

RESOLUTION No. 363

**COOPERATION FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN POLICY
AND INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE**

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

CONSIDERING:

That training and development of human resources have been identified as issues of high priority by the countries for the development of the agricultural sector;

That the agreements and negotiations on international trade and regional integration are having a significant impact on the definition of policies and strategies for the development of the agricultural sector, making it necessary for countries to acquire increased technical capabilities to address these new issues;

That the Regional Forum of Schools of Agronomy of MERCOSUR, Chile and Bolivia have decided to promote the establishment and development of a Regional Graduate Program in Policy and International Agricultural Trade, aimed at training specialized professionals in order to strengthen the capacity of the countries in the region in the design and negotiation of policies boosting the competitive international participation of the agricultural sector, and have asked for IICA's support in its design and implementation,

RESOLVES:

1. To express its support of the initiative of the Regional Forum of Schools of Agronomy of MERCOSUR, Chile and Bolivia to establish a Regional Graduate Program in Policy and International Agricultural Trade and Agribusiness and to recommend that this type of initiative be extended to other countries in the hemisphere.
2. To instruct the Director General to ensure that IICA, subject to the availability of approved resources in the Program Budget or through voluntary contributions and resources, assigns high priority to cooperation with graduate institutes specialized in agriculture, and in particular to those actions aimed at strengthening the development of joint programs and the training of human resources specialized in policy and international agricultural trade.