

RESOLUTION No. 500

**EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT SIGNED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT
OF COSTA RICA AND THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR COOPERATION ON
AGRICULTURE (IICA) ON THE TROPICAL AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND
HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER (CATIE)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (IABA), at its Eighteenth Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That the Government of Costa Rica and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) signed a contract on the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE or the Centre), whose last amendment took effect on 12 September 2000 (the Contract);

That the aims of CATIE are to promote research in the field of the sciences associated with agriculture, natural resources and related disciplines in the tropical regions of the Americas, particularly Central America and the Caribbean, and promote graduate studies and other educational programs in said sciences, for the benefit of IICA's member countries;

That, pursuant to its thirty-third clause, "the term of the present contract is 20 years starting from the date on which the proposed amendment takes effect. The term may be extended for equal and consecutive periods. This term will be automatically extended if, two years before the end of the term, the following two conditions exist: a) the Government of Costa Rica, through the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, does not communicate its intention to end the Contract, and b) the General Directorate of IICA, pursuant to the decision of the Inter-American Board of Agriculture, does not notify the Governing Council of its decision to terminate the Contract and dissolve the Association";

That, according to clause nine of the aforementioned contract, the IABA is the highest-level governing body of CATIE and, among other functions, has the power to decide to dissolve the civil association;

That the Governing Council of CATIE is made up of one minister of each of the institution's member countries linked to the agriculture and/or natural resources sector, the Director General of IICA, and one representative of the IABA;

That the Government of Costa Rica, through the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Dr. Luis Felipe Arauz Cavallini, as chair of the Governing Council of CATIE, has expressed his wish that the Center continue to fulfill its functions as an entity devoted to research and

education in the sciences associated with agriculture, renewable natural resources and related disciplines for the benefit of the Mesoamerican and Caribbean region, in order to ensure the bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies of CATIE's legal status, for the benefit of its member countries.

That the Governing Council of CATIE, at the request of the Government of Costa Rica, represented by its minister of agriculture, unanimously adopted Resolution 11-14/XVI ROCS of 31 October 2014 in which it requested that the IABA, as the highest governing body of CATIE, support and endorse the position of the Government of Costa Rica regarding the need to secure an automatic extension to the Contract, emphasizing the enormous contribution made by CATIE and its value in meeting the needs of its member countries; and

That, on 9 October 2015, the Governing Council of CATIE elected Mr. Muhammad Ibrahim to serve as the Director General of the Center for the period 2016-2020,

RESOLVES:

1. To support the automatic extension of the Contract, from 2020 onward, according to the terms of clause thirty-three of said contract.
2. To request that the Director General of IICA and the new Director General-elect of CATIE prepare a report on the relationship between the two institutions, including a proposal for improving it that would benefit the member countries of the Center and of the Institute.
3. To task the Executive Committee of IICA with studying said report at its next regular meeting and presenting it, with its recommendations, to the next regular meeting of the IABA.