



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Twenty-seventh Regular Meeting
15 - 17 May, 2007

IICA/CE/Doc.505 (07)
Original: English
15 - 17 May 2007

THE IICA FORUM FOR LEADERS IN AGRICULTURE

San Jose, Costa Rica

FORUM THEMATIC PROGRAM

“Contributing to the development of leaders in agriculture with a global perspective as part of the technical cooperation process”

INTRODUCTION

An understanding of what happens, the opportunities and challenges in agriculture and rural life in the world today, is crucially important to the success of leaders of agriculture in each country of our hemisphere. With this in mind and in continued support for development of our leaders, our Institute has launched the IICA Forum for Leaders in Agriculture.

This two day program is designed for newly appointed Ministers of Agriculture and Senior Executives who seek an up-to-date view of “Agriculture and Rural Life in the 21st Century”.

The program will provide information on:

- The role of agriculture and agribusiness in economic development
- The challenges and opportunities for agriculture in the 21st Century
- The role of the Minister of Agriculture as a member of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA).
- The role of the Minister of Agriculture as a member of the Ministerial process within the framework of the Summit of the Americas process
- IICA and its role in agriculture development and rural life in the hemisphere
- The bases for establishing a new agenda for cooperation between IICA and its Member States

The program is not designed to define the steps to be taken in a new management or leadership position, but to serve as a forum to provide the elements for reflection in a world that is more integrated and where the inter-relationships between countries are so intense that it is difficult to advance in the development and implementation of national policies without taking into consideration what is happening in the world.

SECTION A: CORE PROGRAM

Module 1: *The visiting Minister’s plans and policies for the agricultural and rural development of his/her country*

Module 2: *Global challenges and opportunities for agriculture and rural life in the 21st Century*

- 2.1 Importance of food and agriculture in economic development. (Includes agribusiness, rural poverty and millennium development goals)
- 2.2 Multi-Sectoral Role of Agriculture in the 21st century
- 2.3 Opening Agricultural Markets
- 2.4 Strengthening agricultural health and food safety in the Americas.
- 2.5 Biotechnology and Agriculture--the challenges and the opportunities

- 2.6 Agro-Energy and agriculture--The challenges and the opportunities.
- 2.7 Climate change and agricultural development
- 2.8 The role of information technologies in modernizing global agriculture
- 2.9 The Inter-Agency Agenda
- 2.10 The role of Agri-business in economic development

Module 3: *What is IICA?*

- 3.1 What is IICA?
- 3.2 The Inter-American Board of Agriculture
- 3.3 The Ministerial Meetings
- 3.4 IICA's Medium Term Plan 2006-2010 and technical capacity
- 3.5 IICA as a platform for Hemispheric Cooperation

Module 4: *The dimensions of leadership in agriculture in the 21st Century*

- 4.1 The first 100 days in a new leadership role.
- 4.2 Building teams with a multi-sectoral dimension
- 4.3 Leadership communication strategies.
- 4.4 Institutional reform and modernization.
- 4.5 The Leader of the 21st century

Module 5: *The development of a national agenda*

- 5.1 The Regional Agendas and regional integration
- 5.2 The concept of an agenda based on the country's priorities
- 5.3 Accountability seminars
- 5.4 Current initiatives in---(country of Minister)
- 5.5 The basic components of the new national agenda

SECTION B (OPTIONAL)

Module 6: *Additional thematic discussion on topics of interest to the Minister and/ or visiting leader*

Module 7: *Field Trip*

Module 8: *Follow-up to the visit*

- 8.1 Reflection and evaluation
- 8.2 Technical cooperation agreements
- 8.3 Cabinet-level follow-up
- 8.4 What we learned