



GFAR

GLOBAL FORUM ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
FORUM MONDIAL DE LA RECHERCHE AGRICOLE
FORO GLOBAL DE INVESTIGACION AGROPECUARIA

GFAR-SM-05-13b

16TH GFAR STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
MARRAKECH, MOROCCO
3RD – 4TH DECEMBER 2005

Action taken

Actions Taken.

As indicated in the minutes, it was that the Secretariat should prepare a short paper tracing the history of the conference from Dresden to New Delhi, to highlight topical issues that influence or could influence the choice of themes, and make some appropriate suggestions to the SC latest by September 2005. This was carried out and the paper was sent to all members of the Steering Committee

It was also suggested that efforts should be made to secure a full or part time person to work on preparatory activities for the conference. Dr Ajit Maru from India joined the Secretariat in October. He used to work at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research where the conference will be held and has taken over the responsibility of working on preparatory activities of the Conference. He will be provided with part time secretarial assistance when the need arises.

Financial update. In future presentations it might be worthwhile to also indicate pledged contributions and when expected, the reserve, and a projected outcome to the end of the year. All of these elements are present in the current financial report to be discussed by the SC.

It was also suggested that efforts should be redoubled to look for additional sources of funding. Some recent efforts carried out in this regard were:

- i) A discussion with CIDA Canada for the provision of a bridging fund for the period 2006 before a new three-year funding request for 2007-2009 is presented.
- ii) A concept note submitted to DFID for a three-year project based support
- iii) Initial discussion with the European Commission (DG-DEV) for a second phase funding of the Stakeholder Committee of the Generation Challenge Programme.
- iv) Pledged two-year project-based support from IFAD for the period 2006-2007
- v) Renewed efforts to complete official request for the pledged support by the European Commission for the CSO project.