scatter of projects to increase coherence of action and funding and confusion and duplication.

Article IV: Membership

The membership of the Consortium is open to other sister Centers to ensure a coordinated approach by the CGIAR in Central Asia.

Article V: Implementation

This MOU will be effective when signed by representatives of the Centers involved. It may be modified in agreement with all the partners.

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Center: ICRISAT

Signature: P. Pichay-Andersen
Center: IFPRI Oct. 31, 97

Signature: [Signature]
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