V MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PLANT PROTECTION DIRECTORS

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
November 8-14, 1987

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I. INTRODUCTION

I. INTRODUCTION

The V Meeting of the Consultive Technical Committee of Directors of Plant Protection was held in the City of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, November 8-14, 1987.

Participating in this meeting were Plant Protection Directors of IICA Member States, Representatives of International and Regional Organizations, and Institute Officials.

a. To consolidate the integration of institutions linked to plant protection activities in the hemisphere and to set up coordination mechanisms.

b. To present the components of a plant protection system to develop quarantine strategies through the use of methodologies and the execution of regional action plans.

c. To present the Progress Report, at the Hemispheric and Regional level, of IICA's Plant Protection Program, to gather recommendations from member countries and to define priorities for support activities in the countries.

d. To comply with IICA's roll to serve as consultant forum to study and develop projects on priority topics related to agricultural development and international trade. In this regard, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) studied the current situation of fruit fly to adopt recommendations for an hemispheric action plan against the fruit fly pest.

II. INAUGURAL SESSION

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The Opening Session of the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of Plant Protection Directors was held on Monday, November 9 in the Auditorium of the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic.

The Session was presided over by Mr. Manuel de Jesús Amézquita, Secretary of State for Agriculture of the Dominican Republic, who cordially welcomed the participants.

Afterward, Dr. L. Harlan Davis, Deputy Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, who, on behalf of IICA Director General, Martin E. Piñeiro, thanked of IICA member countries and guest organizations for attending, and said he hoped the event would be successful.

Next, Mr. Rafael Ramírez, Plant Protection Director, cordially welcomed all participants, stating that the Dominican Republic was proud to host such an important event.

The plenary then agreed to name Rafael Ramírez, of the Dominican Republic, as President of the meeting; Alberto Zazueta Nieblas, of Mexico, as Vice President, and Wayne Morris of Canada and Edgar Martínez of Colombia as rapporteurs.

III. MINUTES

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A. Synthesis of the Components of a Plant Quarantine System

Mr. Federico Dao introduced Mr. Greg Rohwer, Executive Secretary NAPPO, who gave an overview of the history of plant protection work and the events leading up to the three-day workshop organized by NAPPO for the Area Directors of Plant Protection.

Mr. Rohwer also touched on the following topics:

- Overview of NAPPO, its organization and its newly develop Long Term Strategy Paper (listing activities by priority)
- A review of the Plant Quarantine Principles being developed by NAPPO
- An introduction to the NAPPO manual and its intended distribution (one copy to each Regional Organization)
- Highlights of NAPPO activities undertaken during the past year

Mr. John Thaw, Director, Professional Development Center, APHIS, introduced the NAPPO Plant Quarantine Philosophy Workshop for Area Directors of Plant Protection. Mr. Thaw mentioned the following points:

- Background of workshop
- Workshop objectives
- Need to have well defined action plans by the end of Session
- Definition of terms to be used in the workshop

The workshop was organized in two component parts:

1. Conferences on the following aspects of Plant Quarantine Systems

a. Pest Risk Analysis -Bruce E. Hopper (Canada)
b. Handling Germ plasm -Bruce E. Hopper (Canada)
c. Domestic Regulations -A. Trueba (Mexico)
d. Research Support -Bruce E. Hopper (Canada)
e. Export Certification -A. Trueba (Mexico)

2. Presentation of two principle strategies to be discussed and analyzed in working groups and plenary sessions

a. Early Detection, Emergency Response
b. Inspection Procedures

1.a Pest Risk Analysis

Mr. B. Hopper's presentation highlighted that Plant Protection agencies need:

- Information on the biology and distribution of pests and the influence of the environment on pest behavior.

- A system through which such information may be exchanged and.

- A common mechanism to analyze the information.

Information data bases for a functioning Pest Risk Analysis System would have to cover:

- Foreign pest situations
- Domestic pest situations
- Conditions under which commodities move.
- Interception records
- Distribution of domestic crops
- Value of crops, i.e. economic factors
- Climate, i.e. abiotic factors
- Pest biology, i.e. biological requirements of pest
- Pest management procedures, i.e. availability
- Commodity treatment technology

1.b Handling Germ-plasm

Mr. B. Hopper's presentation on the handling of germ-plasm had the following objectives:

- To provide biological and regulatory information concerning the hazards and risks associated with the importation of plant germplasm, safeguards, and regulatory actions that can be taken with emphasis on problem areas applicable to Western Hemisphere.
- To provide a forum to discuss the potential application of the quarantine concepts by individual countries or groups of countries.

The presentation included information on:

- Applicable Quarantine Principles
- Range of Regulatory Actions
- Suggested applications, Past-Entry Quarantine Stations
- Staffing requirements of a Plant Quarantine Station

1.c Domestic Regulations

Mr. A. Trueba presented a comprehensive overview of internal pest-control regulations as carried out in Mexico. The presentation stressed the importance of strong regulations in order to control pests and diseases in each country.

Mr. Trueba touched on the following topics in his presentations:

- Importance of internal pest-control regulations
- Definition of plant protection and quarantine
- Importance of Public Information
- The medfly - an example of internal regulation in Mexico (establishment of quarantine)

1.d. Research Support

Mr. Hopper's presentation on Research Support highlighted the fact that Plant Protection agencies need to acquire problem specific-scientific information, to apply this information in a responsible manner, and to insure that plant protection agency personnel are adequately trained.

The presentation highlighted the importance of such topics as:

- Ability to train personnel
- Knowledge of areas pest and pathogens
- Knowledge of control mechanisms
- Ability to assess probable impact of any exotic pests
- Identification services
- Development of detection techniques
- Therapeutic procedures
- Assessment of impact of new genes introduced to existing crop species

1.e Export Certification

Mr. A. Trueba presented a historical review of the events leading up to the development of the international phytosanitary certificate and acceptable inspection and certification procedures. The presentation stressed the importance of proper procedures to maintain a credible certification system for the protection of other countries and the preservation of important markets.

Major topics highlighted were:

- The standard phytosanitary certificate
- Importance of export certificate
- Consequences of poor certification practices
- Inspection procedure guidelines

2.a Early Detection, Emergency Response

Mr. E. Elder reviewed the major steps in the various phases of early detection of exotic pests and quick response to infestation. The presentation stressed the importance of early detection of pests before populations build up and while there are confined to a limited area.

Five major action steps were highlighted as follows:

- Initial Planning Phase
- Action Plans for early detection surveys
- Implement early detection surveys
- Actions on finding pest suspects
- Emergency response mechanisms

2.b Inspection Procedures

Mr. C. Haven's presentation outlined plant-quarantine inspection procedures which advocated a strong system of aggressive procedures, competent, well trained and well-equipped personnel and enlightened legislation. It was stressed that the goal of any inspection system is to allow commodities to enter the country while excluding any agricultural pest that might come with those commodities.

The presentation highlighted areas such as:

- Goals of an inspection system
- Exclusion Strategies
- Regulatory Inspections
- Biological Inspections
- New Regulatory Efforts
- New Biological Efforts

For the Sessions on "Early Detection emergency Response" and "Inspection Procedures" each regional organization met in Syndicate workshops to discuss potential application of the principles outlined by the speakers in each of their respective regions.

Syndicate groups were asked to define a project which could be carried out by each of the regional organizations to assist in strengthening their plant quarantine systems. Syndicate Groups were also asked to prepare detailed action plans for the development of each of their two projects.

The results of these workshops are contained in this report.

B. Location of the VI Meeting of the Technical Consultive Committee of Plant Protection Directors

The plenary thanked the Director of Plant Health of Argentina for offering to hold the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Consultive Committee of Plant Protection Directors in that country. Likewise, it thanked the Director of Plant Protection of Uruguay for offering that country as an alternate site for the meeting.

IV. RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE WORKING GROUPS

STRATEGY NO.1: EARLY DETECTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

ANDEAN AREA

A. Guidelines for preparing the Plan of Action

1. On what project has your group reached a decision?

   Diagnosis, detection and handling of the fruit fly.

2. Is this a regional project? Which countries are participating?

   Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

3. What will be the achievements of the project if it is totally successful?

   a. Facilitating international commerce in fresh fruit
   b. Identification of fly-free areas
   c. Knowledge of native species and their effect on fruit production
   d. Training and technological transfer
   e. Identification of fly control methods to reduce their effect and quarantine exports
   f. Maintain the subregion free of Dacus Dorsalis

4. Which do you believe will be the principal problems encountered when organizing and executing the project?

   Not having a strong plant health organization; with financial and technical assistance; with high-level training; with a well defined relationship to investigation programs that provide permanent feedback.

B. Plan of Action

Diagnosis, detection and handling of the fruit fly.

1. Statement of Project Goal. What will the project accomplish?

   a. Identification of native varieties of the fly in the subregion and their breeding grounds

b. Opportune detection of exotic strains of the fly, to provide an emergency response plan

c. Carry out studies of the fluctuations in the fly population

d. Determine which areas are free of flies

e. Quarantine treatments

2. What countries are involved?

Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela

3. Will there be a group planning this project? If so, who from each country will be in the group?

All five countries have the Andean Technical Committee for Plant Health. Besides the official representatives, technical experts on the subject will be participating.

4. Who will have the responsibility for directing this project?

The Andean Technical Committee for Plant Health IICA-JUNAC Coordination.

5. On separate paper, write the major steps of how you plan to accomplish the Project Goal?

a. IICA and JUNAC will prepare a project profile

b. This will be discussed at the C.T.A.S.V. meeting to be held in Venezuela in the first semester of 1988

c. Subsequently it will be presented as a JUNAC proposal for a decision and finally taken to the financial and technical cooperation entities

6. What is the role of each country in accomplishing each major step?

Each country undertakes to have the project executed by competent national organizations.

7. What resources will be necessary to accomplish each major step? (Equipment, personnel, money, technical assistance)

   JUNAC resources are available for the preliminary steps; however, execution is subject to approval of the project.

8. Who will write the procedural guidelines?

   The Andean Technical Committee for Plant Health and the National Plant Health Services.

9. Where and when will the Project Group meet?

   In Venezuela during the first semester of 1988.

10. What do you expect the group will accomplish at the first meeting?

    The formulation of the project, based on the information available in each country.

CENTRAL AREA

A. Guidelines for preparing the Plan of Action

1. What project has your group decided on?

Establishment of a Regional system of Plant Health Information having the following components:

a. Listing of present and rare plant health problems in the region

b. Plant health legislation

c. Strengthening of a network of diagnostic laboratories

d. Mapping of plant health problems

e. Standardization of sampling methods

2. Will this be a regional project? Which countries will it involve?

Yes, Central America (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica), Panama, Mexico and Dominican Republic.

3. What will the project accomplish if it is fully successful?

a. Real awareness about the plant health problem in the region

b. Identification of free areas

c. Establishment of joint plant health campaigns

d. Reduction of the economic impact of some plant health problems

e. Prognosis and alarm of the countries (Diagnosis)

f. Establishment of a network of diagnosis laboratories

4. What are the major problems you think you will encounter in trying to organize and implement the project?

Lack of financial, human, economic and physical resources.

B. Plan of Action

Regional System of Plant Health Information

1. Statement of Project Goal. What will the project accomplish?

   The region and each country would have a continuous and dynamic information mechanism about present plagues and those presenting a threat to agriculture.

2. What countries are involved?

   Central America, Panama, Mexico and Dominican Republic

3. Will there be a group planning project? If so, Who from each country will be in the group?

   By Plant Health Directors of their respective technical delegates.

4. Who will have the responsibility for directing this project?

   This project shall be coordinated by IICA with collaboration from OIRSA and CATIE.

5. On separate paper, write the major steps of how you plan to accomplish the Project Goal.

   a. Formation of a coordinating group

   b. Definition of the terms of reference

   c. Diagnosis of the situation

   d. Preparation of a project profile

   e. Establish coordination and follow-up mechanisms

   f. Define a training plan

6. What is the role of each country in accomplishing the major steps?

   The countries shall have the commitment of supporting this initiative in the following aspects:

   a. Provide necessary information about their plant health situation

   b. Participate in meetings of the technical committee in the Project Group

   c. Provide technical personnel and other available resources

7. What resources will be necessary to accomplish each major step? (Equipment, personnel, money, technical assistance)

   a. Finance the meetings of the Project Group

   b. Other resources are to be defined during the preparation of the diagnosis and the profile

8. Who will make policy decisions? Who will write the procedural guidelines?

   The Group Coordinating the Project (IICA-OIRSA-CATIE).

9. Where and when will the "Project Group" meet?

   During the OIRSA CTC Meeting, to be held during the first two weeks of February in El Salvador.

10. What do you expect the group will accomplish at the first meeting?

    To get to know the terms of reference that will guide the preparation of the diagnosis.

CARIBBEAN AREA

A. Guidelines for preparing the Plan of Action

1. What project has your group decided on?

   Improvement of regional and extra-regional trade in fruits in the Caribbean by development of early detection and emergency response to fruit pest including fruit flies, mango seed weevil, moko disease, citrus canker and black sigatoka.

2. Will this be a regional project? Which countries will it involve?

   Yes. Caribbean Basin countries.

3. What will the project accomplish if it is fully successful?

   a. Increase in trade

   b. Confidence in decision making

   c. Support of diversification thrust

   d. Create cadre of trained personnel

   e. Strengthen regional integration

4. What are the major problems you think you will encounter in trying to organize and implement the project?

   a. (Funding) Financial support both for emergency operations and research

   b. Materials

   c. Political will

   d. Technical expertise, research operations

   e. Public awareness

B. Plan of Action

Improvement of regional and extra-regional trade in fruits in the Caribbean by development of early detection and emergency response to fruit pests including fruit flies, mango seed weevil, moko disease, citrus canker and black sigatoka.

1. Statement of Project Goal. What will the project accomplish?

   a. Increase intra-regional and extra-regional trade with fruits

   b. Improvement in the capability of the country to deal with plant quarantine issues

   c. Reduce the risk of pest introduction and spread

   d. Strengthen regional integration

   e. Support thrust in diversification

2. What countries are involved?

   Caribbean Basin countries.

3. Will there be a group planning this project?, If so, Who from each country will be in the group?

   Caribbean Plant Protection Commission (CPPC) and the Plant Protection Programme of IICA will plan the project with inputs from a technical committee consisting of:

Ronald Barrow	Trinidad & Tobago.
Eslie Alleyne	Barbados
Chelston Brathwaite	IICA
David Ellis	Jamaica
Robert Strong	CPPC
Charles Schotman	CPPC/FAO.

   Representative CABI (Institute of Biological Control).

4. Who will have the responsibility for directing this project?

   The project will be implemented in each of the countries by a local management and technical team which will be selected by government authorities in consultation with the project planning team.

5. On separate paper, write the major steps of how you plan to accomplish the Project Goal?

   The draft project proposal submitted by Mr. Robert Strong will be reviewed and submitted to FAO for technical review and to identify potential donors.

   The project proposes the establishment of laboratories in Trinidad & Tobago and Jamaica to provide the technical capability and technical back-up for the project.

6. What is the role of each country in accomplishing the major steps?

   The revised draft project will be submitted to the authorities in each country for their approval and the development of actions at the country level.

7. What resources will be necessary to accomplish each major step? (Equipment, personnel, money, technical assistance)

   These have been presented in the project document.

8. Who will make policy decision? Who will write the procedural guidelines?

   Policy decisions will be made by the management team at the level of each country as the project is implemented.

9. Where and when will the "Project Group" meet?

   The site for a meeting will be decided on as soon as the project is approved.

10. What do you expect the group will accomplish at the first meeting?

    These details will be worked out later.

SOUTHERN AREA

A. Guidelines for preparing the Plan of Action

1. What projects has your group decided on?

Creation of a detection and emergency response system for exotic plagues with high risk potential of entry into the Southern Area.

2. Will this be a regional project? Which countries will it involve?

Yes, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay.

3. What will the project accomplish if it is fully successful?

The Southern Area has identified the main plagues that have the highest risk of entry and has increased its knowledge about their biology. The Southern Area has previously trained technical personnel on the subject.

The Southern Area has perfected methodologies and has plans of action for the early detection of exotic plagues and for the development of emergency program if necessary. The Southern Area has perfected a Regional Information System about Priority Plagues.

4. What are the major problems you think you will encounter in trying to organize and implement the project?

a. Difficulty of access to scientific and technical information and in the adaptation of this information to the conditions of the Southern Area

b. Difficulty in obtaining necessary resources (human, technical, material and financial) in sufficient quantities and on time

c. Difficulty in obtaining the consensus of the countries regarding the main problems to be faced and to establish the commitment of the government and the international organizations to solve them

B. Plan of Action

Creation of a regional detection and emergency response system for rare plagues with high risk potential of entry into the Southern Area.

1. Statement of Project Goal. What will the project accomplish?

The Southern Area shall have a system that will allow it to have a better plant health defense and keep out exotic plagues that must be quarantined.

2. What countries are involved?

The five countries of the Southern Area (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay).

3. Will there be a group planning this project? If so, Who from each country will be in the group?

The project would be left in the hands of COSAVE, with the participation of representatives of the various member countries of COSAVE.

4. Who will have responsibility for directing this project?

Uruguay's Representative in COSAVE.

5. On separate paper, write the major steps of how you plan to accomplish the Project Goal:

1. COMPILATION OF BACKGROUND

1.1 Consolidation of the list of endemic plagues of the region.

1.2 Map the distribution of the crops that have economical importance for the region.

1.3 Up-dating the regional list of quarantine plagues.

1.4 Gathering agro-climatic information

1.5 Gathering phenological information regarding crops that have the greatest economic importance in the region

1.6 Identification of the possible ways for the introduction of the exotic quarantine plagues in relation to the biological characteristics and the inter-regional exchange.

1.7 Identification of the best centers and specialists to confirm the diagnosis.

2. ANALYSIS OF THE INFORMATION GATHERED

2.1 Determine the zones of high risk for the introduction and establishment of exotic plagues.

2.2 Establish the areas and opportunities for examination for these high risk zones.

2.3 Determine the methodology and procedures to carry out the vigilance, detection and quarantine strengthening activities.

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM

3.1 Prepare a regional manual on early detection and emergency response.

3.2 Development of an agile system for the gathering of extraregional information to keep the manual permanently updated as well as its dissemination in the countries of the area.

3.3 Continuous training program for the technical regional personnel in the areas of detection, identification, biology, control and application of operational procedures.

3.4 Contribute to the development of a Regional Center for Plant Health Diagnosis.

6. What is the role of each country in accomplishing the major steps?

Each country shall commit governmental and institutional support to carry out the tasks proposed in point (5).

7. What resources will be necessary to accomplish the major steps?

Equip: a. Computers and equipment for laboratory and field diagnosis

b. Equipment for quarantine strengthening

c. International technical assistance such as consultants, training programs and financing projects

8. Who will make policy? Who will write the procedural guidelines?

Policy decisions shall be made by the COSAVE Council of Ministers and the procedures shall be prepared by the COSAVE Technical Committee.

9. Where and when will the "Project Group" meet?

Uruguay, December 1987.

10. What do you expect the group will accomplish at the first meeting?

The policy decisions to start actions and definition of steps to be taken in the future.

STRATEGY N°2: INSPECTION PROCEDURES

ANDEAN AREA

A. Guidelines for preparing the Plan of Action

1. What project has your group decided on?

   Strengthening of the plant quarantine system in the Andean Subregion.

2. Will this be a regional project? Which countries will it involve?

   It is a project for the five Andean countries, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

3. What will the project accomplish if it is fully successful?

   Protect the subregion against the introduction of exotic plagues; expedite international trade and quarantine plant health.

4. What are the major problems you think you will encounter in trying to organize and implement the project?

   a. Physical and human resources deficiencies

   b. Training deficiencies

   c. Lack of inter-institutional coordination

B. Plan of Action

Strengthening of the plant quarantine system in the Andean Sub-region.

1. Statement of Project Goal. What will the project accomplish?

   To have an effective plant health system which allows the detection and prevents the entry of exotic plagues.

2. What countries are involved?

   Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

3. Will there be a group planning this project? If so, Who from each country will be in the group?

   Members of the Andean Plant Health Technical Committee.

4. Who will have the responsibility for directing this project?

   The Andean Plant Health Technical Committee with IICA-JUNAC as advisors.

5. On separate, write the major steps of how you plan to accomplish the Project Goal?

   a. Preparation of the project. Starting with the diagnosis of plant health services, a profile of the project will be made which will follow the guidelines established by JUNAC to later search for financing

   b. Analyze the current situation of the countries regarding norms and the need to have them updated

   c. Diagnosis of physical and human resources

   d. Presentation of the project for its national and regional approval to search for financing

6. What is the role of each country in accomplishing the major steps?

   Approval of the project and commitment from the countries for its executions, follow-up and evaluation.

7. What resources will be necessary to accomplish each major step? (Equipment, personnel, money, technical assistance)

   The needs shall be detected in the diagnosis and are to be included in the project.

8. Who will make policy decisions? Who will write the procedural guidelines?

   The Andean Plant Health Technical Committee.

9. Where and when will the "Project Group" meet?

We will propose that this meeting take place in Ecuador during the Andean Plant Quarantine Seminar to be held from November 30 to December 6, 1987.

10. What do you expect the group will accomplish at the first meeting?

The first draft of the project profile.

CENTRAL AREA

A. Guidelines for preparation of the Plan of Action

1. What project has your group decided on?

   Creation of a permanent quarantine program.

2. Will this be a regional project? Which countries will it involves?

   Central America, Panama, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Haiti

3. What will the project accomplish if it is fully successful?

   a. Minimize the risk of the introduction of plagues

   b. Obtain procedural guidelines

   c. Quarantine education and dissemination

   d. Improve inspection and treatment procedures

4. What are the major problems you think you will encounter in trying to organize and implement the project?

   Lack of human, economical and physical resources.

B. Plan of Action

Permanent quarantine training program.

1. Statement of Project Goal. What will the project accomplish?

   1.1 All the quarantine inspectors of the countries of the Area will be trained to carry out their duties and responsibilities adequately.

   1.2 All the countries will have quarantine procedural guidelines with uniform mechanisms and methods to expedite trade of products and subproducts originating from plants.

1.3 An information campaign aimed at the public, passengers and authorities will have been developed in order to motivate them to comply with quarantine control regulations.

2. What countries are involved?

Central America, Panama, Mexico, Dominican Republic. The group considers that Haiti's participation is important for the project.

3. Will there be a group planning this project? If so, Who from each country will be in the group?

The Heads of Quarantine Departments or Sections of the National Plant Health Administrations.

4. Who will have the responsibility for directing this project?

OIRSA

5. On separate paper, write the major steps of how you plan to accomplish the Project Goal.

a. Search for sources of financing

b. Gather background information

c. Up-date quarantine diagnosis that have been carried out and consolidate those corresponding to the region for the aforementioned purposes

d. Prepare training project

6. What is the role of each country in accomplishing the major steps?

a. Collaborate with technical personnel and other available resources

b. Provide the necessary information

c. Make the project official at the next meeting of the OIRSA CTC

7. What resources will be necessary to accomplish each major step? (Equipment, personnel, money, technical assistance)

Laboratories, equipment, technical personnel (specialized) and documentation centre.

8. Who will make policy decisions? Who will write the procedural guidelines?

OIRSA

9. Where and when will the "Project Group" meet?

The group considers that it should be up to OIRSA to determine the place and time for this meeting and we suggest that this meeting take place as soon as possible given the importance of the project for all the countries of the Area.

10. What do you expect the group will accomplish at the first meeting?

That it analyze the terms of reference of the project presented by OIRSA and prepare a profile of the project.

CARIBBEAN AREA

A. Guidelines for preparation of the Plan of Action

1. What project has your group decided on?

   Improving plant quarantine inspection procedures in the Caribbean by training and the development of a manual of plant quarantine procedures.

2. Will this be a regional project? Which countries will it involve?

   Yes, Caribbean Basin Countries.

3. What will the project accomplish if it is fully successful?

   a. Effective inspection of agriculture products

   b. Improve competence of plant quarantine officers

   c. Reduce spread of pests

   d. Standardized procedures on inspection will be established

4. What are the major problems you will encounter in trying to organize and implement the project?

   a. Cooperation of customs

   b. Funding

   c. Legislation - The group considers that this is the province of the individual countries and hopes that an effective lobby can be developed to assist in this regard

B. Plan of Action

Improving plant quarantine inspection, procedures in the Caribbean by training and the development of a manual of plant quarantine procedures.

1. Statement of Project Goal. What will the project accomplish?

   a. Effective inspection of agricultural products

   b. Improve competence of plant quarantine personnel

   c. Reduce risks of pest introduction and spread

   d. Standardized plant quarantine procedures will be established

   e. Improve regional integration

2. What countries are involved?

   Caribbean Basin countries.

3. Will there be a group guiding this project? If so, Who from each country will be in the group?

   IICA + CPPC with the right to involve relevant expertise.

4. Who will have the responsibility for directing this project?

   Head of Plant Protection Unit of each country.

5. On separate paper, write the major steps of how you plan to accomplish the Project Goal.

   a. Two documents are available for study:

      i. FAO (Plant Quarantine Procedures)

      ii. Plant Quarantine Procedures for Grenada developed by USDA (APHIS)

   b. Animal Health and Plant Health inspection to be regarded as an entity and should be done by the same inspector

   c. Include in regulations standard procedures for the movement of exotic organisms for experimental purposes

   d. Training activities to be organized

6. What is the role of each country in accomplishing the major steps?

   a. Countries: study manuals and make amendments, etc

   b. Revise regulations

   c. Sensitization of Government

   d. Public awareness and notification to relevant bodies (customs, etc.)

   e. Implementation - evaluation (by agencies)

   f. Classroom training

   g. On-the-job training- someone to visit each island (should be done within the region by FAO, IICA)

   h. Development of training packages to be distributed

   i. APHIS training in Maryland for 6 weeks, funding: USAID, EEC

7. What resources will be necessary to accomplish each major step? (Equipment, personnel, money, technical assistance)

   a. Equipment - incinerators, fumigation, microscope, vials, handlers, disposal unit and containers for training

   b. Visual aids

   c. Technical assistance for training (universities, FAO, IICA)

   d. Personnel to be trained

   e. Training equipment that simulates working conditions

   f. Finance

   g. Technology package for training

8. Who will make policy decisions? Who will write the procedural guidelines?

   a. Policy decisions - Head of Plant Protection

   b. Guidelines - Head of Plant Protection with assistance from FAO, IICA

9. Where and when will the "Project Group" meet?

June 1988, with the participation of the following persons:	Ronald Barrow Charles Schotman Chelston Brathwaite CABI Representative Eslie Alleyne David Ellis Robert Strong

10. What do you expect the group will accomplish at the first meeting?

The planning of the implementation of the project.

SOUTHERN AREA

A. Guidelines for preparing the Plan of Action

1. Which project has your group decided on?

   The adoption of a harmonious regional system of inspection and quarantine regulations for the Southern Area.

2. Is it a Regional Project? Which countries would it involve?

   It is a Regional Project with participation from all countries that are members of COSAVE.

3. If it is successful, what will the project achieve?

   It would contribute to regional integration, expediting INTER and CINTRA REGIONAL changes.

   The overall region would be better protected, contributing to reduce the entry of exotic problems and the intraregional spread of plagues occurring locally.

4. What are the main problems that you consider you will face on trying to organize and implement the project?

   a. Adaptation of current legal dispositions in each of the countries

   b. Need to technically modernize inspection procedures

   c. Training of personnel

B. Plan of Action

Adoption of a harmonious regional system of inspection and quarantine regulations.

1. What are the results (aims) expected at the end of the project?

   That the region have an operations, harmonious and homologous system which contributes to the integration of member countries of COSAVE, expediting exchanges and safeguarding Agricultural Sanitation in the Region.

2. Which are the countries that will participate in the Project?

   The member countries of COSAVE (Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay).

3. Would a group be formed to discuss the project? If so, Who would participate from each country?

   The Project would remain in the hands of COSAVE and representatives from the member countries would participate in it.

4. Who will be responsible for the direction of this Project?

   Chile's Representative at COSAVE.

5. In separate sheet, describe the main steps that must be carried out to reach the aims of the Project.

   Compilation of background (Already carried out)

   a. Concepts and outlines of the system (stage compiled in Chile, 1986)

   b. Substitution of the systems in operation in each one of the member countries, achieved in the area in 1987

   c. Identification of the limiting factors and needs, evaluated in 1987

   d. Formulation of a proposed regional inspection and quarantine manual. The previous stages have been completed with sponsorship from FAO

   e. Adoption of the Manual by the Directing Committee and ratification by the Council of Ministers of COSAVE (Uruguay-December, 1987)

f. Implementation of the system by the member countries giving consideration to:

i. Adaptation to the Legal Framework of the various countries

ii. Personnel training

iii. Dissemination of the system

iv. Improvement of technologies for inspection services

6. What role will each country play in order to reach the established results (aims)?

Each country shall commit the necessary governmental and institutional support necessary for the execution of the actions mentioned in point 5.

7. What resources will be needed to achieve the preliminary steps? (Equipment, personnel, money, technical cooperation)

Equipment:

a. Data processing equipment

b. Detection of agricultural products in luggage

c. Quarantine treatments and destruction of dangerous merchandise

d. Infrastructure for the handling of reproduction material

8. Who shall elaborate the procedures to be followed?

Political decisions shall be adopted by the Council of Ministers of COSAVE and technical guidelines shall be under the technical responsibility of the Technical Committee.

9. Where and when shall the first meeting of the "Project Group" take place?

In the binational area of Salto Grande, Uruguay, December 1987.

10. What do you expect the group to achieve during the first meeting?

The political decision to start action and definition of steps to be taken in the future.

V. INTER-AMERICAN GROUP FOR COORDINATION IN PLANT PROTECTION

V. INTER-AMERICAN GROUP FOR COORDINATION IN PLANT PROTECTION

The Second Meeting of the Inter-American Group for Coordination in Plant Protection (GICSV) was held on Sunday, November 8, in Santo Domingo.

During this meeting, GICSV Rules were discussed and approved on November 13. These rules are attached to this report.

VI. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL REGIONAL COMMITTEES' MEETING

ANDEAN AREA

The CTR-Andean Area meeting dealt with these problems:

- Black Sigatoka

- Fruit Fly

Recomendations

1. To carry to an extreme quarantine measures in the countries to prevent the introduction of Fusarium oxysporium, Race 4 or Taiwan, in materials propagating Musaceous that are coming from any country.

2. To promote the establishment of banana and plantain germ plasm banks in order to have genetic material that is resistant to diseases and plagues affecting these crops.

3. Request IICA to help with the reactivation of the Andean Program against black sigatoka.

4. Elaborate and distribute information material on the production of Musaceous and the integrated handling of plagues and diseases affecting these crops.

5. Give priority to the training of plant protection personnel on methods of integrated handling of plagues and diseases of crops having economic importance.

6. Search for mechanisms to finance training courses on the treatment of fruit to be exported; as well as training in the laboratories of ARS in the United States.

7. Establish in each country a detection and trapping program in order to identify fly species and their breeding grounds so as to determine the distribution of these plagues in the sub-region.

CENTRAL AREA

The meeting of the CTR - Central Area dealt with the following topics:

1. Regional Project Progress Report

2. Contents of the reformulated Regional Project following IICA's Medium Term Plan 1986-1991.

3. Coordination with other regional institutions.

4. Follow up of the adoption of regulations for registration, use and marketing of pesticides.

The CTC - Central Area approved the Activities Report and reiterated the commitment of the Plant Protection Directors from each of the countries to provide all the necessary support for the development of activities and the achievement of the Regional Project goals based on national and multinational actions.

Recomendations

1. That IICA carry out the necessary actions to start and put into operation a project for the creation and operation of a "Regional System of Phytosanitary Information," with the following basic components:

   - Inventory of insect plagues and phytopathogens, both present and exotic.

   - Establishment of a network of continuous phytosanitary diagnosis.

   - Systematic and permanent updated mapping of the phytosanitary problems of the region as the basis for the adoption of the methodology used by the Mediterranean Fly Program.

   - Compilation of the phytosanitary legislation and standardization of procedural manuals.

2. That at the highest level, IICA negotiate before FAO, USDA, OIRSA and other international organizations to ensure the continuity of the Control and Eradication of the Mediterranean Fly (MEDCAP) and that this Program be extented to other fruit flies.

3. That IICA be more directly involved with the Mediterranean Fly Program, supporting the actions that are of its concern, particularly training and providing advice to the countries.

4. On discussing the point about follow up to the proposed regulation for the "registration, labelling, use and marketing of pesticides and other similar substances," CTR stated that it is the responsibility of the countries to adopt it according to the particular characteristics of each one of them. The Plant Protection Directors committed themselves to hasten negotiations and inform about the development of this process in the next CTR meetings.

   CTR - Central Area also stressed the results obtained during the Fifth CTC Meeting when a new working methodology was introduced which permitted the analysis in of Plant Protection Strategies and the setting up of priorities for supportive actions on the part of IICA and other organizations through the identification of regional integration projects.

   Finally, CTR - Central Area agreed that recommendations II and III be taken to the Plenary Session for them to be approved by the Fifth Meeting of the CTC.

CARIBBEAN AREA

The delegates of the countries presented reports on the pest and disease situation in their countries. The following were discussed:

1. The incidence of spearrot diseases of oil palm in Suriname and proposals for an international seminar in 1988.

2. The need for a national policy on pesticides use in the countries. Participants were informed that such a policy is being developed for Jamaica with assistance from IICA.

3. The Pesticides and Toxic Chemical Act was promulgated in Trinidad and Tobago.

4. The outbreak of coffee rust in Jamaica and the strategies being used for its control.

5. A new disease condition on breadfruit in Jamaica on unknown actiology.

6. The continuing spread of moko disease and nutmeg wilt in Grenada.

7. The enactment of a new Plant Protection and Quarantine Law in Dominica and increased fine for infringement of the Pesticide Act.

8. The ocurrence of the White leaf virus disease of rice in Trinidad and Tobago

9. Beauvariat sp. has been discovered in Jamaica and may have potential for biological control of coffee berry borer.

10. The ocurrence of a new fruit fly thought to be Daucus sp., the Malaysian fruit fly in Suriname.

11. The delegates heard reports from the representatives of USDA/APHIS, FAO and CABI (Institute of Biological Control) as to their present and proposed activities in the Caribbean and suggested that these agencies continue to coordinate their actions in order to avoid duplication.

12. The priorities for 1988/1989 biennium were presented. These will include training in Plant Protection, assessment of crop losses in cooperation with IICA actions in Costa Rica, the Regional Newsletter, publication of manual on Diagnosis and a Bibliography on Insect Pests, reformulation of the project for a diagnostic laboratory in the Caribbean, support to CARICOM's initiative for a Regional Plant Quarantine System, and development of training material on pests and disease diagnosis and control. Technical

support to pest and disease control in fruit development in the region with special reference to activities in the Windward Islands, Barbados and Guyana will also be provided.

The programme will also seek to provide emergency assistance in case of disease outbreaks and general technical assistance in Plant Protection to all the countries. The Seminar on "spearrot" in Suriname, the survey on pesticide use in Trinidad and Tobago and the Seminar on the pesticide policy in Jamaica will be part of the programme activities during the period.

13. The delegates expressed their deep regret at the passing of Dr. Maajid Yassen, former Entomologist of the Commonwealth Institute for Biological Control (CIBC), and spent one minute in silence as a sign of respect.

14. The Caribbean delegates to the meeting reviewed the project document entitled "Draft Project Proposal for a Regional Center for the Diagnosis of Plant Pests and Diseases in the Caribbean" and agreed as follows:

    a. To support the project proposal in its entirety and to ask IICA to continue to use its good offices through the Regional Plant Protection specialist to obtain financing for this project.

    b. If financing agencies are not able to finance the entire project then a subproject for the establishment of a pest and disease diagnostic laboratory with the cooperation of the University of the West Indies Faculty of Agriculture, CAB Institute of Biological Control and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago should be prepared and funding sought from international agencies or through bilateral channels.

15. The future activities of the Society for Plant Protection in the Caribbean (SPPC) was discussed and its role in publishing plant protection papers was raised; however, the poor financial state of the Society was limiting factor in its operation. The delegates urged IICA to include the Society in its list of professional organizations eligible for financial support.

16. The delegates endorsed the Regional Plant Quarantine System proposed by the Caricom Secretariat to the Standing Committee of Ministers of Agriculture (SCMA) and urged that this be given full support and assistance by IICA and other international agencies operating in Plant Protection in the Caribbean.

17. The delegates supported the continued production of the Caribbean Plant Protection Newsletters sought IICA's and support to have the Newsletter expanded to include publication of full length articles on plant protection research relevant to the Caribbean.

18. The delegates endorsed the reports of IICA's activities in St. Vicent, Grenada, Dominica and St. Lucia, expressed satisfaction with the work

carried out by USAID/APHIS/IICA in the fruit survey in Grenada and St. Vicent, which are free of fruit flies, supported the initiatives with respect to expanding the survey to St. Lucia and Dominica and requested continued support for fruit fly work in the Caribbean. In this regard the delegates support fully the project document entitled "Cooperative Action for Survey, Management and Eradication of Economically Important Fruit Flies in the Caribbean" which was proposed by Robert Strong, Chairman of CPPC.

19. The delegates heard the report presented by the representative of CABI (Institute for Biological Control) with respect to the new developments in the organization and look forward to a greater contribution from this institute in plant protection in the Caribbean.

20. The delegates expressed appreciation and satisfaction with the work of the Regional Specialist in Plant Protection, Dr. Chelston Brathwaite, and expressed the hope that IICA will continue to give its full support to the Programme of Work in the Caribbean.

RESOLUTION

The delegates from the Caribbean Area attending the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on Plant Protection held in Santo Domingo from November 8th to 14th, 1987, hereby express their deep appreciation of the excellent work and leadership which the Regional Specialist for the Caribbean, Dr. Chelston W.D. Brathwaite, has provided in this meeting and in the Caribbean countries during the past seven years.

We congratulate Dr. Brathwaite on his recent appointment as Representative of IICA in Trinidad and Tobago and we hereby request IICA's assistance in providing the human and financial resources necessary to ensure continuation of the Regional Plant Protection Programme which is very important to the crop diversification efforts of the countries of the Region.

Signed in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on 14th of November 1987 by:

Eslie H. Allaime	Delegate of Barbados
Urban Martín	Delegate of Dominica
Dale Francis	Delegate of Grenada
Kellman Victorine	Delegate of Guyana
Julio Barthelemy	Delegate of Haiti
David W. Ellis	Delegate of Jamaica
Rudolf Huiswoud	Delegate of Suriname
Ernest Henry	Delegate of St. Lucia
Ronald Barrow	Delegate of Trinidad & Tobago

SOUTHERN AREA

The Meeting of Directors for the Southern Area focused on the analysis of the progress of the integration of the Plant Health Committee Southern Cone, for the COSAVE, the Regional Phytosanitary Organization, by means of which under the terms of the International Agreement for Plant Protection, regional, cooperative activities will be carried out by the countries involved and with other phytosanitary organizations in the Southern Area and in the hemisphere.

Special attention was given to the analysis of possible activities to be given priority which the COSAVE group will carry out under the IICA agreement over the next four years.

Future action was analyzed, taking into consideration the results of previous meetings of CTR Southern Area and the results of the Seminar on Philosophy and Strategies for Plant Quarantines presented at the Fifth Meeting of CTC by NAPPO. Additionally, the possible cooperation of FAO/ ELAC, APHIS/PPC, was taken into account and specially that of NAPPO which participated in the Meeting.

Recommendations

1. It was recommended to IICA and the countries involved that they continue coordination activities to integrate the Committee for Plant Health in the Southern Cone COSAVE.

   For the purposes of the aforementioned activities, the actions of IICA Southern Cone will be continued - involving the countries favoring holding a meeting of Ministers of Agriculture from the Southern Cone (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay) at which they will sign:

   - An agreement amongst the countries to establish COSAVE
   - Approval of COSAVE Regulations
   - IICA-COSAVE Agreement, under which IICA will grant technical support to COSAVE through the Technical Office

   This meeting will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay on December 15, 1987.

2. Considering that the best strategy for confronting phytosanitary problems is preventing their spreading to new territories, the following is recommended:

   - Implementation of a plan of action with respect to early detection and emergency quarantine measures. The plan comprises three specific areas.

- Formulation of a regional strategy for early detection and emergency response.

- Formulation and establishment of rapid action for detection of the Oriental fruit fly-DACUS, spp., a plague actually affecting Surinam, and;

- Formulation and implementation of rapid action for early detection and emergency response in Argentina and Paraguay with respect to the Boll weevil, a plague which is actually affecting Brazil.

3. Considering that one of the more direct and concrete actions to diminish the risk of the entrance of new plagues is quarantine inspection, the following is recommended:

   - Formulation of a plan of action to establish a regional system of quarantine inspection procedures.

4. Considering that one of the strategic components of plant health action, in support of agricultural production, is the use of pesticides, and considering the need to protect the environment and human health, the following is recommended:

   - Continuation of the activities that tend to harmonize and standardize registration and procedures for the safe use of pesticides, and actions that seek to obtain and promote the sup- port of GIFAP and national associations of agro-chemical industries.

5. Considering that the fruit fly is the principal plague at the hemispherical and regional levels affecting international production and commerce of fruit and vegetables, the following is recommended:

   - Initiation of action to implement a regional program for the integrated handling of the fruit fly, which would be opportunely integrated with a program for the hemisphere and its implementation promoted.

6. Considering the magnitude of the regional phytosanitary problem and taking into account the budget limitations and perspectives of the countries involved and of IICA, the following is recommended:

   - Priority should be give to directing the major portion of the resources assigned to IICA for Plant Health cooperative activities in the Southern Area to the formulation of projects to be used to obtain external financing. Specially, the objective is to establish as an operating resources, a Plant Health Program for the Southern Area PROSAVE-IICA-COSAVE.

VII. APPENDICES

Appendix No.1

PROGRESS REPORT

IICA DEPUTY DIRECTORATE OF PLANT PROTECTION

It gives me great satisfaction to give a warm welcome to all the participants in this Fifth Meeting of Directors of Plant Protection from Latin America and the Caribbean and also acknowledge the presence of the regional and international institutions involved with plant protection, research institutions, regional representatives of the quarantine services of the Department of Agriculture of the United States, and private sectors. Thank you for being with us.

The objective of this Fifth Meeting of Directors of Plant Protection is, first of all, to present the new structure of the Program on Animal Health and Plant Protection, which will be presented by the Program Director, Dr. Harry C. Mussman; also, through this report, to point out the following:

- Report on the achievements and advances made in the Program activities of the different countries, in the Areas and in the Hemisphere.

- Confer with the countries and obtain their participation in the execution and support of IICA's prioritary activities, according to its Medium Term Plan and the strategy indicated by the Inter-American Board of Agriculture.

- Propose to the countries strategies and methods to cope with plant protection problems, from the point of view of prevention, risk analysis and damage evaluation for the development of an Integrated Pest Management System.

- Report any progress made in the institutional organization of the departments of plant protection and promote concording points of legislature on pesticides and any other that has to do with the International Agreement on Agricultural Products.

- Give support toward the consolidation of the Inter-American Group for Coordination in Plant Protection and in the improvement of some basic plant protection policies at a hemispheric level.

Our work agenda and program have been intense and varied. First we considered matters pertaining to the Coordinating Inter-American Group on Plant Protection and most of the week we have been engaged in the important workshop on the Plant Quarantine Theory, with the priceless support of NAPPO. Through the discussion of the strategies we have been able to unify criteria as to the manner in which this organization carries out its quarantine measures.

We still have to go through the Area Meetings, to consider and discuss the regional activities of the Project; the Work Report on Fruit Flies and the measures that might be taken at a hemispheric level for their control; and, as a final point, the General Assembly of this Fifth Meeting.

I shall now proceed to present the follow-up report of the approved recommendations of the Fourth Meeting, at Guatemala, in 1985.

Plant Protection aspects associated with germplasm exchange

Consideration has been given to matters that are important not only at a national level but also at a regional, continental and hemispheric level. In the Caribbean Area, a work strategy and a regional project have been presented, that take into consideration the biological as well as the procedural elements. Those elements include the benefits, risks, exchange, problem areas, potential biological solutions and post-entrance quarantine facilities. This Area has taken the initiative in this matter and its Project has been used by NAPPO to develop a working proposal for germplasm exchange for the Caribbean Region.

Integrated pest management

The Program has increased its support to the CATIE/AID/ROCAP Integrated Pest Management Program, in everything related to its promotion and training at a regional level, to help its local and regional activities.

Assessment of crop loss due to phytosanitary problems

The Andean Area (Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela) has been the leader in this matter. Two publications have been produced: "Quantitative Epidemiology for the Analysis of some Diseases in Tropical Crops" and "Damage Evaluation caused by Pests in Andean Crops".

Phytosanitary information system applied to prognosis and early detection

Steps have already been taken in this matter. The Regional Technical Committee of the Southern Area has cooperated with Western Hemisphere countries and with IICA's Animal and Plant Health Program in the development of a Phytosanitary Information System. Plant Health information needs have been diagnosed and several computerized phytosanitary registers have been made. As a result of these activities, there is a Computerized Pesticide Register.

Diagnosis and analysis of quarantine problems at a hemispheric level.

The Program has been directed toward the promotion and establishment of national projects for institutional support, aimed to help the plant

protection agencies. There are now two projects, one in Panama and one in Paraguay; another one is being developed in Costa Rica.

Pesticide legislation

Promotion and support is being given to standard legislation at a hemispheric level. An Ad-Hoc meeting is being prepared for next year to work on a document on storage, containers, transportation, disposal, etc., of pesticides, that will be presented to the countries.

In relation to the General Recommendations, IICA has intensified the coordination of efforts carried out in the countries and region as, aimed at finding solutions to common pest protection problems. With these objective in mind and with substantial support from FAO/RLAC, the Interamerican Coordinating Group on Plant Protection has been established and had its second meeting, in this city, on November 8, 1987.

Bilateral actions are being taken to find solutions to common plant protection problems and support is being given to the international and regional agencies in unifying technical and economic efforts. The creation of COSAVE, and its new structure, falls into this category.

I will now give a summary of the activities, at a regional level:

ANDEAN AREA

The activities in the Plant Protection Project in the Andean Area have been directed toward institutional support; strengthening of phytosanitary inspection; diagnosis and defense systems through integrated management strategies; and promotion of multinational activities of interest to international marketing.

As a complement of institutional support and to strengthen national institutions, training is the most common instrument. From January 1986 to September 1987, over 700 technicians have taken advantage of courses, seminars, workshops, meetings, etc. Some of these have been at a national level such as: Workshop on Plant Protection and Plant Protection Policies and the Course on Diagnosis, Management and Pesticides Uses, in Bolivia; First Meeting on the Application of the International Conduct Code for the Management and use of Pesticides and the Course on Fruit Flies, in Peru; the three national meetings on Black Sigatoka, in Ecuador; the Seminar on Coffee Crops, in Venezuela, etc. At an international level, we can mention the Second International Course on Plant Quarantine (USDA/APHIS), in Colombia and the Training Course on Plant Diagnosis, in Venezuela.

It is also interesting to mention the work on the Biological Control Project in the Urubamba Valley, Cuzco; on the evaluation of the Peruvian Medfly Project; on the Regional Program for Control and Eradication of the Medfly on the Chile/Peru Border; on the Proposal for the Survey of Fruit Flies in Venezuela; and on the support given to two officials from Venezuela and Colombia, to participate in the Course on Control of Fruit Flies in Tapachula, Mexico. These activities point to the increasing importance of fruit fly problems in fruit production, but, even more, to the constraints for their international marketing.

Amongst the international activities we can name the Meeting Fourth of the Regional Technical Committee, in Colombia, attended by officials from Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela; and the course on Plant Epidemiology, where the same countries were represented.

We must also point out that 13 documents were written on different aspects of plant protection problems in the Area and that very good relations have been maintained with other institutions and agencies, especially with JUNAC, OIE, FAO, APHIS/PPQ, CIP and CIAT.

CENTRAL AREA

Most of the activities in the Area have been directed toward: study of the institutional organization of national plant protection programs; survey of the phytosanitary legislation and the legal basis that supports the functions and organization of the Plant Protection Department; acknowledgement of different problems and restrictions of the Plant Protection Offices.

The information derived from some of these activities was used in the preparation and redraft of the project "Strengthening of the technical capacity of the plant protection institutions to expedite regional interchange of agricultural products and supplies in the Central Area."

Also included in this category are the initiation of seminars and meetings; the goal will be the preparation of a diagnosis for Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. It will be the basis for the development of project outlines that could be financed by international organizations, Also, the support given to consolidate already established offices in Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Dominican Republic.

The most widely used instrument for institutional support has been the training of human resources through the plan "Training on the diagnosis, detection management and prevention of phytosanitary problems of tropical crops". This plan started in Mexico and Guatemala and will soon be applied to the rest of the countries in the Area.

The following are some of the Project's activities: coordination meeting with the heads of plant protection offices of the Area; seminar on problems associated with pesticide use in Central America and Panama; Latin American seminar on integrated pest management; and a short course on the same subject.

More then 700 participants received benefits from these activities. Six documents were published on subjects presented in the courses.

CARIBBEAN AREA

Training courses were an important part of the activities of the Project in the Caribbean during this period. These courses were designed to improve the skills and capabilities of the plant protection personnel. These courses included general subjects like: pesticide safety, the diagnosis and control of plant pests and diseases of food crops; or specific, like the detection and control of Hart Rot disease of coconut and oil palm (Guyana).

It is also worth mentioning the specialized training that was arranged for officers in the various Ministeries of Agriculture as well as the two regional seminars: one on the diagnosis of pests and diseases of food crops and the other on pests and diseases as constraints to the production and marketing of fruit in the Caribbean.

These training courses were attended by over 1000 participants from the countries of the region.

Sixteen activities were carried out on research and technical assistance. We will point out the following: survey of pests (like the incidence of fruit flies in Grenada and St. Vicente, the distribution of mango seed weevil in Grenada, St. Lucia and Dominica, of Cedros wilt in Guyana, and Suriname etc., pest control (control of termites in cocoa in Grenada, St. Lucia and Dominica in reviewing their pesticide legislation, to Jamaica in restructuring their plant quarantine system and in a proposal for the development of a national policy on pesticide use and to agricultural officials in the different countries to attend training seminars and courses.

On the subject of publications we can point out the following; two editions of the Caribbean Plant Protection Newsletter (1986-1987), the manual entitled "Guidelines for the identification and diagnosis of damage in crop plants caused by insects, diseases, weeds and nutrient disorders". The proceedings of the seminar titled Pests and Diseases as Constraints to fruit Production and Marketing in the Caribbean (already published and

distributed). Bibliographies on: published data on insect pests of crops in the Caribbean from 1880 to 1980; pests and crops diseases in Haiti; the coconut heart rot and oil palm. This last one includes the most important information produced during the past 25 years. A report on the activities carried out on the coconut mite in St. Lucia was also prepared.

The Regional Plant Protection Program continues to support the Society for Plant Protection in the Caribbean by being the Secretariat for this Society which has a membership of 121 plant protection personnel throughout the region.

Last of all we must mention the proposal for the establishment of a Regional Plant Quarantine System and a Regional Facility for Pest Protection which is considered vital for the agricultural development of the Region.

SOUTHERN AREA

The Regional Technical Committee (RTC) took an active part in the constitution of the Plant Protection Committee for the Southern Area (COSAVE); it also supported the general agreement between COSAVE and IICA. Based on the mentioned agreement, IICA will act as Secretariat to COSAVE. Collaboration was given by many national and international organizations and agencies.

To give attention to phytosanitary problems, regional meetings were conducted with the participation of plant protection officials, extension services, researchers, organized producers, industrialists and exporters; they analyzed the cotton boll weevil, citrus canker, noxious birds, and integrated phytosanitary management. National and regional information systems have been discussed at a technical level. Furthermore, there was cooperation with FAO/RLAC in regional meetings on plant quarantine and on the Analysis of the International Conduct Code for Pesticides, with GIFAP's participation.

In relation to training and development of human resources during this period, several technical and advisory visits and courses were arranged on fruit flies, citrus canker, boll weevil, phytosanitary information system, plant quarantine, phytosanitary regulation for international marketing of fruits and vegetables, entomopathogens, agroecology and integrated management of phytosanitary problems.

It is interesting to point out the efforts made for the establishment of an International Center for Training on Integrated Management of Phytosanitary Problems (CIMIF), with the had office in Tucumen, Argentina

(at the Research Center on Population Regulation of Noxious Organisms (CIRPON)). CIRPOM/CIMIF helped with the course on Integrated Management of the Fruit Fly and with the University of California's cooperation. Courses on agroecology and entomopathogens will be given this month.

Technical cooperation in the countries encompassed institutional problems, such as the Project "Institutional strengthening of the Plant Protection Departments of Uruguay"; organization, such as the proposal to create the Phytosanitary Commission and the System of Computerized Records on Quarantine and Pesticide Inspection; training on citrus canker, pesticides, computerized records and phytosanitary information system, in the five countries of the Area.

Cooperation was also given to Argentina and Uruguay on the signature of an agreement for the joint control of agricultural pests, particularly noxious birds, citrus canker and fruit flies.

Hemispheric actions were also taken: the first batch of computerized records on pesticides was transferred to the countries and a Program for the Phytosanitary Validation of Imports of Agricultural Products was prepared by Uruguay's Plant Protection Department. Also, with the cooperation of the Central Area, a Latin American Symposium on the Analysis of Integrated Pest Management of Phytosanitary Problems was given in Mexico, in February 1987.

Let me finish this report by pointing out the relevant activities carried out within the Project "Technical Cooperation for Chile's Plant Protection Programs".

These activities are essentially cooperation actions aimed mainly: toward significant aspects such as the strengthening of plant protection cooperation between Chile and Peru to control the Medfly at their border; toward prioritary and emergency fields, such as the technical advice given in relation to the biology and control of the European pine shoot moth; and toward highly practical matters, such as the support given for the implementation of immunoenzymatic techniques that will help to quickly and effectively detect bacteria and other phytopatogen agents.

Appendix No.2

THE FRUIT FLY ISSUE

THE FRUIT FLY ISSUE

Mr. Greg Rowher, Representative from the United States, presunted an account of the Fruit Fly Issue in the hemisphere.

He emphasized the following points:

- Primary importance of the fly species that affect fruit production.

- Host, control methods, and activities of the programs to combat fruit flies in different areas of the hemisphere.

Mr. Jorge Gutiérrez Samperio, Mr. Norberto Urbina and Mr. Robert Strong also commented on the matter.

Recommendations for a Hemisphere response to the fruit fly

1. To declare the presence of Dacus sp. in Suriname as an emergency in the Hemisphere and demand from the GICSV members the adoption of immediate responses to establish the correct identification of the species, its distribution, dwelling place, damage caused, economical importance as a quarantine risk pest for other Hemisphere countries, as well as more appropriate control actions.

2. To declare as urgent for the Hemisphere the responses to be adopted against the fruit flies, and let IICA coordinate the training programs on detection, control and/or eradication programs which are being carried out in some CTC countries.

3. To request that the next GICSV meeting discuss the proposal presented by Mexico regarding the establishment of a International Fruit Fly Training and Research Center.

4. To accept the recommendations of the CTR-Central Area, as follows:

   a. That IICA, at the highest levels, provide support to the efforts of FAO, USDA, OIRSA and other international organizations to ensure continuation of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly Control and Eradication Program (CAPMED), and that this program be expanded to include other fruit flies.

   b. That IICA work more closely with the MOSCAMED Program, providing support to actions within its sphere of competence, especially as concerns training and consultation services for the countries.

Appendixe No.3

BYLAWS

INTER-AMERICAN GROUP FOR COORDINATION IN PLANT PROTECTION

INTER-AMERICAN GROUP FOR COORDINATION IN PLANT PROTECTION

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I PREAMBLE

The Inter-American Group for Coordination in Plant Protection (hereinafter "the Group") is a hemispheric body for coordination and cooperation in the field of plant protection organizations in the Hemisphere.

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The principal objective is to develop and strengthen the Inter-American System for protection of agriculture and plant health through cooperation, coordination and exchange of information and experiences in plant protection matters of mutual interest.

The group shall perform the following functions:

a. Serve as an organ for consultation and a channel for exchanging information and experiences in plant protection matters of strategic importance to the Hemisphere.

b. Facilitate periodic meetings of the representatives of its member agencies to identify and analyze important plant protection problems and consider alternatives and strategies to help overcome these problems.

c. Create appropriate mechanisms to improve cooperation, coordination and information exchange among member agencies.

d. Establish systems and procedures that ensure effective performance of duties and responsibilities assumed within the Group.

e. Promote the establishment, operation and harmonization of an effective plant protection information system at the hemispheric level.

f. Promote the establishment, operation and harmonization of an effective plant protection information system at the hemispheric level.

g. Formulate proposals and adopt common positions which are in the interest of plant protection, food security and environmental health. When these are not in agreement with the positions taken by any country, group of countries or any other organization, these should be brought to the attention of the appropriate authority or group.

h. To cooperate in achieving the objectives and development of plant protection activities carried out by the inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, at the hemispheric and regional levels.

i. Support the International Plant Protection Convention and promote the application of its provisions and adherence thereto.

ARTICLE III: COMPOSITION

The Group shall be composed of the following member categories:

a. PERMANENT MEMBERS: Permanent members shall be the regional plant protection organizations in the Hemisphere, namely:

i. The Plant Protection Technical Committee for the Southern Zone (COSAVE)

ii. Caribbean Plant Protection Commission (CPPC)

iii. Board of the Cartagena Agreement - Andean System for Animal Health and Plant Protection (JUNAC)

iv. The North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO)

v. The Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)

b. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Associate members shall include those international agencies directly or indirectly involved with plant protection programs in the Hemisphere such as:

- The Tropical Agriculture Research and Training Center (CATIE)

- The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

- The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CYMMIT)

- The International Potato Centre (CIP)

- The German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

- CAB International Institute of Biological Control (CIBC)

- The International Crop Protection Consortium (CICP)

- The Human Ecology Center of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)

- The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- The International Group of National Pesticide Manufacturers' Associations (GIFAP)

- The Central American Industrial Technology Institute (ICAITI)

c. OBSERVERS: Any organization or person can be invited as an observer to any meeting of the Group when the Executive Committee considers this desirable.

ARTICLE IV: RESPONSIBILITIES

a. Permanent members shall have the following responsibilities:

- Participate in the meetings of the Group

- Cover travel expenses and per diem of their representatives to meetings

- Contribute to the development and implementation of the activities agreed on by the Group

- Support the plans and programs of associate members and in consultation with them assist in identifying and harmonizing plant protection activities and priorities in the hemisphere

- Promote the exchange of ideas and experiences and strengthen international cooperation in plant protection.

ARTICLE V: STRUCTURE AND OPERATION

The Group will have an Executive Committee, a President, a Technical Secretariat, a Plenary and Working Group.

a. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will be the highest governing body of the Group and will be composed of a representative from each one of the permanent members.

The Committee shall meet at least once a year; however, it may also meet on other occasions, for example when plant protection emergencies arise which call for concerted action at the hemispheric, regional or national level.

The main functions of the Executive Committee shall be to:

- Establish and revise as necessary rules of procedure to govern its operations.

- Determine the need for special meetings and the date, place and agenda for all meetings.

- Develop long range strategic plans and establish working groups in specific subject areas of high priority to the countries.

- Provide for the implementation of recommendation of the meetings.

- Provide for the coordination and follow up on actions programmed for the period between meetings of the Group.

- Establish a permanent central file.

- Appoint, in consultation with FAO/RLAC and IICA, the person responsible for the Technical Secretariat.

b. The Presidency

The President will be from one of the Permanent Member organizations and will be rotated every two years in the following order: COSAVE, CPPC, JUNAC, NAPPO, OIRSA.

The outgoing President will act as an advisor to his successor for a period of one year.

The duties and responsibilities shall be the following:

- To chair the Meetings of the Group and of the Executive Committee.

- To expedite and channel all correspondence resulting from said meetings and ensure follow-up of recommendations issued from said meetings.

- To maintain contact with member agencies to ensure more effective pursuit of the Group's objectives.

- To establish appropriate and effective mechanisms for the exchange of information of interest among Group Members.

- To maintain permanent contact with FAO/RLAC and IICA on all matters concerning the support and guidance which these institutions can provide to the Group.

c. Technical Secretariat

The Technical Secretariat of the Group shall be made up of the Regional Plant Protection Officers of FAO/RLAC and Plant Protection Specialists from IICA's Animal Health and Plant Protection Program.

It shall be incumbent on the Technical Secretariat to:

- Provide technical advice and logistic support to the President of the Group.

- Collaborate in the organization of the Meetings of the Group and of the Executive Committee.

- Help procure the logistic and material support for the organization of the Meetings of the Group and of the Executive Committee

- Provide access, whenever feasible, to the facilities of the two organizations for conducting said Meetings.

- Assist in keeping a record of the papers, debates, discussions and recommendations of the Meetings of the Group and of the Executive Committee.

- Assist in the drafting, editing and publication of the reports of the Meetings, as well as the distribution thereof, once these have been reviewed and approved by the persons so designated.

d. The Plenary

The Plenary shall consist of the Permanent and Associate members, and shall meet every two years, in accordance with the pertinent agenda drawn up by the Executive Committee.

The Meetings shall be called by the President.

Said Meetings shall preferably be scheduled in conjunction with other plant protection meetings attended by Group Members, to ensure efficient use of time and resources.

It shall be the task of the Plenary to analyze, discuss and agree on common strategies for high-priority plant protection matters of hemispheric scope submitted thereto, in addition to promoting consensus on recommendations.

e. Working Groups

To facilitate and enrich its duties, the Group will appoint, according to the needs and requirements, working groups in the following priority areas:

- Technical, legal, planning, training, implementation, and communication and information. These working groups shall be charged with developing action plans.

The Working Groups shall exchange information concerning the status and progress of work within their specific sphere of competence at the hemispheric level, and periodically prepare a brief informative newsletter which, after being submitted to the Executive Committee, shall be reproduced and circulated.

Accordingly, the persons in charge of the different working groups shall maintain regular contact with the President of the Inter-American Group concerning all matters related to the exchange and dissemination of their work.

Discussed and approved by the Inter-American for Coordination in Plant Protection and signed by the following representatives:

COSAVE
Gustavo Alfredo Muslera

CPPC
Charles Y.L. Schotman
Technical Secretary
Ad Referendum

JUNAC
Fernando Lecuna
Ad Referendum

NAPPO
Greg Rohwer
Executive Secretary

OIRSA
Norberto E. Urbina
Chief, Plant Protection
Ad Referendum

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
November 12, 1987

Appendix No.4

INAUGURAL SESSION ADDRESSES

ADDRESS BY MR. MANUEL DE JESUS AMEZQUITA,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

I take a great pleasure to address such a select group of scientists and technicians from Latin America and the Caribbean who work in the field of plant protection and who today are honoring us with their presence. I have confidence that through the use of the knowledge and experiences accumulated by each one of you, the result of these working days will be beneficial to all of our nations.

We know that the constant growth of the Latin American and Caribbean population during the next 13 years a challenge forus to increase food production in a significant way in order to lower present deficits and satisfy future demand.

On the other hand, it is an essential condition to be able to produce more food without endangering our natural resources, without jeopardizing our forests, and without polluting the environment through the indiscriminate use of chemical products.

Faced with the indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides, we must search for alternatives that are both viable and economical. This "Fifth Meeting of Plant Health Consultants" constitutes a magnificent forum for discussion and decision-making so that Latin America and the Caribbean area unify criteria regarding quarantine measures and pesticide registers, thus creating the necessary mechanisms for our self-protection.

Research in the area of plant health must presently revolve around profound changes in the technology concerning the handling and control of plagues, techniques of application, design of equipment that diminishes risks and above all, new strategies for the generation of technology. More attention should be placed on the integrated handling of plagues, as nature itself has created its own protection and man has brought about its destruction as his ingenuity has led him to try to control his environment instead of being an integral part of it.

The decision-making power of those participating in this meeting within their respective countries and the scientific influence of specialists from international organizations must be taken advantage of so there can be discussions on quarantine mechanisms that allow a greater movement of plant products and sub-products, not only to developed countries far from our latitudes but also between our own countries, as the crisis presently being faced by our countries as a result of external debt must promote greater commercial trade among Latin Americans.

Latin American countries need to know more about their phytosanitary problems, and therefore an exchange system that can provide constant information about what is happening in our region regarding plant health must be established and in this way increase individual experiences and transform them into collective practices.

Every day there is an increasing concern in our country for both plant and animal health. As many of you know, we had a bitter but instructive experience with African swine fever which forced us to eliminate all the swine population in the country, with the consequent economical and social repercussions. Other countries represented here are also having serious health problems at present, as is the case with those affected by coffee rust or the fruit fly, to mention two cases. These and other experiences pose a challenge that must be faced with decision and great care.

We are presently carrying out efforts in our country regarding quarantine, vigilance and integrated handling of plagues, so as to achieve greater efficiency with all that has to do with health, keeping in mind, and we must stress this point, that the protection of the environment must be a constant concern so that as the saying goes "the cure is not worse than the disease".

Gentlemen, His Excellency, the President of the Dominican Republic, Dr. Joaquin Balaguer, a true believer and defender of Latin American integration, as well as a profound lover of nature, has instructed me to inform you that you can count on full support from the Dominican Government for the decisions and agreements reached in this meeting, and he hopes it will conclude successfully for the benefit of all.

Finally, I would like greet you in name of the Dominican Government, the Dominican people and the Secretary of State of Agriculture, and at the same time wish you a pleasant stay in our country; your country, because Latin America must be a great Latin American country, with faith in the future and commitment to development.

Thank you.

ADDRESS BY DR. L. HARLAN DAVIS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IICA

On behalf of Dr. Martin E. Piñeiro, Director General of IICA, it is a great honor for me to welcome you to the Fifth Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of Plant Protection Directors of the Hemisphere.

ECONOMIC SITUATION

As we meet here today to officially open this week of important meetings on plant protection policies, strategies and actions we are all aware of the difficult economic times the countries of the world are experiencing. The events of recent weeks - I refer to the massive drops in stack market values in London, New York, Tokyo, Hong Kong and other financial centers - has only served to focus our attention on what had actually been happening to world economies over a period of years. The stock market drop provided the "two by four (2 x 4) between the eyes" to get everyone's attention. Although essentially all sectors of the world's economies have performed poorly and suffered accordingly, agriculture has been affected as seriously as any other. The Americas may be somewhat better off than some parts of the world but still has major problems. To put the problem in perspective a few statistics are useful:

- World trade in agriculture products increased by 4% annually in the '60s and 70's but only 1.3% annually between '79 and '86.

- Between 1981-86 prices of the 15 major agriculture commodities of Latin America and the Caribbean dropped 25-60% (wheat, rice, corn, sorghum, beef, soy beans, cotton, sugar, bananas, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, etc).

- And where Latin American and Caribbean agriculture production grew 3.3% annually in the '60s and 3.6% in the '70s, from 1980-86 growth was less than 2% annually with negative growth recorded in 1982 and 1986.

- In 1986, eleven (11) countries of the region experienced negative growth. Many causes have been cited as having contributed to the deterioration of the agriculture economy: protectionist policies (subsidies) on the part of major producing countries, lack of incentives to producers; size of external debts; lack of adequate capital investments; and decreases in productivity along with generally reduced production. These are only some of the causes suggested.

Regardless of these causes or whether all of them have contributed to the decline in agriculture, it is generally agreed that agriculture is so important to economic recovery and development in Latinamerica and the Caribbean that failure to revitalize and "turn around" the agriculture economy would be

disastrous. At the world level agriculture's importance has been underlined by inclusion of agriculture commodities in the GATT negotiations for the first time. And there is no question that your ministers of agriculture recognize that agriculture is the lifeblood of the economies of essentially all the countries of the region and intend to take actions to restore it to a strong position.

PRESSURES OF TIME

The ministers of agriculture have been wrestling with these problems over the years but never with more intensity than in recent time. I would suggest that this intensification of efforts is simply a reflection of the speed with which changes are taking place. There is little time today to leisurely consider problems and possible solutions. If too much time is allowed to pass, a problem reaches unmanageable proportions. We are truly faced with a compression of "time-horizons" not unlike what Alvin Tofler described about 10 years ago in his book "Future Shock".

Time compression is a reality that affects everyone. For most of recorded history time-horizons were quite lengthy: long term was perhaps 15-25 years; medium term, 1-15; and short term, between 1-5 years, medium term as 2-5 years and short term up to two years. Some officials in our member countries have even joked that in regard to some of their programs, long term was 2 weeks, medium term, 1 week and short meant tomorrow.

What I am leading up to is that time is working against us to make the changes so necessary to turn agriculture around. And IICA finds itself affected in the same way as your countries. When IICA's Director General, Dr. Martin E. Piñeiro, took office less than two years ago, work was immediately begun on a new medium term plan. It was completed by midyear 1986 and considered and approved by the Inter-American Board of Agriculture in November 1986. The plan provided for a reduction in program areas and for a series of specific activities to be carried out over a 4 year period - the Medium Term.

Yet, less than one year later at the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Agriculture (ICMA) in August 1987, your Ministers adopted the "Declaration of Ottawa" together with 10 related recommendations. The important point is that the major recommendation your Ministers made was that IICA undertake a new effort to develop and action plant to revitalize agriculture and economic development in all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The Ministers were responding to the rapidly deteriorating economies and the obvious need to bring the agriculture sector up to a performance level that would contribute in a major way to economic recovery. They asked IICA to use its creativity and imagination to help them and their countries because our Institute has the capability to draw on the knowledge and experience of many competent people. We already at work creating the work groups and advisory groups and laying out a game plan for designing the action program. It will probably require rethinking the nature of future projects and reshaping our approach to many activities.

ROLE OF PLANT PROTECTION

Up to this point we have talked about the region's poorly performing economies, especially in the agriculture sector: the falling agriculture production and productivity; the dependence, to a large degree, in the region on agriculture to bolster the economies, the ever-decreasing time frames within which to adapt to change; and the mandate your ministers have given IICA to formulate a major new plan to revitalize agriculture and economic development in the region (this, even though they adopted a medium term plan less than a year ago).

The question you must be asking yourselves is "where do our plant protection programs fit into all of this ?" and I suspect your know the answer as well as I. There is no question in my mind that plant protection programs and all they signify are going to play a major role in contributing to the turn-around of agriculture so it becomes a part of economic improvement and stabilization. You, as directors and top officials of national programs, along with your colleagues in animal health, can have a major impact on agriculture, on trade, on a variety of areas within your countries.

Think about it.

With well-designed and executed programs, you can:

- Eliminate certain plant pests and diseases.
- Control and reduce other pests and diseases to manageable, economically acceptable levels.
- Prevent the entry of exotic pests and diseases.
- Improve food and fiber production by reducing losses.
- Improve productivity.
- Help assure adequate foods at reasonable prices for domestic markets, thereby improving the nutrition and well-being of the people; and
- Help assure access to export markets for a range of agriculture commodities.

This list probably does not include all the ways in which you and your programs can contribute to revitalization of agriculture, but it is impressive as it stands and seems to me well worth working for.

WHAT DIRECTORS OF PLANT PROTECTION PROGRAMS MUST DO

In order to fulfill the important role that can be defined for plant protection programs, you directors must provide the leadership to shape effective national programs. This will require that you do a number of things:

- Review organizational structures, reducing the bureaucracy to a minimum and putting limited resources into field programs.

- Carefully review national program priorities to improve effectiveness.
- Improve diagnostic laboratory capabilities.
- Improve quarantine programs.
- Improve ability to respond to disease or pest emergencies.
- Seek to cooperate with neighboring countries in determining area priorities and methods for integrating the approach to dealing with them.
- Do not overlook the importance of training an in maintaining effective program staff.

This list is rather daunting but, nevertheless, represents the kind of things a good program director must keep in mind. You must also keep in mind that you are not alone in your efforts to strengthen your programs. In each of your countries there are highly qualified people who we know are working with you. And our IICA program in plant protection, with its network of specialists, is, and will continue to be working with you to achieve your objectives. I might add that though your ministers have asked IICA to work on a new plan for agricultural and economic recovery there is little doubt that plant protection (and animal health) will be important to the plan because they are so basic to achieving agriculture's short, medium and long term goals.

THE END PRODUCT

If all of you are successful in guiding your programs in the direction we have just talked about, the end product will be programs that, nationally and regionally, play their part in strengthening agriculture, improving economies and generally raising the level of well-being of the population.

Think about it. You and your national programs can be a part of helping resolve some of the most serious economic difficulties our countries have ever faced.

CONCLUSION

During the next few days you are going to be hearing more about good design of plant protection programs. And you will have an opportunity to get together in area workgroups to consider strategies for the future and what role IICA can play in making them a reality. Your agenda is very demanding and it will only be a successful meeting if each of your participates fully.

I hope at the end of the week you will be able to return home feeling your time has been well spent and that through your future efforts your national programs will truly contribute to revitalizing agriculture and economic development. My very best wishes to you all.

ADDRESS BY MR. RAFAEL RAMIREZ
DIRECTOR OF PLANT PROTECTION, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Santo Domingo is proud to have been selected as the host country for such an important event and is pleased to welcome such distinguished representatives from brother countries.

Please receive a welcome as warm as that brought to us day to day by the sun, which fills our hearts with satisfaction and makes our bodies vibrate because today men of good will gather together with the hope of achieving a better world.

Let us work together in the search of the satisfaction brought by having fulfilled our duties, the only thing that makes man truly noble before God, the country and his children.

We hope that you have enjoyed the hospitality of Dominican people and that you may remember for always the best impressions.

Welcome.

Thank you.

Appendix No.5

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBER COUNTRIES OF IICA

ARGENTINA

Gustavo Alfredo Muslera
Representante COSAVE
Sec. Agric. Ganadería y Pesca
Paseo Colón 922, 3o. Piso
Buenos Aires — Telephone: 362 6776

BARBADOS

Eslie H. Alleyne
Entomologist
Ministry of Agriculture
P.O. Box 505
Bridgetown — Telephone: 428 9980

BOLIVIA

Yerko Kuko'c
Director Nacional de Sanidad Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura
La Paz — Telephone: 37 66 79

BRAZIL/BRASIL

Luis Fernando Monteiro
Secretario de Defensa Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura
Minagri, Esp. Min. Agri. Anexo
Brasilia — Telephone: 218 2667

CANADA

Bruce E. Hopper
Associate Director, Bological Programs
Plant Health Div.
Agriculture Canada
Ottawa, Ontario K1A OC6 — Telephone: (613) 995 7900

Wayne Morris
Director, Plant Health Division
Agriculture Canada
KW Neatby Building
960 Carling Av.
Ottawa, Ontario K1A OC6 Telephone: (613) 995 7900

CHILE

Orlando Morales Valencia
Director Protección Agrícola
Ministerio de Agricultura
Av. Bulnes No. 140
Santiago Telephone: 696 8500

COLOMBIA

Edgar Martínez Granja
Director División de Sanidad Vegetal
Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario ICA
Apartado Aéreo 7984
Bogotá Telephone: 288 4128

COSTA RICA

Juan José May
Director de Sanidad Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
Dirección Postal 2304
San José Telephone: 53 64 54

DOMINICA

Urban Martin
IICA Officer
Botanical Gardens
Roseau
Commonwealth of Dominica, W.I. Telephone: 809 44/84 502

ECUADOR

Gualberto Merino Mancheno
Director Técnico de Sanidad Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
Avenida Eloy Alfaro y Amazonas
Quito Telephone: 55 32 72

EL SALVADOR

Salvador Vinicio Bernal
Director de Sanidad Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
25 Calle Poniente No. 1505
San Salvador — Telephone: 25 84 14

ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMERICA/UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

John Thaw
Director, Professional Development Center
USDA/APHIS/PPQ
195 Thomas Johnson Dr.
Frederick, Md. 21701 — Telephone:(301) 663 8585

Fernando Rodríguez
Director de Area-México
United States Dept. of Agriculture
APHIS/PPQ
American Embassy, P.O. Box 3082, Loredo, Tx.
México — Telephone: 520 4444

E.J. Stubbs
Area Director Central America
U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS
American Embassy
Apo Miami, Florida 34024
Guatemala — Telephone: 31 31 86

Robert H. Strong
Caribbean Area Director
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
American Embassy
Apo Miami, Florida 34041-0008
Santo Domingo — Telephone: (809) 685 7980

Greg Rohwer
USDA/APHIS/PPQ/IP
Washington D.C. 20250 — Telephone: (202) 447 7021

Eddie W. Elder
Chief Operations Officer
Domestic and Emergency Operations
USDA/APHIS/PPQ
6505 Belcrest Road
Room 661, Federal Building
Hyattsville, MD 20782 — Telephone: (301) 436 6365

GRENADA

Dale Francis
Pest Management Unit
Ministry of Agriculture
St. George's
Telephone: 3083, 3195

GUATEMALA

Mario Alberto Gaitán Flores
Director Técnico de Sanidad Vegetal
Director General de Servicios Agrícolas
Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería
y Alimentación
Guatemala
Telephone: 72 04 32

GUYANA

Kellman Victorine
Officer-in-Charge Plant Quarantine
Ministry of Agriculture
Regent & New Gorden Street
Georgetown
Telephone: 020 68714

HAITI

Julio Barthelemy
Director Plant Protection Service
Ministry of Agriculture/Marnor
Damian, Pan P. Haití
Port-au-Prince
Telephone: 2 3571

HONDURAS

José Arnulfo Hernández
Jefe Nacional Programa Producción y
Protección Vegetal
Secretaría Recursos Naturales
Tegucigalpa
Telephone: 32 4829

JAMAICA

David W. Ellis
Director Plant Protection
Ministry of Agriculture
Bodles Agricultural Research Sta.
Old Harbour PO
Kingston
Telephone:

MEXICO

Alberto Zazueta Nieblas
Director de Sanidad Vegetal
SARH
Pérez Valenzuela 127, Coyoacán
México, D.F. Telephone: 554 05 37

Alejandro Trueba Carranza
Director de Integración y Regulación
Sanitaria SARH
Pérez Valenzuela 127, Coyoacán 04000
México, D.F. Telephone: 554 5147

NICARAGUA

Julio Antenor Monterrey
Director
Centro Nacional de Protección Vegetal
Apartado J-87
Managua Telephone:

PANAMA

José del Rosario Concha Barría
Director Nacional de Sanidad Vegetal
Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario-MIDA
Apartado 5390, Zona 5
Panamá Telephone: 21 5636

PARAGUAY

César Cáceres
Representante del Director
Dirección de Defensa Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
Pdte. Franco 259/14 de Mayo
Asunción Telephone: 94 926

PERU

Agustín Santivañez Pacheco
Director de Sanidad Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura
Av. Salaverry, (Edif. Ministerio de Trabajo)
Piso No. 10
Lima Telephone: 32 01 48

REPUBLICA DOMINICANA/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Modesto Reyes Valentín
Enc. Programa Control Biológico de Sanidad Vegetal
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Centro de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 532 7941

Alberto José Amaro y Reyes
Enc. Programa Control Aves Plagas
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Padre Boil No. 22, Gascue
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 685 7050

Rafael Ramírez
Director Departamento de Sanidad Vegetal
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Centro de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 532 7941

Luis E. Pelletier Alcántara
Subdirector Departamento de Sanidad Vegetal
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 532 7941

Rosario Blanco de Fermín
Encargada División de Registro
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Centro de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 532 7941

Rolando Bodden
Encargado Departamento Ciencia y Tecnología
Oficina Nacional de Planificación
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 682 1553

Víctor Daniel Cueto Pache
Encargado División de Asistencia Técnica
Departamento de Extensión y Capacitación
Agropecuaria
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Centro de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
Telephone:

Julián A. De la Rosa
Asesor Fitosanitario del
Secretario de Estado de Agricultura
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Centrc de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 533 1280

Ivonne de Incháustegui
Biólogo-Herpetólogo
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Centro de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
Telephone:

Gladys María Ortíz de Guzmán
Abogado
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura
Centro de los Héroes
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 565 2302

Cosme B. Bidó
Enc. Entomología
Consejo Estatal del Azúcar
Santo Domingo
Telephone: 533 1161

SANTA LUCIA/SAINT LUCIA

Ernest Henry
Plant Protection Officer
Ministry of Agriculture
Castries
West-Indies
Telephone: 25 375

SURINAME

Rudolf Huiswoud
Director Agriculture Experiment Station
P.O. Box 160
Paramaribo
Telephone: 72 442

TRINIDAD Y TOBAGO/TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Ronald Barrow
Director Research
Central Experiment Station, Centeno
P.O. Arima
Centeno 1646
Telephone: 646 1646

URUGUAY

Felipe Canale
Director de Sanidad Vegetal
Millán 4703
Montevideo
Telephone: 398 720

VENEZUELA

Jorge A. Osorio
Jefe División de Cuarentena Vegetal
Ministerio de Agricultura y Cría
Piso 20, Torre Este, Parque Central
Avenida Lecuna
Caracas, D.F.
Telephone: 509 0579

ORGANIZATIONS

CAB INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Gillian Allard
Insect Pathologist
Gordon St., Curepe
Trinidad & Tobago — Telephone: 662 4173

CENTRO AGRONOMICO TROPICAL DE INVESTIGACION Y ENSEÑANZA (CATIE)

Joseph Saunders
IPM Coordinator
CATIE
Turrialba, Costa Rica — Telephone: 56 16 32

CENTRO INTERNACIONAL PARA EL MEJORAMIENTO DEL MAIZ Y EL TRIGO (CIMMYT)

Maximino Alcalá
Jefe, Ensayos Internacionales de Trigo
CIMMYT
Apartado Postal 6-641
Delegación Cuauhternoc
México 6, D.F., México

DEUTSCHE CESELLSCHAFT FUER TECHNISCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GTZ)

Ulrich Roettger
Convenio Costarricense Alemán de Sanidad Vegetal
Apartado 832-2150 Moravia
Costa Rica

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)

Charles Schotman
FAO Regional Plant Protection Officer
P.O. Box 822
Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago — Telephone: 62 50467

INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CENTER

Myron Shenk
Training Coordinator
Corvallis, Oregon 97331
U.S.A.
Telephone: (503) 754 3541

JUNTA DEL ACUERDO DE CARTAGENA

Fernando Lecuna Cañizares
Funcionario Internacional
Casilla 18-1177
Lima 18, Perú
Telephone: 41 42 12

ORGANISMO INTERNACIONAL REGIONAL DE SANIDAD AGROPECUARIA (OIRSA)

Norberto E. Urbina
Jefe de Sanidad Vegetal
OIRSA
Apartado Postal (01) 61
San Salvador, El Salvador
Telephone: 23 23 91

AGROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Humberto Alba
Monsanto Co.
P.O. Box 2319
San Juan, Puerto Rico — Telephone: (809) 758 1944

Isabel A. de Ceara
Fertilizantes Químicos Dominicanos
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana — Telephone: 567-1046

Jorge A. Cuarezma
Monsanto
Apartado Postal 1437
Santiago, República Dominicana — Telephone: (809) 758 1944

Franklin Inca Russo
Fersan
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana — Telephone: 562 2351

GRUPO INTERNACIONAL DE FRABRICANTES DE AGROQUIMICOS (GIFAP)

Lidio A. Parra
GIFAP-Monsanto
15252 Denwoods Ballwin
St. Louis, Missouri 63011
U.S.A. — Telephone (314) 694 3443

Hugo Penagos
Dupont Co.
Wilmington, Delaware
U.S.A. — Telephone: (314) 992-6265

IICA'S STAFF

L. Harlan Davis
Subdirector General
Apartado Postal 55-2200 Coronado
San José, Costa Rica
Telephone: 29 02 22

Harry C. Mussman
Director del Programa de Salud Animal
y Sanidad Vegetal
Apartado Postal 55-2200 Coronado
San José, Costa Rica
Telephone: 29 02 22

Gilberto Páez
Representante en República Dominicana
Casilla 711
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana
Telephone: 532 9752
(5312)

Federico Dao D.
Director Adjunto de Sanidad Vegetal
Apartado Postal 55-2200 Coronado
San José, Costa Rica
Telephone: 29 02 22

Everton Ambrose
Plant Protection Specialist
P.O. Box 1223
Castries, St. Lucia
Telephone: 25482, 21688

Chelston W.D. Brathwaite
Plant Protection Specialist
P.O. Box 1318
Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago
Telephone: 645 1058

Julio C. Delgado
Especialista en Sanidad Vegetal
Casilla de Correo 1217
Montevideo, Uruguay
Telephone: 92 04 72

Javier Esparza Duque
Especialista en Sanidad Vegetal
Casilla Postal 3631
Santiago, Chile
Telephone: 228 30 03

Alfonso García Escobar
Especialista en Sanidad Vegetal
Defensa 113, Piso 7o.
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Telephone: 34 14 35

Urban Martin
Crop Protection Specialist
Coordinator IICA Office
Botical Gardens, Roseau
Commonwealth of Dominicana, W.I.
Telephone: (80944) 84502

Ramón Montoya Henao
Especialista en Sanidad Vegetal
Apartado Postal 1815
Guatemala, Guatemala
Telephone: 62 496

Julio Sequeira Fernández
Especialista en Sanidad Vegetal
Apartado Postal 14-0185
Lima 4, Perú
Telephone: 229114, 229623

Macao Tadano
Coordinador del Convenio IICA/ANDEF
Brasilia 70 000, D.F., Brasil
Telephone: 2485478 (061)

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON AGRICULTURE

P.O. Box: 55 – 2200 Coronado, Costa Rica – Phone: 29-0222 – Cable: IICASANJOSE – Telex: 2144 IICA,
Electronic Mail EIES: 1332 IICA DG – FAX (506)294741 IICA COSTA RICA