

Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)

May 3, 2010

Executive Minutes First Meeting of the GAFSP Steering Committee April 22, 2010

World Bank, Washington DC,
USA

Chair (ad interim)
Mr. Roger Ehrhardt
Director General, Multilateral Development Institutions,
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

Prepared by the GAFSP Coordination Unit

Accepted for the Steering Committee

CHRISTOPHER DELGADO May 3, 2010
_____ date: _____

Christopher L. Delgado
Head, Coordination Unit

ROGER EHRHARDT May 7, 2010
_____ date: _____

Roger Ehrhardt
Chair ad interim

Opening of the meeting

1. The first meeting of the GAFSR Steering Committee was convened at World Bank Headquarters in Washington, D.C., on April 22, 2010 at 12:30pm and ended at 4:00pm.
2. The meeting was opened by Mrs. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Managing Director, World Bank, who welcomed all the participants.
3. Participants to the meeting included members and alternates of the Steering Committee (see Annex 1 for a list of participants and Annex 2 for the list of confirmed Steering Committee members and alternates as at April 21, 2010). In view of the fact that a number of expanded delegations were in town for the GAFSR launch and the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings, Steering Committee delegations included a number of additional observers beyond members and alternates.

Presentation and adoption of the agenda

4. The following topics were requested to be added to the provisional draft agenda circulated on April 20, 2010 (see Annex 3): (i) the size limit of the Steering Committee and the proportionality between voting and non-voting members, and (ii) plans for future fund raising.
5. The meeting adopted the draft agenda with the inclusion of the above-mentioned topics. In the event, time limitations (the actual meeting ran one and a half hours over limit) prevented much discussion of either added topic, and these will be raised again at the next Steering Committee meeting.

GAFSR Overview

6. As this was the first meeting of the Committee, it was clarified that the objective of GAFSR is to address the underfunding of country-led and region-led agriculture and food security strategic investment plans already being developed by countries and regional organizations in consultation with donors and other stakeholders at the country level. It was also noted that GAFSR will play a key role in providing predictable funding and filling urgent financing gaps in country and

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8. Both the Senegal and Sierra Leone recipient representatives were traveling in Africa at the time of the meeting and had less than fully satisfactory audio connections. The Coordination Unit has been in contact to try to fill some of the gaps from the poor connections, and to reassure them that the

Coordination Unit as an issue for early further discussion by the Committee. Canada requested further oral and written discussion of how to improve synergies between the Public and Private windows by the next Steering Committee meeting (rapporteur's note: this was specific to the first meeting occurring on or after May 20).

CSO requests for representation and voting membership

21. The dialogue to date with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on their role in the governance of GAFSP was presented by the World Bank and the CSO representative ad interim, with supporting documentation in the April 22 binder and circulation at the meeting of a further statement by ActionAid senior staff member Neil Watkins. The latter attended the meeting at the invitation of the GAFSP Coordination Unit following his nomination by InterAction as a temporary CSO representative for this meeting only, pending decisions by the Steering Committee on longer term solutions for CSO representation. Discussion centered around the following themes: the number of CSO seats on the Steering Committee, whether these seats hold voting rights or not, the composition of the CSO seats, e.g. geographical (North, South), professional profile (farmer organizations or not), the process of selection of the seats, the role of the FAO Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and financial support for CSO members from developing countries. IFAD stated that it would be advantageous if CSO representation were drawn from farmer groups or farmer group representatives from the South, for which there was agreement from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and from Bangladesh among others at the meeting.
22. The meeting agreed by full consensus (i.e. no blocking vote by a voting member) on the following:
 - (i) the GAFSP Steering Committee will have two representatives from CSOs (one from the North and one from the South),
 - (ii) a second CSO representative from the South will be designated as an alternate representative to observe meetings if the first CSO representative from the South is present and to participate if the first CSO representative from the South cannot attend,
 - (iii) the CSO representatives will not have voting rights,
 - (iv) these representatives will be selected as far as practical by a self selection process within their respective CSO communities of North and South,
 - (iv) financial support to cover travel and logistics will be provided and duly budgeted for both the first CSO representative from the South and for the alternate CSO representative from the South to attend physical meetings, and
 - (v) these decisions particularly pertaining to the number of seats, their voting rights, and representation (or not) of farmer organizations will be reviewed after one year by the Steering Committee for possible reconsideration.
23. The United States, Canada, and Spain stressed in comments received after the meeting the importance of self selection of CSOs from the South independent from actors from the North. Canada, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Sierra Leone emphasized the importance of having farmers organizations in the South represented.

Progress report on Contribution Agreements and Governance Document for GAFSP

24. A brief overview of the status of the draft GAFSP Governance Document (April 22 binder) and Contribution Agreements was presented by the Trustee.

25. With

Melinda Gates Foundation emphasized the desirability of having 2 or 3 initial country allocations before June 24. However, Canada, Spain, and Senegal later emphasized the importance of not rushing countries to the point that the existing processes such as CAADP technical reviews are circumvented.

30. With regard to the broadness of the Call for Proposals it was agreed that means had to be found to severely limit the number of countries included in a Call, for the reasons laid out in the previous paragraph. The meeting also raised the desirability of building upon existing networks with country level information to better identify which countries were ready for GAFSP submission. Furthermore, concerns were raised as to the feasibility of a truly objective mechanism based primarily on indicators to narrow the list of countries in a Call for Proposals.
31. With regard to the content sought in proposal templates, the Committee sought more time to involve technical experts from their constituencies and for reflection. Members agreed to provide inputs to the World Bank on this matter and on criteria for including a country in a Call within one week of the meeting (April 30), for the World Bank to amend the template, and a significant number of comments on the substance of items have been received to date from UN Agencies, MDBs, and CSOs. The Coordination Unit has also had further interactions with a variety of field personnel of donors in this area and with the

scope and role of the TAC, taking into consideration the limits of the Framework Document and the cost implications of any proposed form of the TAC.

36. The World Bank agreed to send to the members of the Steering Committee cost estimates for different options of the TAC by May 7 (Coordination Unit Note: this will be delayed by a few days due to the need for increased attention to other follow up areas). Based on this input, members were requested to provide their inputs within two weeks of receiving the cost estimates, following which the World Bank will circulate a Terms of Reference for their virtual review.
37. Subsequent to the meeting, the United States proposed that an “interim TAC” be commissioned to assist in rapidly evaluating GAFSP proposals that could be funded prior to the G8 Summit on June 24 and the G20 Summit in November. The US also proposed that the interim TAC could be easily constituted by having each member of the Steering Committee designate one existing person (such as an existing staff member) not requiring financial compensation from GAFSP and all that is involved in such selection and contracting, to serve in this capacity.

Other Issues raised in a “white paper” by the US, Canada and Spain

38. The Coordination Unit thanked the original three donor countries (US, Canada, and Spain) for submitting a “white paper” of considerations and recommendations to the World Bank in operationalizing GAFSP.
39. Given the far reaching scope of the “white paper”, the larger number of actors now possessing voting rights in GAFSP and the progress that has been made since on the main issues surfaced by the white paper, the Coordination Unit requested each of the three donor countries who were involved to confirm with the Coordination Unit any actions/recommendations that still needed follow up in their view so that it may be appropriately addressed. Failing such explicit notice, the Coordination Unit will concentrate its attention on the issues and next steps identified in these minutes.

Next steps for the Steering Committee

40. It was decided that the next physical meeting of the Steering Committee will be in about 6 months time (circa end October—early November 2010). However, in the meantime, there will be monthly virtual meetings to keep the ball rolling. The next virtual conference will be held around May 20, 2010. Several donors made clear that they are anxious to see funds committed by June 2010.
41. The meeting discussed the next steps in the following table.

Table of Next Steps for the Next Trimester

Follow up action	Coordination Unit And/or Trustee	Other members of the Steering Committee including World Bank as potential Supervising entity	Timeframe
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Election of the
Steering Committee

Attachments:

Annex1: List of Participants

Annex2: GAFS Steering Committee as of April 21, 2010

Annex3: Draft agenda (circulated on April 20, 2010)

Annex 1: List of Participants

Name	Title	Organization Country
CANADA		

Iain C. MacGillivray	Principal Advisor, Agr.	CIDA
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BANGLADESH		
Kazi MD. Aminul Islam	WB Alternate Executive Director-	Bangladesh
Shyamala Shukla	Adviser to ED	World Bank
HAITI		
Carolina Renteria	WB Executive. Director	Haiti
MONGOLIA		
Baasankhuu Damba	WB Advisor to Executive Director	Mongolia
SENEGAL		
Ousmane Badiane (via audio)	Representative	Senegal

IADB		
Ginya Truitt-Nakata (via audio)	Representative	
Hector Malarin(via audio)	Chief Rural Development, Env and DRMngt	
Peter Sollis(via audio)	Representative	
Sean Bohannon(via audio)	Representative	
Stephen Farji(via audio)	Representative	
IFAD		
Cheryl Morden	Director North American Liaison Office	IFAD
Willem Bettink (via audio)	Senior Advisor	IFAD
IFC		
Oscar Chemerinski	Director, Agr.	IFC
Rajesh Behal	Investment Officer	IFC
Vipul Prakash	Senior Manager	IFC
UNITED NATIONS		
David Nabarro (via audio)	Representative	UN Secretary General's Office
World Food Programme		
Christopher Moore	Director of Hunger Solutions Strategy	World Food Programme
WORLD BANK		
Chie Ingvoldstad	Trustee	World Bank
Chris Delgado	Adviser	World Bank

Iride Ceccacci

Iris Sta. Maria	Trustee	World Bank
Jeehan Abdul Ghaffar	Advisor to ED	World Bank
John Garrison	Sr. Communications Officer	World Bank

Annex 2: GAFSP Steering Committee as of April 21, 2010

Country	Agency	Function	Person and coordinates
Donors (One Vote Per Country or Foundation)			
Spain	Ministry		

Country	Agency	Function	Person and coordinates
			USA
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation		Representative	Mr. Prabhu Pingali
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation		Alternate	Mr. Christopher Gingerich
Republic of Korea		Representative (tbd)	Mr. Hoan Uk Joo Advisor to Executive Director
		Alternate	
Recipients (One Vote per Country)			
Senegal	Africa (invited)	Representative	Mr. Ousmane Badiane
Sierra Leone	Africa (invited)	Representative	Dr. Dunstan S. C. Spencer Senior Partner Enterprise Development Services Ltd PMB108 5 Sir Samuel Lewis Road Freetown Sierra Leone
Bangladesh	South Asia	Representative	Mr. Kazi M. Aminul Islam
Mongolia	East Asia/Pacific	Representative	Ms. Damba Baasankhuu
Haiti	Latin America/Caribbean	Representative	Ms. Carolina Renteria (acting)
Recipient Representatives in Non-voting Status Pending Participation of More Donors			
Yemen	Middle East North Africa	Non-voting Recipient Representative	Ms. Jeehan Abdul Ghaffar

6. CSO requests for representation and voting membership
Christophe Delgado
CSO representative (Neil Watkins, Action Aid)

12. Next steps for the Steering Committee, discussion of costs, fundraising, and of a three month timetable of critical milestones to make the GAFS fully operational

Christophe Delgado

Documentation: Proposed 3 month timetable

13. Wrap up

Juergen Voegelé

Closure of the meeting