

RESOLUTION N° 362

**TRAINING HUMAN RESOURCES FOR AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, at its Eleventh Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That the countries of the region consider the training of human resources to be one of the key factors to improve the competitiveness of their agriculture and develop the rural sector, and that such training should be geared to the specific needs of the most vulnerable groups;

That to achieve this, the countries must (i) modernize their education and training systems; (ii) implement programs designed to raise levels of education and training in the agricultural sector and (iii) make a special effort to finance education and training for agricultural and rural development;

That historically IICA has played a significant role in the implementation of education and training programs in this field and has the institutional capacity that gives it a comparative advantage to address the issue of knowledge management,

RESOLVES:

1. To declare 2002-2005 as the period of human talent with equity for inclusive agriculture and rural development in the Americas.
2. To entrust the Director General, subject to the availability of approved financial resources in the Program Budget, or with voluntary contributions received for that purpose:
 - a. To maintain education and training as a priority area of action in IICA's Medium Term Plan for the 2002-2006 period, placing special emphasis on the most vulnerable rural population;
 - b. To coordinate efforts with other national and international organizations to implement joint actions and complement capabilities and resources, in order to extend the coverage of IICA's actions in this field and thereby obtain greater benefits for the Institute's Member States.
3. To urge the Member States to give priority to IICA for the implementation of technical cooperation services in projects receiving international funding that include education and training components.