

RESOLUTION 403

**PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND MINISTERIAL MEETING ON
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE**

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Twenty-third Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That it is necessary to consolidate the position achieved by agriculture and rural life in the Summit of the Americas process;

That it is important that the efforts undertaken by the countries in the area of agriculture and rural life, in fulfillment of the presidential mandates, be reflected appropriately in the national reports prepared by the Foreign Ministries for the meetings of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG);

That the ministerial meetings are recognized as fundamental pillars for follow up in the Summit of the Americas process and for generating proposals for future Summits;

That it is fitting and advisable to prepare, through the Ministerial Delegates, proposals on agriculture and rural life for the Special Summit of Presidents, which is scheduled to take place toward the end of this year in Mexico, and for the Fourth Summit of the Americas, to be held in 2005 in Argentina;

That the Ministerial Delegates, with the support of IICA and the partner institutions, have been entrusted with preparing the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action, to be signed by the ministers at the Second Ministerial Meeting, which is scheduled for November 11-12, 2003;

That during the Second Ministerial Meeting, an analysis will be made of the progress achieved in the two years following the signing of the Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro, and a Plan of Action and strategy for implementing same will be adopted,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Member States to redouble their efforts to: i) fulfill the mandates on agriculture and rural life contained in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas and in the Ministerial Declaration of Bavaro; ii) include national endeavors and progress made in fulfilling these mandates in the National Reports on the Summit process prepared by the respective Foreign Ministries and submitted to the SIRG; and iii) participate, through their Ministerial Delegates, in the process to prepare the AGRO 2003-2015 Plan of Action and the ministerial proposals for future Summit meetings.
2. To express appreciation to the partner institutions of the Summit process (OAS, ECLAC, IICA, IDB, World Bank and PAHO) as well as to other international organizations, such as IFPRI, FAO and CATIE, for their joint efforts in support of the Ministerial Delegates' work to prepare the products of the Second Ministerial Meeting, and to our countries, for fulfilling the mandates.
3. To instruct the Director General of IICA, as Secretary of the Ministerial Meeting, to call a meeting of Ministerial Delegates, to take place this September, with interested Member States that are willing to cover the cost of their participation, in order to build hemispheric consensus on the products of the Second Ministerial Meeting.