MEETING OF HARMONIZATION COMMITTEE

OF SAFGRAD AND CORAF MAIZE NETWORKS

OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO

MAY 7 - 8, 1990

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Opening Session

The opening session was addressed by the International Coordinator of SAFGRAD, the Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation, IITA, the Coordinator of CORAF on behalf of CIRAD and the USAID representative.

1.1.1. Welcome address by the International Coordinator of SAFGRAD

The International Coordinator of SAFGRAD welcomed participants to the first CORAF and SAFGRAD maize network harmonization committee meeting. He indicated that the meeting was in fulfilment of the wishes expressed during several past meetings involving donors, NARS directors and national researchers. He stressed the need for scientists to save more time for research to assure maize self-sufficiency in West and Central Africa. He reiterated SAFGRAD's readiness to cooperate with scientific research institutions (IITA, CIRAD, etc), thanked the donors for their support for maize research and wished the delegates successful deliberations.

1.1.2. Introductory remarks by IITA Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation

Dr. Eckebil expressed pleasure in attending the first meeting of the SAFGRAD-CORAF Networks Harmonization Committee and noted that many meetings had already been held on this issue in which IITA participated. He expressed the wish to see some progress made during the present meeting. He alluded to the recent annual CORAF conference held in March 1990 in Antananarivo, Madagascar, during which private meetings were held on the same topic of harmonization between CORAF, IITA and some donors. He reiterated IITA's position on networks as spelled out in its Medium Term Plan which are (i) IITA believes that networks are a very useful mechanism for transfer of improved technologies (developed either by IARCs or by

Annex 1. WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA MAIZE NETWORK : COLLABORATIVE SCIENTISTS IN NETWORK MEMBER-COUNTRIES

Country	Collaborating Scientist	Qualification	Research Discipline	Location	% Time on maize
BENIN	1. Yallou, Ch. G.	Ing. Agron.	Breeder	Niaouli	100
	2. Akomedi, T.M. (Mme)	M.S.	Seed Tech.	Niaouli	50
	3. Dossou, R.A.	Ing. Agron.	Breeder	Ina	100
	4. Adomou, M.	M.S.	Agronomist	Ina	25
Burkina Faso	1. Hema, I.	3e Cycle	Breeder	Kamboinse	100
	2. Konaté, G.	Ph.D.	Virologist	Kamboinse	30
	3. Sanou, J.	Ing. Agron.	Breeder	Farako-Bâ	100
	4. Traoré, S.	3e Cycle	Entomologist	Saria	50
	5. Paco Sereme	3e Cycle	Pathologist	Kamboinse	25
Cameroon	1. Ayuk-Takem, J.A.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Nkolbisson (IRA Director)	10
	2. Thé, Charles	Ph.D.	Breeder	Nkolbisson	100
	3. Zangue, J.B.	M.S.	Breeder	Nkolbisson	100
	4. Ngoumou, T.N.	M.S.	Agronomist	Garoua	40
	5. Ebete, A.M.	Ing. Agron.	Agronomist	Garoua	100
	6. Tchamo, P.	3e Cycle	Breeder	Bambui	60
	7. Eta-Ndu, J.T.	M.S.	Breeder	Bambui	100
	8. Nankam, C.	M.S.	Pathologist	Bambui	50
	9. Aroga, R. (Mme)	M.S.	Entomologist	Nkolbisson	50
	10. Fobasso, M.	M.S.	Extention Agronomist	Maroua	40
	11. Mongmong, B.	Ing.Agron.	Breeder	Garoua	100
	12. Ondoa, N.M.	Ing.Agron.	Breeder	Nkolbisson	100
Cape Verde	1. Silva, C.	Ing.Agron.	Agronomist	Praia	40
Cent. Af.Rep.	1. Ganglaou, C.	Ing.Agron.	Agronomist	Bangui	60
Côte d'Ivoire	1. Attiey, K.	M.S.	Breeder	Bouaké	100
	2. Acle Dadié	M.S.	Entomologist	Bouaké	60
	3. Akanvou, R.	M.S.	Agronomist	Ferke	50
	4. Akanvou, L. (Mme)	M.S.	Breeder	Ferke	50
	5. Ngoran, A (Mme)	M.S.	Breeder	Bouake	75
Gambia	1. Mbenga, M.S.	M.S.	Breeder	Sapu	75

Annex 1. Cont'd

Country	Collaborating Scientist	Qualification	Research Discipline	Location	% Time on maize
Ghana	1. Badu-Apraku, B.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Kumasi	100
	2. Twumasi-Afriyie, J.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Kumasi	100
	3. Sallah, P.Y.K.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Nyankpala	100
	4. Asiedu, E.A.	M.S.	Seed Tech.	Kumasi	75
	5. Owusu-Akyaw, M.	Ph.D.	Entomologist	Kumasi	50
	6. Bolfrey, G. (Mme)	M.S.	Agronomist	Kumasi	75
	7. Aflakpui, G.K.S.	M.S.	Agronomist	Nyankpala	75
Guinea	1. Camara, S.	Ing.Agron.	Breeder	Kilissi	100
	2. Diallo, P.	Ing.Agron.	Agronomist	Kilissi	100
	3. Bah, I.	Ing.Agron.	Agronomist	Kilissi	100
Guinea Bissau	1. Domingo, F.	Ing.Agron.	Agronomist	Contobuel	100
Mali	1. Coulibaly, N.	M.S.	Agronomist	Sotuba	100
	2. Assa-Kanté, B. (Mme)	M.S.	Food Tech.	Sotuba	100
	3. Dolo, A.B.	Ing.Agron.	Agronomist		75
Mauritania	1. Sidi R'Chid	3e Cycle	Agronome	Kaedi	30
Niger	1. Naino, J.	M.S.	Breeder		40
Nigeria	1. Obajimi, A.O.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Ibadan	100
	2. Iken, J.E.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Ibadan	100
	3. Fakorede, M.A.B.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Ife	100
	4. Alofe, C.	Ph.D.	Agronomist	Ife	100
	5. Akintunde, Y.	Ph.D.	Agronomist	Ibadan	100
	6. Elemo, K.A.	Ph.D.	Agronomist	Zaria	60
	7. Iwuafor, E.N.O.	Ph.D.	Agronomist	Zaria	50
	8. Chude, V.O.	Ph.D.	Agronomist	Zaria	50
Senegal	1. Ndiaye, A.	3e Cycle	Breeder	St. Louis	100
Tchad	1. Gaye-Sene, Y.	Ing.Agron.	Breeder	Gassi	100
	2. Yagoua, R.	Ing.Agron.	Agronomist	Gassi	100
Togo	1. Esseh-Yovo, M.	Ph.D.	Breeder	Lome	100
	2. Agbobli, C.A.	Ph.D.	Agronomist	Lome	60
	3. Adri, K.	3e Cycle	Agronomist	Lome	75
	4. Gumedzoe, M.	M.S.	Virologist	Lome	30

Annex 2. Number of sets of regional maize trials requested by Network member countries 1987-1989.

COUNTRY	RUVT-1				RUVT-2				RUVT-3				TOTAL PER COUNTRY
	87	88	89	TOTAL	87	88	89	TOTAL	87	88	89	TOTAL	
Benin	2	4	4	10	2	2	2	6	2	4	3	9	25
Burkina Faso	2	3	2	7	1	2	2	5	1	3	3	7	19
Cameroon	1	3	3	7	1	2	2	5	0	2	3	5	17
Cape Verde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	5	5
Cent.Afr. Rep.	2	2	2	6	2	1	1	4	0	1	1	2	12
Côte d'Ivoire	1	2	2	5	0	1	2	3	0	3	2	5	13
Gambia	2	2	2	6	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	6	12
Ghana	1	1	3	5	1	1	2	4	0	0	1	1	10
Guinea	3	0	2	5	2	4	4	10	0	0	2	2	17
Guinea Bissau	0	2	2	4	0	2	1	3	1	3	2	6	13
Mali	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	3	5
Mauritania	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Niger	1	1	1	3	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	2	7
Nigeria	2	1	1	4	1	2	1	4	0	1	1	2	10
Senegal	2	3	3	8	2	3	3	8	1	3	2	6	22
Tchad	1	1	1	3	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	4	8
Togo	3	3	2	8	2	3	2	7	3	3	2	8	23
TOTAL/YEAR	23	28	32	83	15	25	23	63	15	29	30	74	220

*RUVT-1 = Early maturing drought tolerant variety trial ; RUVT-2 = Full-season/Intermediate maturing variety trial ; RUVT-3 = Extra-early maturing variety trial.

Annex 3. Contribution of varieties to SAFGRAD Maize Network Regional Trials by IARC's and NARS.

Nominating Organizations	Trials	1987	1988	1989
IARC'S	RUVT-1	5(42)*	2(17)	3(23)
	RUVT-2	6(55)	8(73)	6(50)
	RUVT-3	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
	TOTAL	11	10	9
NARS	RUVT-1	1(8)	2(17)	1(8)
	RUVT-2	2(18)	2(18)	5(42)
	RUVT-3	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
	TOTAL	3	4	6
Network Collaborative Research**	RUVT-1	6(50)	8(66)	9(69)
	RUVT-2	3(27)	1(9)	1(8)
	RUVT-3	11(100)	11(100)	12(100)
	TOTAL	20	20	22
Summary				
IARC'S	ALL	11	10	9
NARS + N/W Coll.Res.	ALL	23	24	28

*Figures number of entries (varieties) and those in parentheses are percentage values.

**Network Collaborative Research refers specifically to the Research carried out by the network Coordinator in Collaboration with the Burkina Faso Program and some NARS Programs with facilities for progeny Testing.

Annex 4. Number of regional variety trial sets requested and percentage of trials for which data were returned (data recovery).

Country	1987			1988			1989		
	No Trials		%	No Trials		%	No Trials		%
	Dispatched	Data returned	Data recovery	Dispatched	Data returned	Data recovery	Dispatched	Data returned	Data recovery
Benin	6	0	0	10	6	60	9	6	67
Burkina Faso	4	4	100	8	8	100	7	7	100
Cameroon	2	0	0	7	6	86	8	8	100
Cape Verde	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
Cent. Afr. Rep.	4	0	0	4	2	50	4	2	50
Côte d'Ivoire	1	0	0	6	0	0	6	0	0
Gambia	4	2	50	4	0	0	4	0	0
Ghana	2	2	100	2	2	100	6	6	100
Guinea	5	5	100	4	0	0	8	2	25
Guinea Bissau	1	0	0	7	0	0	5	0	0
Mali	2	1	50	0	0	0	3	3	100
Mauritania	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	100
Niger	1	1	100	3	1	33	3	2	67
Nigeria	3	2	67	4	3	75	3	3	100
Senegal	5	5	100	9	0	0	8	5	63
Tchad	3	0	0	3	0	0	2	2	100
Togo	8	3	38	9	6	67	6	6	100
TOTAL	53	25	47	82	34	42	85	54	64

53
82
85
220

NARS) to all NARS of the region, (ii) IITA will always be an active supporter of networks, and (iii) the management of networks should be NARS responsibility. In the short-term, IITA is willing to help in the management of networks if NARS so desire, but will transfer the responsibility to them whenever they feel they have the capability to do so.

1.1.3. Remarks by representative of CIRAD

On behalf of CIRAD, Dr. Ayuk-Takem, CORAF Maize Network Coordinator, indicated that this occasion was the first opportunity for the three research bodies working for the West and Central Africa (IITA, SAFGRAD and CORAF) to meet together on this issue of harmonization of the CORAF and SAFGRAD networks activities. He emphasized that the CORAF and SAFGRAD networks are both working for the farmers in the sub-region and therefore nothing should prevent them from working together. For this reason, CORAF was counting on the SAFGRAD maize network for fruitful and faithful collaboration so that maize research results could be made available to farmers without any problem.

1.1.4. Remarks of USAID Representative

The representative of USAID, Dr. Sentz expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the Harmonization Committee meeting as an observer. He stated that USAID has a long time working relationship with SAFGRAD as a major donor. He noted the existence of CORAF and SAFGRAD maize networks was not consistent with SPAAR guidelines for support and USAID is therefore very much interested in their effective harmonization to avoid possible duplication of activities. He emphasized the commitment of USAID-Africa to support regional collaborative research in West and Central Africa not only for maize but also for other crops. He concluded that because funds are scarce it is very important they be utilized efficiently through harmonization of activities of the two networks.

1.2. Attendance

The list of participants at the meeting is attached as an Annex.

1.3. Agenda for the Meeting

The following agenda was adopted after Dr. Fajemisin had reminded the participants of the responsibility of the Harmonization Committee as stated in the proceedings of the meeting between SAFGRAD and CORAF on the harmonization of the activities of the maize networks in West and Central Africa held in Yaounde, Cameroon, on the 5-6 June 1989.

I.- Major constraints of maize production in each Network mandated ecological zones and their comparative assessment.

II.- Areas of emphasis of each Network

III.- Mechanism of approach

IV.- Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops

V.- Communication

VI.- Recommendations.

1.4. Election of a Chairman and Rapporteurs

Following the adoption of the agenda for the meeting, participants nominated Dr. Ayuk-Takem to be the Chairman of the meeting. Also, Drs Charles Thé and Badu-Apraku were nominated as rapporteurs for the French and English reports, respectively.

2.0. MAJOR CONSTRAINTS OF MAIZE PRODUCTION IN EACH NETWORK MANDATE ECOLOGICAL ZONES.

The committee reviewed the ecological mandates of CORAF and SAFGRAD maize networks as well as the biological, physical and socio-economic maize production constraints of each network mandate area (Table 1). This was followed by a comparative assessment of the maize production constraints in the CORAF and SAFGRAD mandate ecologies (Table 2).

3.0. AREAS OF EMPHASIS

Based on the comparative assessment of the production constraints in the CORAF and SAFGRAD network mandate areas, responsibilities were defined for each network as follows.

3.1. CORAF Maize Network

The major areas of emphasis of the CORAF Network should be :

1) Breeding for streak resistance: Members noted that Togo has been given the responsibility for breeding for streak resistance for both networks. It was recognized that it would be advisable to identify another national program to assist in this responsibility. The Ghana maize program was identified as having the potential to take up this assignment and was accordingly charged with the responsibility.

2) Soil Acidity

3) Breeding for borer resistance.
It was noted that Côte d'Ivoire as a lead centre had already been mandated by SAFGRAD to take up the responsibility of breeding for borer resistance. It was agreed that CORAF should look for more funding to assist Côte d'Ivoire to carry out this responsibility.

4) Consumer preferences

5) Breeding for late maturing varieties.

6) Breeding for low solar radiation

7) Cropping systems.

3.2. SAFGRAD Maize network

The major areas of emphasis of the SAFGRAD Maize Network should be :

1) Drought research

2) Striga research

3) Breeding for extra-early maturing varieties

4) Breeding for early maturing varieties

5) Agronomy (emphasis on organic matter, Zn, Mn, S. deficiencies)

6) Soil compaction and water infiltration

7) Research on termites.

3.3. Research Areas of Common Interest to CORAF and SAFGRAD Maize Networks

The following research areas were identified as of common interest to both networks :

i) Weeds control

ii) N and P fertilization

iii) Germplasm collection, evaluation and maintenance.

It was agreed that the two networks should jointly establish collaborative research projects in these areas.

Table 1. Ecological mandates of CORAF and SAFGRAD Maize Networks and their respective maize production constraints.

	CORAF	SAFGRAD
Mandate	Humid, Sub-humid and irrigated ecologies (Forest, Forest/Savanna transition zones and Southern Guinea Savanna) Irrigated (Rainfall < 400 mm) areas	Semi-arid (Northern Guinea Savanna, Sudan Savanna and Sahel (Rainfall not less than 400 mm)
Constraints	**Biological**	**Biological**
	. Diseases : Streak rust blight Curvularia Stalk and ear rots	. Diseases : Streak Rust Blight Stalk & ear rots
	. Pests : Borers Storage pests Rodents Termites	. Pests : Termites Storage pests Locusts Rodents
	. Striga	. Striga
	. Weeds	. Weeds
	Physical :	**Physical :**
	. Soil erosion	. Soil erosion (wind)
	. Low solar radiation	. Soil compaction
	. Soil fertility Acid soil N, P, S, Zn, & Mg deficiencies	. Poor water infiltration . Drought . Low organic matter . N, P, S, Zn, Mg deficiencies
	. Sandy soil	
	Socio-economic	**Socio-economic**
	. Consumer preference	. Consumer preference
	. Labour	. Labour
	. Capital	. Capital
	. Inputs	. Inputs
	. Post harvest technology . Cropping system	. Post harvest technology . Cropping system.

Table 2. Comparative assessment of maize production constraints in the CORAF and SAFGRAD mandate ecologies*.

	CORAF	SAFGRAD
Streak	H	M
Foliar diseases	H	M to L
Borers	H	L
Storage pests	H	M
Termites	L	H
Locusts	L	H
Striga	M	H
Weeds	H	H
Drought (during growing season)	L	H
Acidity	H	M
N. Fert.	H	H
P. Fertilizer	H	H
Organic matter	M	H
S, Mg, Zn	M	H
Soil erosion	H (water)	H (wind)
Soil compaction	L	H
Water infiltration	L	H
Low Solar radiation	H	L
Soil temperature	L	H
Consumer preference	H	M
Labour	H	H
Inputs	H	H
Post harvest technology	H	M
Cropping system	H	M
Varietal development		
Extra-Early (< 80 days)	L	H
Early (80-95 days)	M	H
Intermediate (95-105 days)	M	M
Late (105-120 days)	H	L
Germplasm collection and evaluation	H	H

* H = high priority
M = medium priority
L = low priority

4.0. MECHANISM OF APPROACH

(a) It was agreed by participants that IITA should provide backstopping to both networks. These should include :

(i) Generation and transfer of appropriate research methodology for streak, Striga, borers, drought and termites for CORAF and SAFGRAD networks.

(ii) Generation of improved germplasm and appropriate agronomic practices that will ensure sustainability and productivity of maize in West and Central Africa.

(iii) Assist in the improvement of manpower resources of NARS through training at both graduate and technical levels, visits, exchange of scientific information and counselling.

(iv) Assist in strengthening research capability of NARS through the provision of small research equipment and materials.

(b) It was decided that where a network has comparative advantage and has therefore been given responsibility in that area, it should seek funds from donors to carry out the work. Networks should not be competing for funds for research on problems that they have not been assigned responsibility.

(c) With the admission of the non-Francophone countries into CORAF, the research projects of CORAF should be reviewed to take into consideration the current research interests and capabilities of the new members.

5.0. CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND MONITORING TOURS.

The calendar of events of each network were reviewed to ensure that the networks do not have activities at the same time. It was also agreed that each network should make their activities known to the other so as to avoid conflicts. The calendar of events of the two networks are presented in Table 3.

It was agreed that some selected scientists of each network should be given the opportunity to participate in the activities of the other network.

6.0. COMMUNICATIONS

In order to improve the communication between the two networks, it was decided that they should :

i) exchange scientific information through their respective newsletters and proceedings of their meetings.

ii) exchange genetic materials, and

iii) explore ways of organizing joint training programs.

Table 3. Calendar of Events of CORAF and SAFGRAD Maize Networks.

Network	Events	Frequency	Usual period
CORAF	1) National Research Directors' Conference	Once a year	March
	2) NARS Researchers' annual meeting	Annual	End of January / Early February
	3) Specific project leaders Workshop (Atelier thématique)	Twice a year	On request
SAFGRAD	1) National Research Directors' Conference	Every 2 years	February
	2) Oversight Committee meeting	Annually	
	3) Steering Committee meeting	Twice a year	March & November
	4) Workshop	Once every 2 years	March
	5) Monitoring tours	Once every 2 years	September

7.0. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were made at the end of the meeting:

(1) The members of the harmonization committee, recognizing the problems posed by the existence of the CORAF and SAFGRAD Networks within the same sub-region, recommended that the two networks should be merged to form one network with one steering committee within the next two years.

(2) It was recommended that the executive bodies of the respective networks should meet as soon as possible to explore ways of implementing the above recommendation.

(3) The members of the harmonization committee, while appreciating the efforts made so far by the CORAF Network to include the non-francophone countries in the network, strongly recommended that :

(i) National Directors of the non-francophone countries should in future be invited to the annual Directors meeting of CORAF.

(ii) The decision to include the non-francophone countries in CORAF should be officially communicated to the non-francophone countries.

(iii) Maize scientists of the non-francophone countries should be on the list of correspondents and should be fully integrated in CORAF so that they can play active roles.

(4) While waiting for the merger of the two networks, each network should respect the calendar of events of the other so as to avoid conflicts in the timing of activities.

(5) In order to avoid duplication of efforts, each network should emphasize on those constraints in which it has comparative advantage as agreed on at this meeting.

A N N E X

HARMONIZATION COMMITTEE MEETING OF CORAF AND SAFGRAD MAIZE NETWORKS

MAY 7 - 8, 1990

Name	Position/Affiliation and address	Signature
(a) Members		
Dr. J.A. Ayuk-Takem	Coordinator CORAF Maize Network IRA, B.P. 2123, Yaounde Cameroon	
Dr. J.M. Fajemisin	Coordinator SAFGRAD Maize Network IITA/SAFGRAD, 01 B.P. 1495 Ouagadougou 01, Burkina Faso	
Dr. Attiey Koffi	Representative, CORAF Maize Network IDESSA, 01 B.P. 633, Bouaké 01, Côte d'Ivoire	
Mr. Angonga Letsaka	Representative, CORAF C.R.A., B.P. 28, Loudima, Congo	
Mr. Chabi Gouro Yallou	Representative, CORAF B.P. 884, Cotonou, Benin	
Dr. Charles Thé	Representative SAFGRAD Maize Network IRA/NCRE, B.P. 2067, Yaounde, Cameroon	
Dr. B. Badu-Apraku	Representative SAFGRAD Maize Network P.O. Box 3785, Kumasi, Ghana	

1990-05

MEETING OF HARMONIZATION COMMITTEE OF SAFGRAD AND CORAF MAIZE NETWORKS

AU-SAFGRAD

AU-SAFGRAD