



AARINENA

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EDITORIAL

Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah – The Prince of the State of Kuwait, the International Conference on Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in WANA region and AARINENA 12th General Conference took place at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) in Kuwait City, Kuwait, during 13th -17th of November 2011. More than 80 participants from 18 member countries and 9 international and regional organizations, institutions and NGOs and farmers Representatives participated in both meetings. At the conclusion of the International Conference the Kuwait Declaration was announced that included several key recommendations, knowledge gaps, and opportunities for policy makers, researchers and extension systems, and NGOs to implement programs designed to minimize short- and long-term vulnerability of the WANA region to climate change.

AARINENA achievements during the past three years were presented at AARINENA 12th General Conference. The deliberations were conducted in five technical sessions that dealt with AARINENA activities, Global and Inter-Regional Collaboration, Financial Status, Constitution Amendments and Election of New Executive Committee. The Conference adopted a work plan for 2012 including Advocacy activities; Strengthening Stakeholder capacities and Gender issues; Inter-regional partnership, Agricultural Knowledge for all; Publications and preparation for the Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD 2) to be held in Uruguay in October/November 2012. The Conference adopted the proposed Constitution Amendments to articles VIII, IX and XI. The participants agreed to hold the 13th General Conference in Turkey in November 2014.

A progress report documenting AARINENA activities and actions achieved during 2008-2011 was prepared to describe and ensure the timely and successful implementation of the activities planned to foster agricultural research and technology development among partners and members in the region. AARINENA-RAIS activities continue to increase the effectiveness of the agricultural research in the region, and increasing their abilities to reach the end-user. In cooperation with GFAR, AARINENA conducted a series of regional activities following GFAR Road Map resulted from the Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD I) held in Montpellier, France.

Finally the Conference elected a new president and five new executive committee members representing AARINENA five sub regions in addition to allocating three seats for GFAR, CGIAR and CSOs representatives. The editors would like to congratulate the newly elected members and wish them success in promoting agricultural research for development in the region.

Editors