



INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE - IABA

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**REVISED MEASURES FOR COLLECTING
QUOTAS OWED THE INSTITUTE**

Guayaquil, Ecuador

REVISED MEASURES FOR COLLECTING QUOTAS OWED TO THE INSTITUTE

BACKGROUND

In the report on its 2005 meeting, the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI) asked the Director General, together with the Legal Advisor, to prepare a proposed resolution that would clear up certain ambiguities in Resolutions IICA/JIA/Res.392(XII-O/03) and IICA/CE/Res.417(XXIV-O/04), in order to facilitate the adoption of the measures adopted by the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA) in Panama to collect quotas owed to the Institute.

The proposed resolution was analyzed by the Executive Committee at its Twenty-fifth Regular Meeting, held in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, on May 13-14, 2005. In Resolution No.435, the Committee endorsed the text of the “Revised Measures for Collecting Quotas owed to the Institute,” which clears up the ambiguities mentioned above and facilitates application of those measures. The Executive Committee recommended that the IABA approve the text that follows:

I. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these measures, the following definitions shall apply:

- A. Up-to-Date status: A Member State is in “Up-to-Date Status” when it has paid all of its assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA.
- B. Regular Status: A Member State is in “Regular Status” when it owes no more than two full years of assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA.
- C. Special Status: A Member State is in “Special Status” when it owes more than two full years of assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA, has agreed with the Director General to a payment plan for all its arrearages, and is in full compliance with that payment plan.
- D. In Arrears Status: A Member State is in “In Arrears Status” when it owes more than two years of assessed Regular Fund quotas to IICA and does not satisfy all the above-stated requirements for Special Status.
- E. Years in arrears: This is the number of years for which assessed Regular Fund quotas are owed as of July 1 of the current year, regardless of whether the Member State has entered into a payment plan and is in compliance with that schedule.

II. RULES FOR COMPUTING STATUS AND YEARS IN ARREARS FOR APPLICATION OF THESE MEASURES

- A. Article 86 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate and Article 70 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA provide that quotas are “due on the first day of each fiscal year.” Nonetheless, those Articles shall not apply for determining the status of a Member State under these measures.

- B. During the current year, a Member State shall retain the status it had as of December 31 of the prior year, provided it makes a payment equal to the current year's quota by June 30 of the current year. Failure to make that payment by June 30 will result in an adjustment of status.
- C. By making additional payments during the current year, a Member State that is not already in Up-to-Date Status may improve its status at any time during that year.
- D. As provided under Article 84 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate, quota payments received "shall be credited against the balance receivable pending from the earliest year for which the money is owed."

III. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF IICA MEMBER STATES IN UP-TO-DATE STATUS

- A. The rights and privileges of IICA Membership for Member States in Up-to-Date Status include, among others, the following:
 - 1. The right to vote in the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Inter-American Board of Agriculture;
 - 2. The right to nominate candidates for the position of Director General;
 - 3. The right to have their nationals serve in the position of Director General;
 - 4. The right to nominate candidates to serve on Committees and to serve in leadership positions on those Committees;
 - 5. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;
 - 6. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded by IICA's Regular Fund;
 - 7. The right to serve on the Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues (SACMI);
 - 8. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects;
 - 9. The privilege of hosting IICA meetings in their territory, funded in whole or in part by IICA's, Regular Fund Budget¹ ;
 - 10. The privilege of receiving extraordinary appropriations from the Working Subfund of the Regular Fund, as approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 90 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate.
- B. The exclusion of any right or privilege stated in Part A above does not preclude the existence of other rights and privileges IICA Member States may enjoy.

IV. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBER STATES IN REGULAR AND IN SPECIAL STATUS

- A. Member States in Regular Status shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of Up-to-Date status described in Part III(A) above, except for the privilege of receiving extraordinary

¹ For purposes of applying this privilege, funding from the IICA Regular Fund does not include the funds used to pay for the salaries of the staff members who must attend those meetings, regardless of where they are held.

appropriations from the Working Subfund of the Regular Fund, as approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 90 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate.

- B. Member States in Special Status shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of Up-to-Date status described in Part III(A) above, except for the privilege of receiving extraordinary appropriations from the Working Subfund of the Regular Fund, as approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 90 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Directorate.

V. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBER STATES IN ARREARS

- A. Any Member State in In Arrears Status shall have its right to vote suspended unless it is determined, in accordance with Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, by the IABA or the Executive Committee, as the case may be, “that failure to pay is due to circumstances beyond the control of that State.”
- B. Of the other rights and privileges enumerated in Part III(A) above, any Member State in arrears shall enjoy only the rights and privileges listed below, in accordance with the number of years in arrears:
 - 1. More than two full fiscal years in arrears, but less than three:
 - a. The right to nominate candidates for the position of Director General;
 - b. The right to have their nationals serve in the position of Director General;
 - c. The right to nominate candidates to serve on Committees and to serve in leadership positions on those Committees;
 - d. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;
 - e. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded by IICA’s Regular Fund;
 - f. The right to serve on the SACMI;
 - g. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects; however, the amount authorized will be reduced by 10%.
 - 2. Three full fiscal years in arrears, but less than four:
 - a. The right to nominate candidates for the position of Director General;
 - b. The right to have their nationals serve in the position of Director General;
 - c. The right to nominate candidates to serve on Committees and to serve in leadership positions on those Committees;
 - d. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;
 - e. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded by IICA’s Regular Fund;
 - f. The right to serve on the SACMI;
 - g. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects, reduced, however, by 20% of the amount authorized.

3. Four full fiscal years in arrears, but less than five:
 - a. The right to hiring preferences for their nationals;
 - b. The right to an Office of the Institute in their territory, funded in part by IICA's Regular Fund;
 - c. The right to serve on the SACMI;
 - d. The right to receive an allocation from the IICA Regular Fund Budget for in-country projects, reduced, however, by 40% of the amount authorized.
4. Five or more full fiscal years in arrears: None of the rights and privileges set out in Part III(A) above.

VI. THE SUSPENSION OF THE RIGHT TO VOTE

- A. The decision as to whether to suspend the right to vote of a Member State with In Arrears Status lies exclusively with the IABA and the Executive Committee, as the case may be, under Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.
- B. Voting rights may be restored automatically when a State in In Arrears Status changes its status to Special Status, Regular Status, or Up-to-date Status. They may also be restored by either the Executive Committee or the IABA, upon the presentation of a petition by the interested State, as set out in Article 6.4 of the Regulations for Application of Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

VII. SUSPENDING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF IN ARREARS STATUS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE INSTITUTE²

- A. If the Director General determines that it is not in the best interest of the Institute to implement the reduced levels of funding for projects and Office support for any Member State in "In Arrears" status, he/she may first consult with the Executive Committee or the IABA before applying them and propose the suspension or modification of the reduction prescribed. The consultation shall be by correspondence if there is no meeting of the IABA or Executive Committee scheduled within ninety days of the date the State becomes subject to those reductions.
- B. The IABA or the Executive Committee, as the case may be, may consider the Director General's proposal for not applying the reduced levels and may approve the proposal or any other lesser reduction that it deems appropriate. If the IABA or the Executive Committee rejects the proposal and provides no other relief, or they fail to respond within thirty days to the consultation by correspondence, the Director General shall apply the reductions prescribed in these measures.
- C. In the event the Director General decides to make the consultation and a proposal as provided in this Section, the interested State shall be given due notice with sufficient time to explain its

² This Section of the measures is effective as of January 1, 2004. This Section replaces the Executive Committee's recommendation in Annex B of Resolution IICA/CE/Res. 417.

position to the other Member States before the Executive Committee or Board rules on the proposal.

- D. For purposes of this provision, “the best interests of the Institute” include the “purposes” established in Article 3 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture and the programs and policies adopted by the Institute in pursuit of those purposes.

VIII. GUIDELINES FOR PAYMENT PLANS

- A. The Payment Plan shall be in writing and signed by the Director General and the duly authorized representative of the participating Member State.
- B. The Plan shall provide for the payment of the entire amount owed over a period of no more than forty-eight months.
- C. The Plan shall obligate the participating Member State to make a payment equal to at least the current year’s assessed quota within fifteen days of its signature and a payment for each subsequent year the Plan is in force of an amount at least equal to the quota assessed for each of those years.
- D. The Director General may negotiate and accept payment terms with Member States for the payment of amounts past due in national currency, real estate, or other valuable assets, ad referendum of the Executive Committee, and only upon a determination that:
 - 1. In the case of national currency or other valuable assets, the Institute shall not be financially prejudiced by the acceptance of said currency or assets; and
 - 2. In the case of real estate, the specific conditions under Article 4.20 of the Financial Rules “Accepting Donations of Interests in Real Property” have been satisfied and over a reasonable time, the Institute will earn income or generate savings from the occupancy, use, sale, or rental of the property in an amount equal to or greater than the corresponding arrearages.

IX. NOTICE OF STATUS PRIOR TO ELECTIONS AND MEETINGS

- A. When circulating to the Member States documents presented by a Member State nominating a candidate, the General Directorate shall indicate in the transmittal notice whether the status of the nominating Member State, and if different, the state of the nationality of the candidate, is Up-to-Date, Regular, Special, or In Arrears. It shall also indicate the number of years in arrears for the relevant States.
- B. The notice of Debtor States sent prior to meetings of the IABA and Executive Committee under Article 3.1 of the Regulations for Application of Article 24 of the Convention on the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture shall indicate, inter alia, the status of each Member State under these measures and the number of years, if any, that it is in arrears.