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Derek Osborn, Chair. Felix Dodds, Executive Director. Charles Nouhan, Deputy Director.

Implementation Conference – Food Security

MINUTES FROM CONFERENCE CALL

Tuesday, 7th May 2002

- Claire Rhodes, 09 May 2002 -

Participants	Apologies for Absence
Claire Rhodes, Stakeholder Forum Jenny Howard, Facilitating Team Keith Jones, CropLife Lucien Royer, ICFTU Magdi Ibrahim, ENDA Maghreb Michael Burke, Stakeholder Forum Minu Hemmati, Stakeholder Forum Paul Osborne, Spore Rajul Pandya-Lorch, IFPRI Robert Whitfield, Stakeholder Forum Ruth Grier, Stakeholder Forum	Achola Palo Okeyo (UNDP) Annik Dollacker (CropLife) Coosje Hoogendoorn (IFGRI) Eve Crowley (FAO) Jeff McNeely (IUCN) John Waugh (IUCN) Irene Dankleman (WEDO) Nora Ourabah (IFAP) Peter Mann (IPSA) Peter Hurst (IUF)

Purpose

- To establish the issue paper as a basis for proceeding
- To agree an initial list of action plans to be developed
- To confirm the process for next steps towards the IC
- Ascertain which IAG members will be in Bali and/or Rome

Outcomes

1.) Comments on the issue paper

It was decided that comments on the paper would be limited, in order to move on to the development of areas for action relatively quickly. Call participants agreed to forward any additional comments at a later date, by e-mail.

The main points raised in relation to Issue Paper Version 3 were:

- The issue paper is currently too centred upon Northern hemisphere perceptions and needs to more adequately reflect the concerns of Southern partners, whose efforts are so far not adequately represented in the paper.
- Although fair trade, organic farming and Northern hemisphere ethnic markets are valuable initiatives, they should complement not replace action to improve productivity of extant agricultural land.
- Urban agriculture should be given further consideration within the paper
- The role of agriculture as a means of generating employment opportunities and income should be reiterated.
- Community based organisations (CBOs) should be distinguished from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
- Depreciation in agricultural product prices are not always detrimental to food security.

2.) Comments on areas for multi-stakeholder action plans development

- Action plans should be classified, depending on whether they propose a short-term or longer-term, ongoing initiative.
- Lucien noted that the ICFTU is currently involved with an ongoing sector by sector analysis of sustainable development issues in relation to agriculture, chemicals, to which the IC/Stakeholder Forum could potential explore linkages.
- Paul reaffirmed the need to strengthen the role of various media in conveying key messages to both policy makers and the general public within developing countries.

The group identified scope for action plan development in the following areas:

ACTION AREAS WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR IMMEDIATE IMPACT

Action Area	Potential IAG member involvement	Further action plan details
Media and Agriculture	Paul Osborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an action plan for strengthening the role of the media
Subsidies	Paul Osborne Keith Jones/Annik Dollacker Rajul Pandya-Lorch Magdi Ibrahim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate an Agricultural subsidies awareness raising campaign, replicating the successful Jubilee 2000 debt initiative¹. • Organise a workshop at the IC to exchange experiences on strengthening regional negotiation capacity within developing countries within the trade arena (For example the Mediterranean Blue Plan)
Strengthening the capacity of Farmers organisations (at a regional and national level)	Paul Osborne Keith Jones/Annik Dollacker Rajul Pandya-Lorch	<p>IC workshop to facilitate the exchange of experiences</p> <p>Establishment of an exchange programme to expand upon learning / best practice awareness raising opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business plan development • Transparency in governance • Organisational management • Accessing / Using the internet <p>Lessons can potentially be learnt from: Urban citizen participation programmes (Keith) Participatory methodologies employed in Latin America (Rajul)</p>
Expansion of successful agricultural practice programmes	Keith Jones/Annik Dollacker Rajul Pandya-Lorch Paul Osborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen linkages between local farmers and local / export markets for income generation • Support extension services • Support for farmer training and education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CropLife's Web based education tool (Keith / Annik) • Farmer field school programmes (Rajul)

¹ Minu: Potential to utilise feedback from the post- Jubilee 2000 knowledge management exercise

LONGER-TERM INITIATIVES

Sustainable Natural Resource Management*	John Waugh Jeff McNeely Rajul Pandya-Lorch	Explore how IC can support action in the light of outcomes from 'Food Security & Biodiversity Conservation' workshop (PrepComm III, New York) IC to facilitate the dissemination of the UNDP's Equator Initiatives 'best practice' examples Identification of 'best practice' case-studies to employ during 'awareness raising' exercises
Access to land*	Achola Pala Okeyo Irene Dankelman Magdi Ibrahim	Stakeholder Forum is currently exploring the potential to add value to existing initiatives in relation to land Potential support for action on land rights (esp. of small farmers, women) and agrobiodiversity To provide case-study examples (which could potentially be employed to raise awareness of specific 'best practice' examples)
Fair Trade*	Magdi Ibrahim Irene Dankelman Keith Jones/Annik Dollacker	Additional areas for action plan development (further to action focusing on distortive subsidies) to be identified in a forthcoming 'Ethical Trade' Advisory Group Conference Call.
Governance*	Achola Pala Okeyo	Development of an action plan on local governance issues – potentially in collaboration with the Huairou Commission.
Strengthening agricultural research programmes, especially within the Southern Hemisphere and increasing linkages between researchers and other stakeholders	Rajul Pandya-Lorch Coosje Hoogendoorn	Facilitate linkages between the research community and other stakeholder groups Strengthen ongoing research initiatives (Can IC add value / raise awareness / engagement of CGIAR's work in this area?)

* : Please note that although these areas were not discussed in depth during the conference call itself, they have been proposed as potential foci for action by group members who were unfortunately unable to participate on this occasion.

3.) Forthcoming Events

- Food Security IAG meetings
 - PrepComm IV, Bali (Date and Time TBC)
 - World Food Summit, Rome (Date and Time TBC)

- An introductory workshop to CropLife's Web-based education tool
 - PrepComm IV, Bali – Wednesday 29th May (Time TBC)

4.) Next steps

- Circulate the finalised Issue Paper
- Development and presentation of multi-stakeholder action plans, based on suggestions made during and following the conference call.
- Further identification of stakeholders willing to support one / several action plans during the IC.