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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

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English - Or. English

COUNCIL

Council

**PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE MANDATES OF THE CO-OPERATIVE RESEARCH
PROGRAMME ON BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS, THE REGULATORY POLICY COMMITTEE AND THE CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

(Note by the Secretary-General)

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Purpose

1. This note seeks approval from the Council on extending on a temporary basis the mandates of: Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management For Sustainable Agricultural Systems (CRP) [[C\(2009\)49](#)]; the Regulatory Policy Committee (RPC) [[C\(2009\)171](#)] and the Corporate Governance Committee (CGC) [[C\(2010\)17](#)], all due to expire on 31 December 2014.

Background

2. The proposed extensions will allow these three Committees to review their mandates and assess the continuing relevance of their substructures, informed by the results of their respective in-depth evaluations.*

3. The proposal is to extend the mandates of the three Committees as follows:

- *31 December 2015*, for the CRP [as approved by its Governing Board on 2 December 2013, [TAD/PR/II\(2013\)4](#)] and the RPC [as approved by the Committee on 15 April, [GOV/RPC\(2014\)6](#)];
- *31 December 2016*, for the CGC [as approved by the Committee on 20 June, [DAF/CA/CG\(2014\)6](#)].

4. The section concerning the duration of the current mandates, which are reproduced in the Annexes, has been amended accordingly. It is also proposed to adjust the Preamble of each mandate to incorporate a reference to the 2012 Resolution of the Council on Partnerships in OECD Bodies [[C\(2012\)100/FINAL](#)], in order to conform with the now established practice for the presentation of committee mandates. In the case of the CRP, Article 8 has also been updated to reflect current participation.

5. In order to facilitate the review by Council of these requests for mandate extension, they have been consolidated into a single document and presented in order of the expiry of the extension requested in the draft conclusions below and in the Annexes.

Proposed Action

6. In the light of the preceding, the Secretary-General invites the Council to adopt the following draft conclusions:

THE COUNCIL

- a) noted document [C\(2014\)100](#);
- b) agreed to extend the mandates of the:
 - i) Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management For Sustainable Agricultural Systems and the Regulatory Policy Committee, as set out in the Annexes I and II to document [C\(2014\)100](#), until 31 December 2015;

* As contemplated in the 2nd In-depth Evaluation (IDE) Cycle [see [C\(2011\)123/REV1](#) and its REV1/CORR1].

- ii) Corporate Governance Committee, as set out in Annex III to document [C\(2014\)100](#), until 31 December 2016.

ANNEX I

MANDATE OF THE CO-OPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Financial Regulations of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council on Partnerships in OECD Bodies [\[C\(2012\)100/FINAL\]](#);

Having regard to the Decision of the Council on 21 December 1978 establishing the Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems [C/M(78)23] and having regard to the Decision of Council [\[C\(2004\)108\]](#);

Having regard to the decision of the Council to fund the Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management For Sustainable Agricultural Systems as a programme within the Part II of the Budget of the Organisation [\[C\(2004\)96\]](#);

Having regard to the recommendations of the In-depth Evaluation of the Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management For Sustainable Agricultural Systems [\[C\(2008\)96\]](#) and [C/M\(2008\)18](#), Item 242];

Having regard to the proposed revision of the mandate of the Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management For Sustainable Agricultural Systems [\[C\(2009\)49\]](#);

Having regard to the favourable opinion of the Committee for Agriculture;

DECIDES:

A. The Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management For Sustainable Agricultural Systems (hereinafter “the CRP”) has the following mandate:

I. Objective

The objective of the CRP is to strengthen scientific knowledge in its field of competence and provide relevant scientific information and advice that will inform future policy decisions related to the sustainable use of natural resources, in the areas of food, agriculture, forests and fisheries.

II. Definitions, Functions, Financing, Membership

Article 1

DEFINITION OF THE CRP AND WORK PROGRAMME

- a) The Co-operative Research Programme: Biological Resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems is established as part of the co-operative effort between Member countries in order to enhance the impact of co-operative agricultural (and fisheries) research.
- b) A work programme, drawn up within the framework of the CRP, shall be adopted by the Council and implemented by the Secretary-General. The work programme shall be drawn up in consultation with the Committee for Agriculture (hereinafter the "COAG") and the Fisheries Committee (hereinafter the "COFI") where appropriate.

Article 2

METHODS AND CO-ORDINATION

- a) In the implementation of its mandate, the CRP will use two instruments: International Conferences¹, and Fellowships. Conferences will provide "state of the art" knowledge and forward looking commentary for future direction in fields that can contribute to the mandate of COAG (and COFI, where appropriate) and Fellowships will facilitate and support the building of global networks in advanced research.
- b) To ensure relevance, the CRP will regularly consult with the COAG (and COFI, where appropriate) on its activities, direction and outcomes. The COAG (and COFI, where appropriate) will provide its observations and guidance to the CRP as necessary.

Article 3

COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

- a) The Governing Body of the CRP (hereinafter the "Governing Body") shall be composed of one representative appointed by the Government of each participating country. Representatives should be chosen by virtue of their responsibilities in matters relating to agriculture or food research and research policy.
- b) The Government of each participating country may appoint an alternate to its representative on the Governing Body.
- c) The Governing Body shall designate each year from among its members a Chair and a Vice-Chair.
- d) The Governing Body may invite Member countries not participating in the CRP to be represented by observers.

¹ Conferences is used in this document to include conferences, workshops, congresses, symposia, etc.

Article 4

FUNCTIONS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

- a) The Governing Body shall be competent to consider all questions related to the implementation and discharge of the functions of the CRP. It shall exercise its functions in accordance with the Decisions and Resolutions of the Council and shall, in particular, exercise the functions defined in this Decision as well as such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Council.
- b) The Governing Body shall define the general orientations of the CRP, and on an annual basis, in consultation with the COAG and, where appropriate the COFI, identify the scope of policy interests, and shall, on the basis of the scientific recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Body, decide on the upcoming annual programme of fellowships and conferences and its related budget. In doing so the Governing Body shall ensure that the activities to be undertaken are of relevance to the scientific and policy communities in agriculture.
- c) The Governing Body shall submit a summary report of work each year to the Committee for Agriculture for information and advice.

Article 5

COMPOSITION OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BODY

- a) The Scientific Advisory Body of the CRP (hereinafter called the "SAB") shall be composed of a maximum of six members designated by the Governing Body from a list of distinguished individuals proposed by Governments of participating countries. A regional balance will be maintained in the selection of SAB members, who shall be chosen by virtue of their scientific responsibilities in the topics covered by the CRP or shall have responsibilities at a high level in the administration of agricultural research. Members of the SAB shall be appointed for a period not exceeding five years.
- b) The SAB shall designate each year from amongst its members a Chair and a Vice-Chair.

Article 6

FUNCTIONS OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BODY

- a) The members of the SAB shall be in charge of recommending to the Governing Body the activities that, from a scientific point of view, are worthy of sponsorship, taking into account the scope of policy interests identified by the Governing Body.
- b) The SAB shall submit to the Governing Body a recommendation for the annual sponsorship of conferences and fellowships.
- c) The SAB shall submit to the Governing Body a yearly report on the sponsored activities of the Programme.

Article 7

FINANCING OF EXPENDITURE

- a) The expenditure arising from the implementation of the CRP shall be defrayed from the appropriations authorised for it under Part II of the Budget of the Organisation.

- b) The CRP may include activities to be financed in whole or in part from grants by public or private institutions.
- c) The Governing Body shall submit to the Council for adoption the biennial estimates of expenditure and of income for the Programme.

Article 8

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

- a) The countries participating in the CRP are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Spain, the Slovak Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- b) Any Member country of the Organisation, or any Partner (i.e. non-Member) which is a Participant or Associate in the Committee for Agriculture, may participate in the CRP by addressing a notification to the Secretary-General to this effect.
- c) Invitations to and participation of any other Partners in the work of the CRP will be considered by the Governing Board in accordance with Council Resolution [C\(2012\)100/FINAL](#). Such participation will become effective on the date of reception of the acceptance of that invitation by the Secretary-General. The Organisation may suspend or terminate that participation by giving one month's written notice of suspension or twelve months' written notice of termination to this Partner.

Article 9

DURATION

The mandate of the CRP shall remain in force until **31 December 2015**.

APPENDIX²

PRIORITY AREAS OF RESEARCH FOR THE 2010-2015 MANDATE PERIOD

Introduction

In its programme of work for the 2009-2010 period, the Committee for Agriculture (and Fisheries) has identified the policy relevance of its work on sustainability as [extract from [TAD/CA\(2008\)3/REV1](#)]:

Agriculture and Fisheries Sustainability

The impact of agricultural policies on the sustainability of natural resource use is a growing national and international concern, but governments are often uncertain as to the most effective mix of policies to use. Many farm policies put pressure on water and soil resources. The wide range of agri-environmental measures being put in place by governments to address sustainability concerns sometimes only serve to offset pressures from other agricultural policies. Uncertainty is felt in particular as regards policies to help mitigate, and to respond to, the effects of climate change. Many governments also want to ensure that agriculture activities contribute to the provision of environmental goods and services. Governments, in both developed and developing countries, recognize that maintaining the productive capacity and effective use of natural resources is essential if future demand for food and non-food products is to be satisfied. OECD analysis increasingly confronts key policy issues and helps to clarify the required policy directions to achieve sustainable resource use.

The impact of fisheries policies on the sustainability of natural resource use is a growing concern and there is a policy implementation gap at both the national and international level. Effective management systems for this common resource, along with further development of aquaculture, are now receiving greater attention by governments and industry. In recognition of the important potential in both developed and developing countries to supply protein rich food, OECD analysis increasingly focuses on the political economy of reform in this area, including with respect to fisheries subsidies that encourage increased fishing capacity, along with illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing activity, which add further stress to already overexploited stocks. Climate change is having an impact on the future the sector.

The objective and work of the CRP are anchored in both a policy and scientific environment in the fields of food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. For the Committee for Agriculture (and Fisheries) to be able to deliver on their respective mandates they need to be informed about scientific developments that are likely to have a medium and longer term impact on policy settings.

Food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries policies are, more than ever, developed in a multidisciplinary environment to be able to respond to the varied demands from a range of stakeholder groups with interests in these fields. Also, food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries policies are developed with due regard to a world that is globalised and where food production systems are interlinked.

A number of developments are setting the food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries research agenda in the context of sustainable production systems, including:

- Climate change
- Growing populations

² For information.

- Growing urbanisation
- Globalisation
- The competition between food and non food (energy)
- Changing consumer and societal interests
- Health and nutrition

The CRP will work across policy communities, and provide solid and objective research in the fields of food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, taking a long term view of possible and potential scientific developments and bearing in mind the complementarity of the CRP to other agricultural research networks.

Research Themes

The CRP will address three main research themes:

- **THEME 1:** Securing the availability and managing the quality of natural resources for sustainable agricultural production systems
- **THEME 2:** Developing and adapting food, fibre and bio-energy enterprises, both modern and traditional, to contribute to the sustainability of natural resources
- **THEME 3:** Contributing to technological advances to sustain the global food and agriculture systems from input to final consumption, taking into account changing consumer and societal interests.

The three themes provide sufficient flexibility for the delivery of the Programme while encompassing the growing suite of priorities from both the policy and research communities, and in light of the overarching responsibility to respond to the challenges of climate change.

There are a number of overarching issues that all have implications for agricultural research and which need to be mainstreamed into a substantive, multidisciplinary research agenda (taking into consideration the economic, social and environmental challenges of a given research project) to be able to respond to policy makers' needs. In particular:

- Few now doubt the growing scientific evidence that human actions are changing the global climate through the emission of greenhouse gases. The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has projected that temperatures are highly likely to increase by 1.4-5.8 degrees C over the next 100 years. The result may be an increased frequency of extreme weather events and changing rainfall regimes with detrimental impacts on the natural world and on human society. Understanding these impacts is the first step to determining plans for action nationally and at global level. It is therefore imperative that science financed by the CRP automatically integrates climate change as an overarching challenge and addresses this in its work.
- Developing countries are playing an ever increasing role in the food production system while, concurrently, their resource base is also under stress. For OECD countries it is therefore important to consider in their policy making, and hence in the research underpinning policy-making decisions, the interaction between the developing and developed world with a view to mitigate geographically negative economic, social and environment impacts policies may have. Coherence across agriculture and development policies can contribute to this, and research underpinning agriculture policy making should take policy coherence for development into account.
- Finally, the CRP also needs to be seen against the context of new and developing technologies.

ANNEX II

MANDATE OF THE REGULATORY POLICY COMMITTEE

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council on Partnerships in OECD Bodies [\[C\(2012\)100/FINAL\]](#);

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council establishing a new committee on regulatory policy [[C/M\(2009\)21/PROV](#), Item 240], following the recommendations of the In-Depth Evaluation Committee in its assessment of the Group on Regulatory Policy [[C\(2009\)36](#) and CORR2/REV1], proposing the creation of a new Committee, replacing both the Group on Regulatory Policy and the Working Party on Regulatory Management and Reform;

Having regard to the draft Resolution of the Council concerning the mandate of the Regulatory Policy Committee [[C\(2009\)171\]](#);

Recognising that regulatory policy is a key component of economic and social policy and of good governance and that regulatory instruments are one of the key levers by which governments act to promote economic prosperity, enhance welfare and pursue the public interest;

Recognising the role of the OECD in developing work on regulatory policy, tools and institutions to assure regulatory quality;

Recognising that regulatory reform is a long term, dynamic process and a whole-of-government responsibility supported at high political level to enhance the performance, efficiency and competitiveness of national economies and their ability to adapt to change;

Recognising that public policy design and implementation will benefit from greater reliance on regulatory quality;

Recognising that expectations of what should be regulated by the state and how, continue to evolve in response to economic conditions, technological innovation, and changing priorities, and that governments need to apply better regulation principles, policy and practice to new and more complex policy agendas such as climate change, ageing and green growth;

Recognising that governments need to improve evidence-based decision-making, apply alternatives to regulation when appropriate, anticipate risks and emergencies, and guard against unnecessarily prescriptive and excessive regulation, both for the development of national policy and, increasingly, in global and multilevel contexts;

Recognising that governments need to assess the effects of new and existing regulations in order to increase benefits and reduce burdens on business, public administrations and citizens, and assure that the stock of regulations is up to date;

Recognising the mutual interest of engaging non-Members in OECD work on regulatory policy;

DECIDES:

A. The Regulatory Policy Committee has the following mandate:

I. Objectives

- a) The objective of the Regulatory Policy Committee is to assist Members and non-Members in building and strengthening capacity for regulatory quality and regulatory reform.
- b) The intermediary objectives of the Committee include:
 - i) promoting an integrated, horizontal and multi-disciplinary approach to work on regulatory quality to increase public policy effectiveness and promote policy coherence;
 - ii) assessing the potential for regulatory reform to contribute to welfare, sustainable growth, innovation and equity, and developing effective ways to assess and manage risks, collaborating with, or drawing from work of other relevant Directorates in the process;
 - iii) examining the relationship between regulators and the regulated, and the institutional arrangements for the regulatory process in government to strengthen engagement with public and improve compliance with regulations;
 - iv) promoting evidence-based decision-making and regulatory transparency to create accessible, predictable and responsive regulations;
 - v) evaluating and improving regulatory management systems, tools and institutions designed to assure that regulations serve policy objectives efficiently and effectively and improve policy outcomes, including the use of ex-ante impact analysis and ex-post evaluation; and building and maintaining a body of qualitative and quantitative data and indicators;
 - vi) assessing and providing policy guidance on the components of regulatory quality that affect how regulations are designed, adopted and implemented, and on the functioning of regulatory institutions in Member and non-Member countries, through peer reviews, comparative studies and evidence of good practices, and promoting the wide diffusion of lessons and examples from them, including in guidelines and principles;
 - vii) identifying current and emerging regulatory policy challenges and developing strategies to address them by providing a forum for policy dialogue, co-operation and exchange among those responsible for regulatory policy in Member and non-Member countries, as well as with other relevant stakeholders including international organisations and institutions, the private sector, and civil society.

II. Co-operation arrangements

- a) The Committee shall co-operate with other OECD committees (including, but not restricted to, the Public Governance Committee, the Competition Committee, the Trade Committee, and the Investment Committee) on matters related to regulatory quality and reform to promote a cross-sectoral perspective, and seek to ensure that the Organisation as a whole promotes sound regulatory policy and practices;
- b) The Committee will seek particularly close co-operation with the Public Governance Committee;
- c) The Committee shall keep itself informed of the activities related to regulatory policy and regulatory reform carried out in other international organisations including in the European Union, and it will develop, as practical, partnerships with these organisations to ensure effective complementarities;
- d) The Committee shall consider the views and input of BIAC, TUAC and other major stakeholders;
- e) The Committee shall encourage participation by non-Members in the Committee's work (including undertaking country reviews and contributing to thematic work) and their implementation of the Committee's recommendations and good practices.

B. The mandate of the Regulatory Policy Committee shall remain in force until **31 December 2015** unless the Council decides otherwise, including in the light of the review of the functioning of the new Committee by the Evaluation Committee to be carried out two years after its creation.

ANNEX III

MANDATE OF THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council on Partnerships in OECD Bodies [\[C\(2012\)100/FINAL\]](#);

Having regard to the mandate of the Steering Group on Corporate Governance, as set out in [DAFFE/CA/CG/M\(2000\)1](#);

Having regard to the recommendations of the In-depth Evaluation of the Steering Group on Corporate Governance [\[C\(2009\)37\]](#) and its CORR1];

Having regard to the proposed revision of the mandate of the Steering Group on Corporate Governance and the proposal to rename it the Corporate Governance Committee [\[C\(2010\)17\]](#);

Considering the OECD's responsibility as standard setter and the importance of corporate governance for sustainable growth, sound financial markets and good corporate practices;

Recognising the importance of an ongoing policy dialogue, effective implementation of corporate governance initiatives in Members and the inherently cross-cutting nature of corporate governance issues.

DECIDES:

A. The Corporate Governance Committee has the following mandate:

I. Objectives

1. The overarching objective of the Corporate Governance Committee is to contribute to economic efficiency, sustainable growth and financial stability by improving corporate governance policies and supporting good corporate practices, in Members and non-Members. Further, the Corporate Governance Committee should aim to effectively fulfil its responsibilities as an international standard setter in corporate governance, especially with respect to the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance [\[C\(2004\)61\]](#), which is one of the Financial Stability Board's twelve key standards, and the Recommendation of the Council on OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises [\[C\(2005\)47\]](#).

2. Mid-level objectives include:

- To improve the capacity of policy makers, regulators and market participants to develop and implement efficient and cost effective corporate governance rules and policies.
- To improve the capacity of policy makers, regulators and market participants to identify and respond to market developments that may influence the effectiveness and relevance of existing corporate governance policies and practices.
- To improve corporate governance of state owned enterprises and practices for implementing privatisation policies.

II. Methods to pursue these objectives include:

- Provide an effective system to monitor implementation and effectiveness of agreed corporate governance standards and initiatives at national, regional and global level.
- Identify market developments that may influence the effectiveness and relevance of existing corporate governance policies and practices, and provide timely policy advice.
- Serve as a forum for a policy dialogue among policy makers, regulators, market participants and other stakeholders.

III. Co-operation and Consultation

- Promote co-ordination of all work carried out within the Organisation in the field of corporate governance, and present proposals for this purpose to other Committees or to Council.
- Collaborate with other relevant bodies of the OECD on cross-cutting issues related to corporate governance.
- Engage with non-Members and co-operate with the World Bank and other international organisations to support improvements in corporate governance globally.
- Consult and share information with BIAC and TUAC, as well as other stakeholders.

3. The mandate of the Corporate Governance Committee shall remain in force until **31 December 2016**.