



## XII<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF CORAF

10-12 April 2018, Dakar, Senegal

# **RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

From the 10th to the 12th of April 2018, the General Assembly (GA) of CORAF held its 12th ordinary session at the KING FADH PALACE Hotel in Dakar, Senegal, under the chairmanship of Dr. Nteranya SANGINGA, Director General of the IITA, in the presence of their Excellencies Dr. Abdoulaye Pape SECK, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Equipment of Senegal, Mr. Asseid Gammar SILECK, Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Agricultural Equipment of Chad, Mr. Gilberto Correia CARVALHO SYLVA, Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Cape Verde, Mr. Moustapha Lo DIATTA, Minister Delegate to the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Equipment of Senegal, in charge of Farmers Organizations.

The General Assembly, having:

- followed the activity report of the Chairman of the Governing Board (GB) of CORAF,
- noted with satisfaction the achievements of CORAF despite the difficult context of insufficient financial resources due to the ending of the main financing,
- considered the remarkable efforts of the GB and the Executive Secretariat (ES) to come out of the difficult situation that CORAF is experiencing,
- reviewed the revisions made to the Statutes,
- considered the quality of the Strategic Plan (2018-2027) and Operational Plan (2018-2022),

- considered the reports from the groups of the parallel sessions on the thematic areas (governance of CORAF, the partnership system with strong involvement of the private sector, relations with policy makers, the added value of CORAF and perspectives on the next 20 years years),
- considered the quality of the debates during the symposium on African agriculture “Contribution of research and development,” and the high-level panel on the valorization of the achievements of research and the financing of agricultural research,

(a) Expresses its warm congratulations and its gratitude to:

- the GB and ES of CORAF for the progress made in the implementation of the main programs and projects;
- the NARS that are up to date on their dues and encourages others to pay up to date as soon as possible;
- the scientific and development partners for their continued support to CORAF for transforming agriculture in West and Central Africa;
- the Ministers of Agriculture of Senegal, Cape Verde and Chad for their active participation in the deliberations of the 12th GA;

(b) Makes the following recommendations and resolutions:

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Recommendation 1 on the Capitalization of the human dimension of CORAF**

The General Assembly,

- Welcoming and celebrating the different distinctions and recognitions made elsewhere, both at continental and global level, for men and women scientists in the CORAF zone who have done honor to research for agricultural development in West and Central Africa,

Recommends to the Executive Secretariat of CORAF to valorize well and better these high scientific and technical competences, in view of the accelerated development of the human resources of CORAF and those of its members that are the National Systems of Agricultural Research (NARS).

### **Recommendation 2 on reducing CORAF's dependence on external financing**

The General Assembly,

- Noting that CORAF funding consists mainly of contributions from development partners,

Recommends to the Executive Secretariat of CORAF and the NARS of the member countries to set up a sustainable financing mechanism based, on the one hand, on the contributions of the NARS, with the help of the establishment of a permanent framework of dialogue with the Ministers of Finance and other ministries in charge of the development of the countries, and, on the other hand, on the support of the Regional Economic Communities which are ECOWAS, ECCAS, UEMOA and CEMAC.

### **Recommendation 3 on the consideration of non-forest wood products in the new Strategic and Operational Plans**

The General Assembly,

- After reviewing the main areas of work of the Strategic Plan and the Operational Plan and the targeted agricultural sectors, noting that non-forest timber products are not covered by them,

Recommends that the Executive Secretariat of CORAF take into account these non-forest timber products to cover all areas of the agro-silvi-pastoral and fisheries sector in West and Central Africa and offer logging companies varied opportunities for the acquisition of improved technologies.

**Recommendation 4 on the governance of CORAF, its partnership with the private sector, its relationship with policy makers and the organization's prospects for the next 20 years.**

The General Assembly,

- Expressing satisfaction with the thorough reflection made by the working groups made up of authorities and high-level experts on all the above-mentioned topics, and recognizing the great value of the results of this reflection,

Recommends that the Executive Secretariat of CORAF review the results of the working groups of the 12th session of the AG to take into account the proposals that can:

- (i) Provide CORAF with an effective governance mechanism (favorable to the objective of generating improved technologies), efficient (low cost) and pragmatic (facilitating the involvement of all stakeholders);
- (ii) Strengthen CORAF's partnership system with FOs and the private sector, particularly for youth employment and women's entrepreneurship;
- (iii) Develop CORAF's relations with policy makers, with a view, on the one hand, to improving the contribution of the NARS to the financing of CORAF's strategic and operational plans, and, on the other hand, to the alignment of these plans with policies and programs for inclusive and sustainable development of the agro-silvi-pastoral and fisheries sectors of the member countries;
- (iv) Incorporate the actions of CORAF with a view to meeting the needs of improved technologies and relevant innovations for the eradication of hunger, reduction of poverty of rural households, improvement of the level of food and nutritional security,

strengthening the climate resilience of vulnerable groups, and boosting cross-border trade.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution 1 on the adoption of the Reports and the basic and strategic documents**

The General Assembly,

- after taking cognizance of the activity report of the Governing Board presented by its Chairman and the state of implementation of the recommendations and resolutions of the 11th GA,
- after approving the various changes in the 2010 version of the Statutes,
- after examining the contents of the Strategic and Operational Plans,

Adopts:

- the activity report of the GB for the period from June 2014 to April 2018;
- the state of implementation of the recommendations and resolutions of the 11th GA;
- the revised Statutes;
- the Strategic and Operational Plans.

### **Resolution 2 on the recognition of the late Dr Ndiaga MBAYE and the late Ibet OUTHMAN ISSA**

The General Assembly,

- In view of the contributions made by the illustrious deceased persons to the development of agricultural research in their countries and at the level of CORAF,

Pays homage to Dr Ndiaga MBAYE, former Executive Secretary of CORAF, who died on 5 January 2018, and to Dr Ibet OUTHMAN ISSA, former Chairman of the Governing Board of CORAF, who died on 15 July 2015.

### **Resolution 3 on the recognition of outgoing members of the GB and the STC Chairman**

The General Assembly,

- Recognizing the significant contribution of former GB members to the smooth functioning of CORAF and the promotion of agricultural research and development in the sub-region,
- Acknowledging their efforts in advocating for the strengthening of cooperation between CORAF and its partners,

Congratulates the outgoing members of the Governing Board:

- Dr. Alioune FALL, outgoing Chairman of the Governing Board of CORAF;
- Dr. François LOMPO, former Chairman of the Governing Board of CORAF;
- Dr. Hamidou TRAORE, Director of INERA, Burkina Faso;
- Dr. Noé WOIN, Director General of IRAD, Cameroon;
- Dr. Aaron MARSHALL, former Director General of CARI, Liberia;
- Dr. Walter WILES, former Director General of CARI Liberia;
- Dr. David YAO ARODOKOUN, former Director General of INRAB, Benin;

- Dr. Samuel BRUCE OLIVER, Director of Strategic Partnerships, AfricaRice, representing the scientific partners;
- Mrs. Gisèle LOPES D'ALMEIDA, President of INTERFACE, representing the Private Sector;
- Mrs. Colette IRIE LOU, President of FENASCOVICI, representing the Non-Governmental Organizations;
- Mrs. Elisabeth ATANGANA, former President of PROPAC, representing the Producer Organizations;
- Prof. Claude ADANDEDJAN, former Chairman of the STC.

#### **Resolution 4 on the election of new GB members**

The General Assembly,

- In view of Article 12a of the Statutes on the composition of members of the Governing Board,
- In view of Article 12b of the Statutes relating to the term of office and mode of renewal of the members of the Governing Board,

Has elected for three years, as member of the CORAF Governing Board:

- Dr. Djondang KOYE, Director General of ITRAD, Chad;
- Dr. Baba Ahmed Ould NAGHRA, Director General of CNRADA, Mauritania;
- Dr. Yté WONGBE, Director General of CNRA, Cote d'Ivoire;
- Prof. Franck IDIATA, Commissioner General of the National Center for Scientific and Technological Research, Gabon;
- Dr. Angela Maria Perera Barreto Da Veiga MORENO, President of INIDA, Cape Verde;
- Prof. Victor AGYEMAN, Director General of CSIR, Ghana;

- Dr. Nteranya SANGINGA, Director General of IITA, representing scientific partners;
- Mr. Nathanel BUKA, President of PROPAC, representing Producer Organizations;
- Dr. Blessed OKOLE, Managing Director, SG Sustainable Oils Cameroon Ltd, representing the Private Sector;
- Mr. Abdouhramane DICKO, representing the development partners;
- ..... , representing agricultural NGOs

NB. Mr. Nathanel BUKA, President of PROPAC, representing the Producers' Organizations, will finish his term at the end of May and will be replaced, according to the principle of rotation, by a representative appointed by ROPPA. Agricultural NGOs have yet to appoint their representative.

#### **Resolution 5 on the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

The General Assembly,

- In view of Article 14a of the Statutes concerning the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Governing Board,

Has elected:

- Dr. Angela Maria Perera Barreto Da Veiga MORENO, Chairperson of the GB;
- Dr. Koye DJONDANG, Vice-Chairman of the GB

#### **Resolution 6 on the Appreciation to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and General Rapporteurs of the 12th General Assembly of CORAF**

The General Assembly,

- considering the election of Dr. Nteranya SANGINGA, Director General of IITA, as Chairman of the 12th GA, Dr. Paco SEREME, Director of Research at CNRST, Burkina Faso, as Vice-Chairman of the 12th AG, Dr. Walter WILES, as First General Rapporteur, Dr. Famoï BÉAOVOGUI, as Second General Rapporteur,
- considering the smooth conduct of the deliberations,

Expresses its gratitude to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and General Rapporteurs of the 12th General Assembly.

### **Resolution 7 on the Symposium on the Contribution of Research and Development to African Agriculture**

The General Assembly,

- Considering the high scientific and strategic significance of the introductory speech at the Symposium of the 30th anniversary of CORAF, within the framework of the 12th session of the General Assembly, on the theme of the Contribution of Research for Development to the transformation of the agriculture and food production in West and Central Africa,

Expresses its gratitude to Dr. François LOMPO, former Director of INERA, former Chairman of the Governing Board of CORAF, and former Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of Burkina Faso, for the wealth of information provided on the achievements, challenges and solutions for agricultural development in West and Central Africa; and ways for a significant contribution of research to improve the food security of the populations, reduce poverty and for adaptation to climate change.

## **Resolution 8 on the High Level Panel on the Valorization and Funding of Research**

The General Assembly,

- Considering the quality of the speakers at the High Level Panel on “The valorization of the achievements of research and financing of agricultural research”, with the participation of the Ministers in charge of Agriculture of Senegal, Cape Verde and Chad, Representatives of RCoEs in West and Central Africa, representatives of socio-professional organizations, TFPs (World Bank, USAID) and the private sector,

Expresses satisfaction with the wealth of experiences and solutions to enhance the value of research results and ensure sustainable funding of research programs;

Expresses its gratitude to:

- Their Excellencies Dr. Papa Abdoulaye SECK, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Equipment of Senegal, Mr. Asseid Gammar SILECK, Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Agricultural Equipment of Chad, Mr. Gilberto Correia CARVALHO SYLVA, Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Cape Verde;
- Mr. Alex DEPRez, Director of the USAID Regional Office for West Africa;
- Mr. Abdoulaye TOURE, Senior Agroeconomist at the World Bank;
- Jean Claude MBASSI, representing ECCAS;
- Mr. Michel EDDI, Chief Executive Officer of CIRAD;
- Mr. Kabirou NDIAYE, representing AVRDC and the International Research Institutions;
- Mr. Mamadou CISSOKO, Honorary President of ROPPA;
- Mr. Nathanael BUKA, President of PROPAC;

- Mrs. Françoise ASSOGBA KOMLAN, representing the Minister of Agriculture of Benin;
- Mr. Simao GOMEZ, representing the Minister of Agriculture of Guinea-Bissau;
- Mr. Jean-Paul LORNG, representing the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Cote d'Ivoire,
- Mr. Moussa MAIGA, representing the Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of Burkina Faso;
- Mr. Yarama D. NDIRPAYA, representing the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Nigeria;
- Mr. Blessed OKOLE, representing the Private Sector.

**Resolution 9 on the formal signing of the PAIRED funding agreement between USAID and CORAF**

The General Assembly,

- Recognizing the significant efforts of USAID in supporting the development of research in the seed sector and the high performance of CORAF in the valorization of the resources thus made available to it,

Congratulates and thanks USAID for renewing its confidence and constant support to CORAF for the generation of improved technologies for agricultural development in West Africa.

**Resolution 10 on the recognition of scientific personalities of West and Central Africa**

The General Assembly,

- In view of their significant contribution to the advancement of science and the improvement of the scientific and technical performance of CORAF,

Expresses its gratitude to:

- Dr. Adama TRAORE, former Chairman of the Executive Committee of CORAF;
- Dr. Dominique HOUNKOUNNOU, Expert in Agricultural Knowledge Management;
- Dr. Paco SEREME, former Executive Director of CORAF;
- Dr. Papa Abdoulaye SECK, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Equipment of Senegal;
- Mr. Alex DEPRez, Director of the West Africa Regional Office of USAID;
- Mr. Abdoulaye TOURE, Senior Agroeconomist at the World Bank.

### **Resolution 11 on the country to host the Fifth Agricultural Science Week of West and Central Africa and the 13th General Assembly of CORAF**

The General Assembly approved Cameroon's bid to host the 5th Agricultural Science Week and the 13th General Assembly of CORAF.

*Made in Dakar, on 12 April 2018*

*The General Assembly.*