



Executive Committee

Thirtieth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee
5 - 7 October, 2010

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**Proposed Amendments to Article 29 of the
Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee
and to Article 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the
Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA)**

San José, Costa Rica

1. BACKGROUND

The Special Advisory Committee for Management Issues (SACMI), at its 2010 regular meeting, accepted the recommendation of the Director General of IICA to amend the existing provisions in the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee, and to reduce from 45 to 30 days the period for sending out the working documentation of the regular meetings (Article 29), as is established in the case of special meetings (Article 34).

This recommendation is based on the General Directorate's interest in sending the Member States working documents that are appropriately prepared and with sufficient time for their elaboration, internal analysis, stylistic correction and translation.

The period of 45 days for sending documents, established in the Rules of Procedure since 1983, was based on the consideration of the time required in those days to send documents by regular mail or by special courier service. However, with the development of information and communications technologies, it is now possible to send documents to the Member States via e-mail in a matter of minutes and at minimal cost.

In consideration of the above, at its 2010 Regular Meeting the SACMI recommended that the Director General submit to the consideration of the Thirtieth Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee a proposal for amendments to Article 29 of its Rules of Procedure and, in due course, and with the backing of the Executive Committee, submit a proposal for similar amendments to Article 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the IABA.

2. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 29

CURRENT TEXT OF ARTICLE 29 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	PROPOSED TEXT SUBMITTED TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Article 29 (Final paragraph) “The Director General shall send the working documentation to the Member States and IICA Associates for examination of the various points 45 days prior to the opening date of the meeting;”	Article 29 (Final paragraph) “The Director General shall send the working documentation by <u>electronic means</u> to the Member States and to the Associate Countries for examination of the various topics <u>30</u> days prior to the opening date of the meeting.”

3. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 22 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE IABA

Based on the foregoing points, and with the approval of the Executive Committee, the Director General would submit a similar proposal to the consideration of the Sixteenth Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture (IABA), so that the Board may introduce a similar amendment to Article 22 of its Rules of Procedure.