



*Cooperative Program in Agricultural Research and Technology for the Northern Region
Programa Cooperativo en Investigación y Tecnología Agrícola para la Región Norte*

PROCINORTE
XVII Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 23-24, 2015
Washington, D.C.
ARS South Building - Room 3109

1. Background and Objectives

The 17th Annual Meeting of the PROCINORTE's Board of Directors (BoD) was held on November 23-24, 2015 in Washington D.C, USA, at the facilities of the United States Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service (ARS). This satisfied the obligation for a Board Meeting for the year 2015, and was the second meeting during the calendar year (the previous one corresponding to the programming year 2014).

The main objectives of the meeting were:

- i. Review the activities and accomplishments of the Task Forces for the current year.
- ii. Review and decide on PROCINORTE's work plan and budget for 2016.

2. Opening

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Gilles Saindon at 9:10 a.m. He extended a warm welcome to Members and thanked them for attending the meeting. Apologies were tabled on behalf of Dr. Muhammad Ibrahim, IICA's Deputy Director of Technical Cooperation and Ms. Gloria Abraham, IICA Representative in Mexico.

The President also related that the Director General of IICA had written a letter dated July 23, 2015 proposing Dr. Audia Barnett, IICA Representative in Canada as the new Executive Secretary (ES) of PROCINORTE. The appointment was moved by Dr. Brad Fraleigh and seconded by Dr. Luis Fernando Flores. With unanimous agreement, Dr. Barnett was installed as the new Executive Secretary of PROCINORTE.

Appreciation was extended to Dr. Priscila Henriquez on behalf of the group for serving as the Executive Secretary for the past 6 years.

3. Greetings

Dr. Simon Liu, Associate Administrator of ARS, provided welcoming remarks on behalf of Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, ARS Administrator. He pointed to the common challenges being addressed by the three countries and underscored the relevance of the PROCINORTE platform for collaboration. He therefore stressed the importance of maximizing the potential of PROCINORTE on joint tri-lateral work, for example, to eradicate pests.



4. Approval of the Agenda

The President introduced the Agenda ([click here](#)), which was approved by the BoD.

5. Minutes of the XVI Meeting

The Minutes of the XVI meeting ([click here](#)) were presented and note was taken on their timely preparation and circulation, consistent with the BoD's recommendation. The Minutes were then approved unanimously after a motion by Dr. Brad Fraleigh, which was seconded by Dr. Stephen Kappes.

An Action Sheet reflecting follow-up actions ([click here](#)) from last year's BoD decisions was presented by the ES. Dr. Fraleigh proposed to start with the top half of this document, follow-up to last year's decisions, and to address the 2016 Action Plan under agenda item 13 below. He also expressed concern that the final Action Plan and approved Budget for 2015 were not circulated to the BoD in a timely manner.

Dr. Fraleigh further noted that the action: *"Muhammad Ibrahim to prepare a concept note delineating potential collaboration mechanisms among the PROCIs, FORAGRO and other relevant organizations charged with supporting agricultural research and innovation in the Hemisphere"* was not captured in the Action list.

Decision 1: ES to ensure timely circulation of pertinent documents including the Action Plan and the final approved Budget to the BoD.

Decision 2: To revise the Action Plan to properly reflect preparation of the Concept Note (See Action 2.3 of the Action Plan).

Dr. Miguel Garcia suggested that a suitable accountability schedule be clearly defined for the future.

Members of the Board agreed that a basic schedule should be maintained, and further that IICA's management system for accountability continue to be used, with any issues of concern being communicated to the BoD on an "as required" basis.

Decision 3: ES to prepare a basic suitable accountability schedule.

Decision 4: ES to prepare an interim activity report three months prior to Board Meetings.

The President closed the Opening Session noting the reasonable progress being made on the Action Plan considering the fact that only 9 months had elapsed since the previous meeting. Dr. Kappes concurred, indicating that the in-kind support provided to the Task Forces was a good sign that PROCINORTE was on the right track.



6. Report on the Meeting of the PROCIs Executive Secretaries and FORAGRO in Brasilia, November 9 - 11, 2015

Dr. Salvador Fernández made 2 presentations. The first presentation, **Regional Collaborative Agricultural Research Programme (PROCI) FORAGRO Technical Advisory Group Meeting** ([click here](#)), provided a summary of the background to the meeting that took place on November 9, 2015 in Brazil. Dr. Fraleigh advised that, contrary to the information in the presentation regarding the lack of an agreement establishing PROCINORTE, an establishment Agreement was indeed signed by the member countries in 1999 and presented to the FORAGRO in 2000. This was noted for correction.

Dr. Fernández spoke of possible areas of collaboration among the PROCIs and cited as an example, the area of Crop Protection which was amenable to collaboration among GT -ITTI (Grupo Técnico de Investigación, Tecnología, Transferencia e Innovación / Technical Group of Research, Technology Transfer and Innovation) /PROCINORTE/ PROMECAFE (Programa Cooperativo Regional para el Desarrollo Tecnológico y Modernización de la Caficultura / Regional Cooperative Program for the Technological Development and Modernization of Coffee Cultivation)/ IICA (SAIA - Sanidad Agropecuaria e Inocuidad de los Alimentos / Agricultural Health and Food Safety).

In response to the presentation, Dr. Kappes commended the initiative, concurring that the first step involved getting the researchers together to discuss commonalities. The President agreed, and added that aligning approaches - e.g. regarding animal health or genetic resources - was important as the task forces evolved over time.

Dr. Fernández' second presentation was "**FORAGRO 2015: External Review and Meeting of the Extended Executive Committee, Brazil, November 10 - 11, 2015**" ([click here](#)), where he summarized the report on the evaluation of FORAGRO's Governance, Activities and Funding. IICA provides the Secretariat for FORAGRO.

7. Guest Speaker

Dr. Eileen Thacker, currently Center Director, US National Poultry Center, ARS, and former Leader of the Animal Health Task Force, spoke on the issue of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in foods ([click here](#)). She noted the Presidential Order (2014) and the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) among others as key signals of the importance of this area for the US. An acknowledged important area also for Canada, she stressed that collaboration was critical to the reduction of AMR on an international level.

During the discussion, Dr. Thacker agreed that harmonizing methodologies and procedures regarding AMR could impact trade between Mexico and the US in the long



run, however the fact that incoming cattle were held in feed lots would minimize potential problems. Dr. Flores of Mexico expressed an interest in the methodology for detecting AMR. The President pointed out that momentum on AMR in Canada was increasing as the burden is now being placed on producers, as demonstrated by the increasing trend for food chains to source antibiotic-free animals.

8. Task Force Reports

8.1. Plant Health

Dr. Deb Fravel provided a summary of the Task Force's objectives, noting that the harmonization of protocols for the identification of insects and networking among scientists remained the focus ([click here](#)). She related that the workshop held in Mexico on: Insect Taxonomy was a success, with some 75 participants receiving up-to-date information on state of the art methodologies. The workshop session was rated as being particularly beneficial by the participants, many of whom had not previously been exposed to these methodologies. For 2016, the Task Force proposed a Workshop to be held in Ottawa on Zebra Chip in potato, as very little was known about this condition which affects the marketability of potatoes. Dr. Della Johnson of AAFC agreed to host the workshop which would be complemented with a tour of the insect collection. The budget proposed was \$20,000 USD however, this could be adjusted, with consideration given to the number of Mexican scientists to be facilitated (i.e. with a lower budget, a smaller number of Mexican Scientists would be accommodated, and vice versa).

Dr. Fraleigh expressed appreciation at receiving the results of the workshop, and concurred with the benefits of harmonization of methodologies. Dr. Flores also noted that potato seeds are imported from Canada and the US into Mexico, so work on the Zebra Chip was appropriate. The importance of having detection methods that farmers could use was a desirable outcome.

8.2. Animal Health

Dr. Cyril Gay presented the Animal Health Task Force report ([click here](#)). The TF's main activity for the year had not yet taken place and was scheduled for Dec. 2-3, 2015. Dr. Gay posited that based on the trend for antimicrobial resistance (AMR), new alternatives to antibiotics were going to be increasingly required. As such, the Task Force would be exploring topics such as AMR and the risk of emerging diseases in the workshop entitled: "*Rapid Efficient Response to High Consequence Animal Diseases*".

Dr. Gay also indicated that opportunities for undertaking joint projects of tri-lateral interest would be explored in the coming year. Funds available for such activities would be targeted in this regard.



The BoD highlighted the value of coordination with regulators and commended the plans in train for the TF.

Dr. Fernández spoke on the synergies with IICA's Agricultural Health and Food Safety platform, suggesting that consideration be given to forging joint action. There was general agreement, noting that while the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) was a counterpart regional body for Plant Health, there was no similar organization for Animal Health.

The Board was apprised that the TF's strategy for project funds was to utilize IICA's allocation as seed funds and subsequently explore using this to leverage more significant funding, e.g. from ARS and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

8.3. Tree Fruits

Dr. Ricardo Goenaga of USDA ARS and outgoing leader of the Tree Fruit Task Force presented the report ([click here](#)). He opined that the non-destructive technique being honed by the Task Force could possibly be a new standard for assessing the quality of avocados in the future. Noting the acceptance by industry, Board members suggested that acceptance by regulators would also be required in order to have the desired impact.

A request was advanced by the TF for \$69K to conduct further non-destructive testing of other fruit - including temperate varieties. In response to queries on likely funders, Dr. Goenaga explained that while industry was very engaged and supportive, the TF preferred not to limit the technology to any one company or cooperative. There was general agreement, with the recommendation that further funding opportunities be explored.

Decision: External funding sources to be sought to support a project for the Non-Destructive Testing of a variety of Tree Fruits.

A proposal for purchasing a specialized computer and a customized spectrometer out of funds allotted for 2015 and yet unspent, was presented for consideration.

Decision: The Board of Directors approved the purchase and ownership of a computer and a spectrometer by IICA as per the proposal ([click here](#)).

8.4. Genetic Resources (NORGEN)

Dr. Axel Diederichsen reported on the activities of the Task Force during the year ([click here](#)). Members of the Task Force participated in several conferences during the year and explored indigenous genetic resources as a topic for focus next year.



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Dr. Kappes observed that the conservation of germplasm appeared to be of continued importance, while Dr. Priscila Henriquez recalled that the area of genetic resources of indigenous populations was being considered a few years prior, and would be suited to outreach to countries such as Guatemala and Bolivia.

Decision: The BOD approved the progress reports presented by the Task Forces.



9. Challenges and Proposed Responses

The Executive Secretary provided an overview of the 3 challenges ([click here](#)) articulated in the Strategic Plan 2015 – 2020 ([click here](#)), and proposed response actions to address these.

9.1. Communication Plan

A draft Communication Plan ([click here](#)) was shared with the BoD. In response, it was suggested that the plan include the responsible party for each activity. Another suggestion was to include email blasts (massive number of email sent to targeted recipients). Dr. Fraleigh suggested revising the frequency of website updates from monthly to quarterly and to add GFAR and GCARD as relevant international agricultural platforms. After some discussion, it was agreed that an interim report should be made to the Board at the 9 month mark along with a meeting with the President.

A draft banner was unveiled ([click here](#)) and draft promotional brochures distributed ([click here](#)). Amendments noted by Dr. Flores included removing “30” from the logo of INIFAP and placing an accent on the “e” in Mexico in the brochure. Members expressed approval of the draft communications plan, including promotional material, pending adjustments noted.

With respect to the response to financial challenges, the President informed that Canada would be funding travel costs for the participation of Board and Task Force members who participated in relevant PROCINORTE events, while Dr. Flores indicated that INIFAP would also assist with members’ travel costs. Dr. Kappes added that ARS usually tried to cover their attendance to Board meetings.

On the subject of project proposals, Dr. Fraleigh reminded the members that federal government Canadian scientists cannot use transfer payments allocated by the Government of Canada. He indicated that the annual AAFC call for science and technology projects enhances the profile of PROCINORTE and this could be used to benefit the Task Forces. The core allocation from IICA was emphasized as being small but crucial for the work of PROCINORTE. The President summarized, observing that where possible, scientists could align certain research activities as sub-objectives of their departmental projects.

Decision: To accept the draft Communication Plan pending incorporation by the ES of BoD’s recommendations on responsible party for activities (and adding GFAR and GCARD) as well as edits on the banner and website update (quarterly). Additionally to include an interim report 9 months after the start of the year.



Decision: Canada would be funding the participation of Board and Task Force members, INIFAP would also assist with travel costs.

9.2. Monitoring and Evaluation System

A presentation on a proposed Monitoring and Evaluation System for PROCINORTE was presented ([click here](#)) by the ES, noting the importance of pursuing a performance management framework for the Task Forces.

Dr. Saindon asked IICA representatives about the extent to which IICA expects to see the evidence base for decisions on budget allocation. Dr. Fernández indicated that IICA has an evaluation unit that is independent. It is important to have clarity on what results are expected, to get clear feedback from the evaluation process.

There was a discussion about conducting a “light” assessment and not a formal evaluation of the activities of the Task Forces. Dr. Kappes noted that one of the benefits that could possibly be missed is long term accomplishments. Dr. Saindon proposed developing a template to help report annually and to find a mechanism to rotate reporting among Task Forces.

Dr. Fernández brought to the table the case of PROMECAFE, and suggested that one way could be use the Strategic Plan as the base for the next 5 years, assuming that the current Task Forces will continue; then 1 or 2 years before the strategic plan ends, to do an assessment of evaluation for this purpose. The President expressed his agreement with this suggestion.

Decision: To instruct Task Forces to ensure that annual reports address the areas of Relevance, Effectiveness and Impact.

The ES to circulate what had been presented at the meeting with a view to further developing a draft plan for assessment of TFs 1-2 years prior to end of the current programming period.

9.3 Joint Programs and Synergies with Other Platforms

The BoD welcomed the suggestion to prepare project proposals for presentation to national funding agencies in Canada, Mexico and the US that are interested in regional collaboration. However, members once again emphasized the importance of IICA’s allocation as seed funding to catalyze significant in-kind contributions and collaborative activities.

With reference to Dr. Fernández’s presentation under agenda item 6 above,
The BoD decided to explore opportunities for collaboration with IICA’s flagship projects and its externally funded projects.



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Closing comments: The President summarized the day's discussions, noting the commendable progress being made.

End of the First Day



SECOND DAY OF THE MEETING

Dr. Gilles Saindon, President, provided a brief summary of the discussions and presentations of Day 1 and **the BoD registered approval of the following:**

- 1. Reports from the 4 Task Forces; the respective budgets are subject to revision based on the allocation from IICA.**
- 2. The Communication Plan (pending amendments).**
- 3. The promotional material: Banner, brochure (pending edits).**

The President further indicated that the prospect of joint projects remained fluid, with TF members being encouraged to seek opportunities for these. Keeping the monitoring and evaluation mechanism “light” was reinforced, however the Task Forces were to align their reports to the 3 areas of Relevance, Effectiveness and Impact.

10. Panel Discussion on Funding Mechanisms

Dr. Miguel Garcia opened the session by providing insights on the recently launched publication: “Outlook of Agriculture in the Americas” ([click here](#)). He explained that at the recent Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture in the Americas, two significant outputs were the Declaration of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture and the IICA/FAO/ECLAC publication: Outlook of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean 2015 - 2016. Indicating that this was the only document that analyzed agriculture in the hemisphere, Dr. Garcia shared perspectives that were considered pertinent to organizations such as PROCINORTE. He proposed for example, that PROCINORTE could assist with the Ministerial commitment to strengthen the capacities of Ministries of Agriculture to address productivity, as well as innovation and innovation systems. Citing the work of the Task Force on Genetic Resources, he suggested that appropriate innovation systems for local and ancestral knowledge could be considered. Dr. Garcia also related that while agricultural productivity was of primary concern, the impact of mega trade agreements – e.g. EU/US will impact trade regional trade and standards. Similarly the risk of emerging animal diseases affecting the main producing countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) such as Brazil was an issue flagged.

On questions raised regarding the increased funding level for IICA approved by the IABA, both Dr. Garcia and Dr. Fernández responded, noting that the increase represented the minimum amount needed by IICA to maintain its operations having not had a budget adjustment for some 20 years.



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Having set the stage, the two invited panelists spoke about their respective programs. Dr. Hugo Li Pun, Executive Director of the Regional Fund for Agricultural Technology (FONTAGRO) provided information on the role, and operations of the mechanism of which 15 countries in Latin America were members ([click here](#)). Of particular interest was the upcoming 2016 Call for Proposals. In addition, the support of training workshops and FONTAGRO's work in the area of Knowledge Management and Communication as well as indicators for impact assessment were noted for follow up by the Secretariat.

Ms. Ginya Truitt, CEO, AGROLAC, played a video which demonstrated the high level of buy-in by corporate interests in addressing 3 main areas: trade and access to markets; increased productivity and Agri/Environmental management through co-financing mechanisms. Noting the high visibility of the platform, Ms. Truitt explained that AGROLAC planned to track work done after its planned rollout in March 2016 ([click here](#)). R & D projects are being encouraged, however, applicants need to have some funds to leverage with AGROLAC.

On the question about eligibility of OECD countries, as in the case of PROCINORTE members, to benefit from funding, Ms. Truitt advised that PROCINORTE could qualify only if it collaborated and executed the project in a member LAC country.

11. Summary Report on Performance in 2015 and Proposed Next Steps

The ES provided a summary of the activities of the Task Forces and the Secretariat in 2015, with the attendant expenditures ([click here](#)). A Financial Summary ([click here](#)) was also presented (however not included in the BOD's documents). Dr. Fraleigh moved for acceptance of the report (with the financial summary). The motion was seconded by Dr. Kappes and carried by the BoD.

12. Work Plan 2016

The ES presented the draft Work Plan for the Task Forces and the Secretariat ([click here](#)). During the ensuing discussion by the BoD, the following was agreed:

Decision: the BoD approved the 2016 work plans proposed for the Task Forces and the Secretariat, as modified.

- **Option 1: Present the budget as indicated in the 2016 Work Plan ([click here](#)) to IICA and adjust according to approved amount. If cuts are necessary, field and scientific activities should be maintained as far as possible.**

Option 2: If the same amount is approved as was for 2015 - assign \$15K/Task Force, \$6K for Secretariat.



- ARS will investigate the sponsorship of national program leaders' participation in PROCINORTE events.
- Savings envisaged through sponsorship by national agencies should be used, where possible, for supplies and expendables needed to run experiments, as well as to sponsor participation of other experts.
- Task Forces should seek opportunities to involve other scientists - e.g. other PROCIs (the Zebra Chip Workshop is a case in point)
- Countries' in-kind support should be clearly articulated.

13. Action Plan

Dr. Fraleigh recommended that the 2015 Action Plan be utilized as a basis for discussing the 2016 Plan.

Action Plan

OBJECTIVE 1: Promote dialogue to identify priority research issues common to the three countries and to influence the regional, hemispheric and global agendas.

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
1.1 Implement PROCINORTE activities as indicated in the Strategic Plan	ES and BOD	Dec. 2016
1.2 Take advantage of opportunities at relevant meetings to present PROCINORTE purpose, progress and accomplishments	ES and BOD	Dec. 2016

OBJECTIVE 2: To facilitate the exchange of experiences, information and training through the building of linkages among public and private country institutions of the Northern region (PROCINORTE) and between the major research and technology transfer actors in the region, hemisphere and the world.

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
2.1 Present the accomplishments of PROCINORTE at meetings of agricultural research and technology forums (e.g. FORAGRO) and participate in the follow up to FORAGRO's external review.	President and ES	Dec. 2016
2.2 Continuously improve and update the PROCINORTE web site with the Task Forces information and BOD reports and other relevant information (subject to inputs provided by PROCINORTE members)	ES, IICA, and TF	Ongoing

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<p>2.3 Prepare a concept note and hold a teleconference to delineate potential collaboration issues and mechanisms among the PROCIs, FORAGRO, with IICA’s flagship and externally funded projects, and with other relevant organizations charged with supporting agricultural research and innovation in the Hemisphere.</p>	<p>ES, PROCIs, FORAGRO Executive Secretary and IICA</p>	<p>Apr. 2016</p>
<p>2.4 Prepare a suitable project to disseminate innovations generated by PROCINORTE to other regions (subject to funding opportunities)</p>	<p>ES, TF</p>	<p>Dec. 2016</p>

OBJECTIVE 3: To facilitate collaboration among the countries to solve problems of mutual interest.

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
<p>3.1. Proactive development of means to address new emerging issues (e.g. videoconferences, calls for proposals, others e.g. IICA’s Rapid Response Action (RRA)).</p>	<p>ES and TF, country representatives and IICA staff</p>	<p>As needed</p>
<p>3.2. Send a general communication to TF Chairs regarding national consultations (e.g. the need to focus on issues of tri-lateral interest, results-based work plan and budget, M&E mechanism).</p>	<p>ES</p>	<p>As needed</p>
<p>3.3 Teleconference with Task Forces’ Chairs to follow up on Strategic Plan implementation.</p>	<p>Task Forces</p>	<p>Apr. 2016</p>
<p>3.4 Encourage the Animal Health TF to identify and focus on priority themes/diseases for 2016, and to consider anti-microbial resistance.</p>	<p>ES, Animal Health TF Leader</p>	<p>Dec. 2016</p>

OBJECTIVE 4: Definition of PROCINORTE’s institutional issues

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
<p>4.1 Prepare a mid-year report for the BOD emphasizing accomplishments & constraints, both technically and financially prior to the BOD annual meeting.</p>	<p>ES</p>	<p>Sept. 2016</p>
<p>4.2 Prepare a final interim report for the BOD emphasizing accomplishments & constraints, both technically and financially for the BOD annual meeting</p>	<p>ES</p>	<p>Oct. 2016</p>



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4.3 Finalize the interim PROCINORTE Communications Plan, as modified by the BOD meeting, and begin to implement it.	ES and BOD members	Oct. 2016
4.4 Prepare a draft Monitoring and Evaluation plan for the BoD's consideration	ES	Oct. 2016

14. Additional Business

Presidency

The incumbent reminded the members of the BoD that according to the Terms of Reference of the President ([click here](#)), the option was open for the election of a new President. Acknowledging the excellent performance of Dr. Saindon, the BoD unanimously agreed for him to serve a second 2-year term as President. Dr. Saindon was congratulated by members, who also pledged their continued support.

Decision: Dr. Gilles Saindon will serve a second 2-year term as President.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

The President advised that the next BoD meeting was scheduled to take place in Mexico (based on the rotation of venues). Dr. Flores agreed to host, noting that INIFAP Headquarters in Mexico City would be the likely venue. Dr. Flores indicated that he would shortly communicate the specific date in October, 2016.

Decision: The next BoD Meeting will take place in Mexico, INIFAP Headquarters in Mexico City would be the likely venue, the date will be communicated in due course.

15. Closing Remarks

The President opined that the meeting was a productive one. He thanked the host for making the facility available.

Dr. Fraleigh thanked the guests who made various presentations, the USDA, staff of IICA and the new ES for their efforts in coordinating the meeting.

Dr. Kappes said that he was very impressed with the work being undertaken with the seed funds provided. He also felt it was a good meeting.



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Dr. Flores expressed satisfaction with his first meeting on the BoD. He reminded that PROCINORTE should be more demanding with respect to results and impact of its work and noted that he was looking forward to hosting next year.

Dr. Fernández thanked the USDA-ARS and the Secretariat. He observed that the 4 Task Forces were doing excellent work demonstrating the good investment being made.

Close of Meeting

The meeting was officially closed by consensus at 12:40 p.m. on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at the ARS South Building - Room 3109, Washington, D.C.

Acronyms

ES : Executive Secretary
BoD : Board of Directors
TF : Task Force



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Annex 1: List of Documents Reviewed During the Meeting

i. First day

- Agenda of the BoD Meeting ([click here](#))
- Minutes of the XVI Meeting ([click here](#))
- Action Sheet & follow-up actions from XVI BoD Meeting ([click here](#))
- Proposal for purchasing a specialized computer and a customized spectrometer ([click here](#))
- Strategic Plan 2015 – 2020 ([click here](#))
- Draft Communication Plan ([click here](#))
- Attendance List ([click here](#))

ii. Second day

- Summary of the activities of the Task Forces and the Secretariat with expenditures ([click here](#))
- Financial Summary ([click here](#))
- Draft Work Plan for the PN Task Forces and the Secretariat ([click here](#))
- Terms of Reference of the President ([click here](#))



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Annex 2: List of Presentations Reviewed During the Meeting

i. First day

- Regional Collaborative Agricultural Research Programme (PROCI) FORAGRO Technical Advisory Group Meeting ([click here](#))
- FORAGRO 2015: External Review and Meeting of the Extended Executive Committee, Brazil, November 10 - 11, 2015 ([click here](#))
- Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in foods ([click here](#))
- Plant Health Task Force Presentation ([click here](#))
- Animal Health Task Force report ([click here](#))
- Tree Fruit Task Force report ([click here](#))
- NORGEN – Genetic Resources Task Force report ([click here](#))
- Challenges and Proposed Responses ([click here](#))
- Draft banner ([click here](#))
- Draft promotional brochures ([click here](#))
- Monitoring and Evaluation System for PROCINORTE ([click here](#))

ii. Second day

Panel Discussion

- “Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture of the Americas 2015: Opportunities for PROCINORTE collaboration” ([click here](#))
- “FONTAGRO: a unique cooperation mechanism for agricultural innovation” ([click here](#))
- “AgroLAC 2025: An Agricultural Productivity Fund for Latin America and the Caribbean” ([click here](#))