

Minutes of the Meeting

19th Council for Partnerships on Rice Research in Asia (CORRA) Meeting
3 August 2015, Horison Ultima Hotel, Bekasi, Indonesia



SUMMARY

The 19th annual meeting of CORRA was hosted by the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD). Several leaders and representatives of national agricultural research institutions from 18 countries in Asia, and IRRI gathered together in Horison Ultima hotel in Bekasi, Indonesia last August 3-4, 2015 for this event.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Agung Hendriadi, IAARD Executive Secretary, who represented Dr. Muhammad Syakir, Director General of IAARD. IRRI was represented by Deputy Director General for Research Dr. Matthew Morell, who also co-chaired the meeting.

With the theme, “Evolving imperatives on rice research in Asia,” the Council discussed updates on the development of the next phase of the Global Rice Science Partnership and its relevance to the national rice research and development priorities of each member country. An in-depth look at the national rice programs of three member countries – the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia was presented by representatives from each of the three member countries.

The meeting concluded with the galvanizing of the Council’s support for the Global Rice Science Partnership Phase 2 through the drafting and unanimous approval of a formal declaration of support to GRiSP. The declaration also included a pledge to promote the development of the next generation of rice scientists by encouraging national governments through the ministries of agriculture to fund relevant international programs (e.g. ASEAN). The event was capped with a visit to the Indonesian Center for Rice Research in Sukamandi, Indonesia.

The Council is composed of NARES leaders from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, India, Japan, South Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam plus IRRI, who meet annually to deliberate on issues on rice technology and rural development. IRRI is also the secretariat of CORRA. Representatives from Taiwan and Timor Leste also participated as observers in this year’s meeting. CORRA members from India, Bangladesh and Myanmar were not able to send a representative.

1 **CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING SESSION**

2 Chairperson: Dr. Agung Hendriadi, Executive Secretary, IAARD, Indonesia

3 Rapporteur: Dr. Madonna Casimero, CORRA Secretariat

4

5 The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

6 The CORRA Chair, Dr. Agung Hendriadi (representing IAARD Director General, M.Syukur),
7 welcomed and thanked all the participants to the meeting. He introduced the representatives of
8 each CORRA member country, CORRA observers and Indonesian officials/scientists. He
9 described the CORRA as a body assembled in 1996 to enhance the effectiveness of partnerships
10 among NARES and IRRI. The meeting's theme, "Evolving Imperatives of Rice Research in
11 Asia", according to him is apt given the concern on global climate change and food security.

12 In his welcome remarks, Dr. Matthew Morell (Deputy Director General for Research, IRRI),
13 thanked IAARD for organizing and hosting the 19th meeting of the CORRA. He described the
14 CORRA as a wonderful record of collaboration, cooperation and coordination among and
15 between the NARES of different countries and IRRI. He said that this partnership is all the more
16 important today and in the future as the world faces the challenges brought about by climate
17 change, population growth, decreasing resources for rice farming (e.g. water, labor and other
18 inputs). With these challenges and the changes in each country's needs and internal capacities
19 to conduct rice R&D, Dr. Morell noted that IRRI's relationship with each member country will
20 evolve as well.

21 He reiterated IRRI's desire to continue the partnership with each member and exhorted the
22 representatives to keep communication lines open. Looking into the future, he said that CORRA
23 can put weight on encouraging support for the development of the next generation of
24 researchers and rice scientists as a career path for future scientists.

25 He reiterated the need for countries to work together to come up with solutions to problems
26 commonly faced by each member country, especially since the CORRA is composed of
27 representatives of around 90% of the world's rice producing countries. With such a
28 representation, he encouraged the members to discuss their individual national interests in rice
29 R&D, the interests of the region and global interests and how members can work together
30 harmoniously to achieve these.

31

32 Representing the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Mat Syukur, Assistant to the Minister of
33 Agriculture (for Innovation and Technology), welcomed the participants. He thanked IRRI in
34 particular, for the "everlasting partnership." He shared about Indonesia's eagerness to reach
35 rice self-sufficiency by 2016 through investments in seeds, irrigation, mechanization and
36 technical guidance to extension. He wished everyone a fruitful meeting.

37

38 **Approval of the Agenda**

39 The Chair read the agenda of the 19th CORRA meeting and moved for its approval. The agenda
40 are as follows:

- 41 1. Review and approval of the Minutes of the 18th CORRA Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand
42 2. Presentations on developments in global rice science

- 43 3. Presentations on Country rice sector strategies from Indonesia, the Philippines and
44 Vietnam
45 4. Business Meeting
46 a. Agenda for 20th CORRA Meeting
47 b. Venue of 20th CORRA Meeting
48

49 A query was raised about the draft CORRA Declaration agreed during the 18th meeting to be
50 presented in this meeting. The Chair answered that the declaration will be discussed in the next
51 session when matters arising from the minutes are tackled. No other concerns were raised and
52 the agenda was approved.
53

54 **Review of the Minutes of the 18th CORRA Meeting**

55

56 The body reviewed the minutes of the 18th CORRA meeting. Two items for correction were
57 raised as follows:
58

- 59 1. Line number 36: Change the spelling of “Cambodia” to “Cambodian” in Cambodian
60 Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI)
61 2. Line 354: Capitalize the first letter of the words “director general” to Director General
62

63 No other concerns were raised and the minutes of the 18th CORRA meeting was approved.
64

65 **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 18th CORRA Meeting**

66

- 67 1. CORRA Declaration of Support to GRiSP Phase 2
68 It was proposed during the 18th CORRA meeting that the CGIAR program on rice called
69 the Global Rice Science Partnership (or GRiSP) Phase 2 be presented and discussed in
70 the 19th CORRA meeting and a declaration of support be drafted and approved.
71 Dr. M. Morell shared that the GRiSP Phase 2 document is yet to be completed and will
72 be shared to CORRA members for their feedback later in 2015 and not during the
73 CORRA meeting. However, he will present the outline of GRiSP Phase 2 for discussion
74 in this meeting. It was agreed that the CORRA declaration of support be finalized after
75 the discussion on GRiSP Phase 2 in Session 2 of the meeting.
76
- 77 2. Venue of the 20th CORRA Meeting
78 Dr. Abbas (Pakistan) clarified whether Indonesia agreed to host the 2015 and 2016
79 Annual meetings of the CORRA or just the 2015 annual meeting. It was clarified that
80 South Korea will host the 2016 CORRA meeting but this will be discussed further in the
81 business meeting.
82

83 No other matters were raised.
84
85

86 **SESSION 2: GLOBAL RICE SCIENCE DEVELOPMENTS**

87 Chairperson: Dr. Sharif Haron, Director General MARDI, Malaysia

88 Rapporteur: Dr. Ali Jamil, Director, ICRR, Indonesia

89

90 There were 3 presentations on Global Rice Science Developments as follows:

91

92 **Presentation 1:** Global Rice Situationer

93 Presenter: Dr. Samarendu Mohanty, Economist and Head of Social Sciences Division, IRRI

94

95 Dr. Mohanty's presentation centered on global prices of rice for 2015 and sought to explain the
96 prevailing relatively low price of rice in the market. He attributed this to the large volume of
97 stock in Thailand and India and the consistently low price of other grains in the market. Rice
98 prices in the next few months may or may not increase due to potential increased importation
99 by the Philippines and Indonesia who are affected by El Nino. The potential increase may be
100 offset by harvests in India.

101 Three points were raised in the discussion that followed. First, it was noted that marketing of
102 basmati rice in Pakistan needs to be upgraded to compete with India and other exporters.

103 Second, the "China factor" in global rice prices was asked. According to Dr. Mohanty, only if
104 China begins importing 6 million tons or more will they affect global rice prices. Currently,
105 China has pegged its imports to 4 million tons. Finally, a question was raised on how long the
106 El Nino drought will take before it starts affecting global rice market prices. No sure answer is
107 available as this will depend on how India, as an exporter will behave. Cutting rice exports to
108 store for domestic consumption will impact global rice prices.

109

110 **Presentation 2:** Results of the CORRA-GRiSP Workshops on National Rice Sector Strategies
111 (Malaysia and India, 2014)

112 Presenter: Dr. Hope Webber, Senior Scientist M&E Specialist, GRiSP

113

114 Dr. Webber shared the results of the workshop on national rice sector strategies conducted by
115 GRiSP with the CORRA in 2014. The aims of the workshop were to:

- 116 1. Initiate a systematic inventory of national rice research & development strategies in
117 Asia;
- 118 2. Analyze coverage and relevance of GRiSP Intermediate Development Outcomes (IDOs)
119 to countries' National Rice Sector Development Strategies;
- 120 3. Identify commonalities and specificities in the strategies that can 'inform' GRiSP; and,
- 121 4. Propose a roadmap on how development outcome indicators and quantitative targets
122 can be set and monitored.

123 GRiSP has 7 intermediate development outcomes to which each country's rice sector
124 development strategies will be matched. These outcomes are:

- 125 1. Increased rice production that meets local and global demand.
- 126 2. Increased profitability for rice producers and increased rice affordability for consumers.
- 127 3. Increased efficiency and value added along the rice value chain.
- 128 4. Increased sustainability and reduced environmental foot print of rice production.

- 129 5. Increased health and nutrition from rice and from diversification.
130 6. Increased capacity and resilience in the rice sector.
131 7. Gender equity empowerment.

132 The analysis yielded the following observations and recommendations:

- 133 1. GRiSP seems suitable platform for sharing national rice strategies and developing co-
134 learning
135 2. GRiSP development outcomes on production increase, profitability and efficiencies in
136 value chains match best most country priorities; second tier priorities include nutrition
137 and health, and gender equity
138 3. GRiSP as mechanism to strengthen the development of impact pathways, and of
139 harmonized monitoring systems to track progress towards targeted development
140 outcomes – from pilot sites to national level

141

142 No questions were raised on the presentation.

143

144 **Presentation 3: Updates on the Status of GRiSP Phase 2 and IRRI Research Strategy and Thrusts**

145 Presenter: Dr. Matthew Morell, Deputy Director General (Research), IRRI

146

147 Dr. Morell emphasized the nature of the Global Rice Science Partnership as a platform for
148 sharing technologies across rice producing areas around the world and expedite the
149 development of technologies that will solve rice problems commonly faced by different
150 countries.

151 GRiSP relies on different partners. Through platforms like CORRA in Asia, FLAR in Latin
152 America, and NCE in Africa, GRiSP brings together important stakeholders to learn more about
153 the issues and priorities of the regions. With GRiSP's network of advanced research institutes in
154 the West, rice producing countries can benefit from advanced technologies and research
155 knowledge to develop solutions to rice improvement especially those requiring advanced
156 genetics. The private sector is also tapped as well as the NARES. The latter is critical to get the
157 science done and pass the products to the end users – the farmers.

158

159 He enumerated IRRI's mission as being wholly in line with the GRiSP program. These are:

- 160 1. Assure global rice supplies
161 2. Reduce poverty and hunger
162 3. Improve the health of rice farmers and consumers
163 4. Ensure environmental sustainability

164

165 In terms of activities, IRRI's research thrusts align with and fully support GRiSP. IRRI's research
166 thrusts focus on the following:

- 167 1. Delivering for those who most need IRRI's research
168 2. Targeting efforts for impact (where, when, how)
169 3. Utilizing critical resources and experimental systems (e.g. IRRI Genebank)
170 4. Discovering and Delivering critical new genetics for abiotic and biotic stress tolerance
171 5. Highly efficient and effective breeding pipelines

- 172 6. Healthier rice
- 173 7. Producing more rice with less labor and fewer inputs
- 174 8. Linking trial sites across the globe to utilize rice as a “global climate change antenna”
- 175 9. Utilizing ICT as decision making tools to deliver direct impacts to farmers
- 176 10. Policies that help accelerate seed availability (IRRI as a broker between countries)
- 177 11. Nurturing young rice professionals for the future

178 As GRiSP Phase 1 ends in 2016, the proposal for Phase 2 is being drawn up and will be
179 submitted for approval on February 2016. He pointed out that originally, the goal was to have
180 the pre-proposal document ready in time for the CORRA meeting, but the timeline has been
181 moved back. The members of the CORRA need to review the proposal and provide inputs
182 towards the end of 2015, before the document is submitted in 2016. The Phase 2 proposal has
183 the following thematic areas called Flagship Programs (FP):

- 184 FP1 Foresight and Technology Evaluation for Impact
- 185 FP2 Upgrading rice value chains
- 186 FP3 Sustainable farming systems for improved livelihoods
- 187 FP4 Global Rice Array
- 188 FP5 Climate-smart rice varieties
- 189 FP6 Accelerating impact and equity

190

191 In conclusion, he reiterated the role of partnerships and regional collaboration for success.
192 Solutions to the problems faced by the sector require collaborative action. He encouraged the
193 CORRA to keep on its role as a body for collaboration in the region and provide important
194 inputs for the next phase of GRiSP.

195

196 In the discussion the following clarifications were raised:

197 Dr. Abbas (Pakistan) asked what decentralizing IRRI’s operations means. Dr. Morell replied
198 that this has something to do with IRRI’s having major operations in countries like India,
199 Burundi, Myanmar and Bangladesh and the need to have people on the ground to better
200 understand problems on the ground and be efficient in transfer of technology.

201 Dr. Pandey (Nepal) asked how the proposed phase 2 of GRiSP addresses climate change
202 concerns and urbanization. Dr. Morell replied that flagship program 5 (climate smart rice
203 varieties) and flagship program 4 (global rice array) are structured in such a way as to promote
204 a global research approach to climate change.

205 Dr. Nabais (Timor Leste) asked about how the IRRI Genebank is utilized to help countries
206 impacted by El Nino. Dr. Morell answered that accessions in the Genebank are used and
207 screened for useful traits like tolerance to higher night time temperatures. Once found, these
208 traits can be put in varieties that are used by farmers in a partner country and bred. Testing and
209 dissemination is a matter of coordination with the country partner concerned and is an area that
210 the Global Rice Array can further improve. He noted that there is a need for a more efficient
211 system to hasten this process especially given the huge number of accessions in the Genebank.

212

213 The draft CORRA Declaration was also discussed. Dr. Morell asked that in addition to
214 supporting GRiSP Phase 2, the communique also include a statement by CORRA declaring

215 support to the capacity building of the next generation of rice scientists by promoting this to
216 their respective Ministers.

217
218

219 **SESSION 3: COUNTRY REPORTS ON NARES STRATEGIES ON RICE SECTOR**
220 **DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH IRRI**

221 Chairperson: Dr. Matthew Morell, Deputy Director General for Research, IRRI

222 Rapporteur: Dr. Reynaldo Eborá, Acting Executive Director, PCAARRD, Philippines

223

224 The rice sector development strategies from CORRA members, the Philippines, Indonesia and
225 Vietnam were presented in this session.

226

227 **Philippines: Food Staples Sufficiency Program**

228 Presenter: Mr. Edilberto de Luna, Asst. Secretary for Field Operations, Department of
229 Agriculture

230

231 Mr. de Luna presented the rice sector profile of the Philippines including national rice
232 production levels over the years and socio demographic profile of Filipino farmers. He then
233 discussed the government strategy dubbed the Food Staples Sufficiency Program, whose main
234 objectives are:

- 235 1. Produce locally Philippine's domestic requirement
- 236 2. Strengthen national resilience in staples production to impacts of climate change

237 The program's core public investments are focused on irrigation, farm to market roads, fish
238 ports, postharvest facilities and equipment, trading centers, R&D, extension services, regulatory
239 quarantine services and product standards, high quality genetic materials, crop and livestock
240 protection and disease prevention and soil and water conservation.

241 In rice, the program's key thrusts are to: 1) raise farm productivity through competitiveness in
242 irrigation, postharvest facilities, mechanization, high quality seeds and inputs, RD&E; 2)
243 enhance economic incentives and enabling mechanisms through credit provision and crop
244 insurance expansion; 3) manage food staples consumption through promotion of staples and
245 brown rice and conducting campaigns to reduce food wastage.

246 He also discussed the Department of Agriculture's partnership with IRRI through the DA-IRRI
247 7 collaborative research and development projects under the FSSP program. These 7 projects
248 span the gamut of rice research fields from policy analysis (Benchmarking project), use of ICT
249 and advanced communication systems to disseminate farming best management practices (Rice
250 Crop Manager) and map and predict rice production in the country (PRISM project), expediting
251 the development of new varieties (NextGen project), extension (Improving Promotion and
252 Delivery project), rainfed agriculture improvement (Associated technologies project), and
253 protecting and promoting traditional rice in the country (Heirloom rice project).

254 Overall, the Philippine government invested a total of around US\$8.9 million to IRRI from 2013
255 to 2016 for this collaboration.

256

257 In the discussion, Mr. de Luna was asked how IRRI and the Philippine DA carry out the
258 collaboration. Mr. de Luna described the collaboration as a sharing of expertise and resources.
259 A question was also raised about how the government keep tab of seed usage by farmers. Mr.
260 de Luna shared that more than 52% of seeds used in the country were farmers' own good seeds.
261 He was also asked about the program's thrust to reduce rice consumption – whether it focused
262 on decreasing wastage or encouraging alternative food crops. Mr. de Luna answered that the
263 program utilizes both approaches. Finally, he was asked why a project is dedicated to heirloom
264 or traditional rice. He pointed out that the focus on heirloom rice has both cultural and
265 economic significance for the country.

266
267 Dr. Morell noted that the FSSP program of the Philippines is a good example of bilateral
268 collaboration between IRRI and a partner country.

269 **Indonesia: Indonesian Rice Self Sufficiency Policy and Program**

270 Presenter: Dr. Ali Jamil, Indonesian Center for Rice Research, IAARD

271
272
273 Dr. Jamil presented the profile of rice production in the country and some challenges faced by
274 the rice sector including population growth, uneven population distribution, climate variability
275 and the declining number of agricultural workers in Indonesia. To combat these, the
276 government set out its rice self-sufficiency program which aims to make the country rice self-
277 sufficient by 2016. This will be accomplished through: 1) distribution of agricultural machinery
278 and water pump; 2) improvement of 1.4 million has of irrigation; 3) open 40,000 has of new rice
279 land areas; and 4) increase rice productivity through quality seed varieties, subsidies for seeds
280 and fertilizers, dissemination of technologies and use of integrated crop management
281 principles. In terms of rice R&D, Indonesia is focused on breeding rice varieties that are
282 adaptive to climate change (submergence, salt, drought, and heat tolerant and early maturing).
283 Indonesia also promotes good crop management practices through the Indonesian version of
284 the Rice Crop Manager called Layanan Konsultasi Padi Indonesia (LKP) and other technologies
285 like the field water tube.

286
287 In the discussion that followed, a question was raised on the mechanism used by the
288 government to distribute agricultural machinery. Dr. Ali replied that the machines are given
289 free of charge to the farmers. He was also asked how farmers gain access to seeds. According to
290 Dr. Ali, seeds are given to farmers for free at 5 kilos each during open house programs of the
291 research center. Other questions raised were about the seed system, community seed
292 production, promotion of upland rice, hybrid rice usage, and rice storage systems. Dr. Ali
293 answered that in Indonesia's seed system, they produce 4 levels of seeds, of which certified
294 seeds are the ones accessible to rice growers or contractors. The government also has a policy of
295 encouraging farmers to learn to store their own good quality seeds, through community seed
296 production. Upland rice is limited although according to him, they have many varieties for
297 uplands. The problem with upland environments is that they are diverse, with acid soils and is
298 usually affected by rice blast. The size of hybrid rice usage in Indonesia is over half a million
299 hectares relative to overall rice area according to Dr. Jamil. Finally, regarding seed storage, Dr.

300 Jamil reported that the government has constructed a storage facility with the capacity of 3.5
301 million tons.

302

303 **Vietnam: Rice Industry Restructuring Program in Vietnam**

304 Presenter: Dr. Tran Ngoc Thach

305

306 Dr. Thach's presentation tackled the government's strategies to respond to the challenges of the
307 rice industry in the country. These challenges include: low competitiveness domestically and
308 internationally; low efficiency; low farmers' incomes; inefficient value chain from producers to
309 consumers; and climate change. The objective of the rice industry restructuring program is
310 mainly to increase rice production efficiency, and thereby ensure national food security; jobs
311 and incomes for rice farmers; environmental protection, and sustainable development. To
312 accomplish these, the program has set out activities in 9 major areas as follows:

- 313 1. Sustainable rice production systems (3.8 m has for rice, with use of high quality,
314 aromatic rice with high market value and short growth duration)
- 315 2. Value chain and postharvest management (invite more business companies in the
316 production and processing of rice)
- 317 3. Organizing rice production (encourage larger farms through changes in land laws,
318 encourage investors from abroad, and restructure Vietnam Food Association to further
319 engage in rice production and farmers)
- 320 4. Rice marketing and policy (better forecasting, diversifying investors for production and
321 processing)
- 322 5. Global climate change and risk management (mitigation and adaptation; forecasting,
323 insurance, etc.)
- 324 6. Protection of resource, environment and rice culture and heritage
- 325 7. Rice quality, nutrition and food safety
- 326 8. Gender
- 327 9. International collaboration

328 According to Dr. Thach, the restructuring program will be implemented through a package of
329 measures that combine a focus on innovations in science and technology, infrastructure
330 improvement, management and policy and international collaboration.

331

332 In the discussion, there were a handful of issues raised for clarification such as: the current
333 profit level of farmers; whether contract farmers work for export market or domestic; level of
334 IPM (integrated pest management) usage in Vietnam; yield profitability comparison between
335 hybrid and inbred farmers; source of hybrid seeds in Vietnam; main rice importing countries
336 that can invest in Vietnam; strategies why/how Vietnam can sell rice at lower prices, and the
337 cost of production per unit of rice in Vietnam.

338

339 Dr. Thach noted that the government's goal is to raise farmers' profit level by as much as 30%
340 but this is not always achieved. On the second question, he said that contract farmers work for
341 both export and domestic market. IPM usage in the country used to be as high as 80%
342 (adoption) but over time this has dropped to 50% and is challenging to maintain for farmers. Dr.

343 Thach noted that today, they have innovations like the Rice Crop Manager to promote to
344 farmers but this has to be localized. On the question of profitability of hybrid rice relative to
345 inbred, Dr. Thach answered that hybrid rice are grown only in Northern Vietnam in 600-700,000
346 has of rice land with yields of 7-8 tons/ha. Inbred rice grown in South Vietnam yields almost the
347 same (around 7 tons/ha) and is more preferred due to its short maturing characteristic. In terms
348 of seed production of hybrid rice, Dr. Thach said seeds mostly come from China, but they have
349 small areas devoted to production of F1 hybrids which is insufficient to supply the needs of
350 farmers. On the selling price of Vietnam rice, Dr. Thach noted the big difference between
351 domestic prices of packaged rice (1 USD/kg) and export price (40 cents/kg). He attributes this to
352 the fact that exported rice have lower quality, being a mix of broken rice and others. Exported
353 rice also has higher amylose content than those consumed domestically. Dr. Mohanty added
354 that domestic rice sold in supermarkets are well packaged thus their price. Finally, on
355 comparative costs of production, Dr. Thach shared that IRRI has made a study of this and that
356 comparatively, Vietnam has one of the lower costs of production at around 13 cents per
357 kilogram of rice compared to other countries like China.

358
359 Dr. Morell noted that the experience in hybrid rice production is similar across the three
360 countries and asked for comments.

361
362 In Indonesia, according to Dr. Ali, the low adoption and dissemination is due to prevalence of
363 diseases like bacterial leaf blight, tungro disease and pests like brown plant hopper where
364 hybrid rice are susceptible. Breeding resistance has only yielded moderate success.
365 For Nepal, Dr. Pandey said that the reports about hybrid rice performance in the three countries
366 are a cause for concern since South Asia is promoting hybrid rice. He said he will share what he
367 learned from this meeting to colleagues in South Asia and encourage them to give further
368 thought to hybrid rice.

369 In Vietnam, the reason for low adoption has more to do with the maturity period. Farmers in
370 Southern Vietnam prefer short maturing varieties which the hybrid is not. Farmers also practice
371 direct seeding.

372

373

374 **SESSION 4 BUSINESS MEETING: NEXT STEPS FOR CORRA**

375 Chairperson: Dr. Agung Hendriadi, Executive Secretary, IAARD

376 Rapporteur: Dr. Madonna Casimero, CORRA Secretariat

377

378 After some deliberation, CORRA members finalized the declaration of support to GRiSP Phase
379 2. Through a raising or show of hands, the members showed unanimous support and
380 agreement to the declaration. The final agreed text is as follows:

381

382 “The Council for Partnerships on Rice Research in Asia,

383

384 A body composed of representatives of national agricultural research and/or extension
385 systems (NARES) from 16 member countries in Asia with IRRI;

386 Whose main objective is to guide, facilitate, support and strengthen the partnerships among
387 NARES and between IRRI and the NARES;
388 Through its 19th Annual Meeting on August 3 to 4, 2015 in Bekasi, Indonesia

389

390 “declares its in-principle support to the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the
391 Global Rice Science Partnership Phase 2 (GRiSP 2) and will seek to achieve the
392 following:

393

394 1. Undertake to review and provide feedback on the GRiSP Phase 2 Proposal before
395 November 30, 2015;

396 2. Serve as an advisory council to GRiSP in Asia providing feedback on national rice
397 R&D priorities and needs for each member country; identifying common regional
398 concerns and their technology and policy solutions;

399 3. Identify opportunities to develop collaborative programs, initiatives and activities
400 aligning national rice R&D activities with GRiSP programs;

401 4. On a need basis organize special forums to identify issues of common concern,
402 provide updates on technology development, and assist in the development and
403 oversight of joint initiatives; and,

404 5. Increase capacity building by encouraging respective Ministers of Agriculture to
405 provide increased support and resources for the development of the next
406 generation of Asian rice scientists and extension professionals (e.g. through
407 ASEAN and related frameworks).”

408

409 On item #1 in the declaration, November 30, 2015 was agreed upon as sufficient time for the
410 members to have reviewed and shared comments on the GRiSP Phase 2 pre-proposal
411 document. Dr. Morell informed the body that the document will be sent to each member within
412 10 days after the CORRA meeting.

413

414 On item #5 in the declaration, Dr. Morell shared that the next ASEAN AMAF meeting was
415 scheduled sometime in November. The respective CORRA members can use the declaration to
416 encourage their respective ministers to support capacity building in the context of ASEAN.

417

418 After this deliberation, the session proceeded to forging the work plan of CORRA in the next 2
419 to 3 years. Each country representative was asked to share their priority topics for inclusion in
420 the CORRA work plan. The outputs are as follows:

421

422 **Indonesia**

423 Breeding for Increased yield potential

424 Hybrid seed production to increase productivity

425 Drought tolerance and other abiotic stresses

426 Deep water rice breeding and for swampy areas

427 Seeding for upland area (60-70% seeding rate) and plantation areas

428 Varieties with good seeding rate (60-70% rate)

429 Development of added value of postharvest by-product of rice (e.g. rice husk)
430 Increased use of Agricultural machineries (tech transfer from CORRA member countries)
431 (transplanter/mini combine harvester –share to CORRA) to reduce cost and optimize benefit;
432 Socio economics
433 Baseline survey – SE characteristics of the farmers
434 Analysis for impact assessment of technology adoption
435
436 **Vietnam**
437 Breeding for high quality (cooking, nutrition, aromatic, and climate- readiness)
438 Package of cultivation technologies (cut down input costs)
439 Postharvest
440 Machineries
441
442 **Sri Lanka**
443 Food Safety (e.g. effect of glyphosphate on health)
444 Traditional varieties/Heirloom – study functional and medicinal properties
445
446 **Pakistan**
447 Similar concerns as mentioned by other countries
448 Rice transplanting and package of cultivation technologies (and relevant concerns/ issues from
449 seed preparation to crop establishment)
450 Capacity building
451 Machinery – training programs for technicians on use of combine harvesters (to correct practice
452 of using combine harvesters for both wheat and rice w/o adjustments/amendments);
453 Introduction of small rice combine harvesters;
454 Small rice milling machines in rural areas (less than 2-3 tons/hr)
455 Rice postharvest storage
456
457 **Philippines**
458 Similar to other concerns already cited
459 Integrated rice-based farming systems (to increase farming incomes/ improve livelihoods and
460 ensure food security) – use of other crops with rice
461 Utilization of rice by-products to increase incomes
462
463 **Thailand**
464 Similar to other concerns already cited
465 Variety improvement to increase yield potential (including hybrid)
466 Stress tolerance (share with Indonesia about deep water rice of Thai program),
467 submergence, anaerobic germination (flood prone areas); drought, salt, acidity-
468 tolerance, etc.
469 Biotic: Rice blast, blb, bph (migration, forecasting system, sharing with Vietnam, Cambodia and
470 neighboring countries about migration of bph)
471 Water use efficiency and Aerobic rice system

- 472 Food safety with low gas emissions; technology/knowledge on gas emissions
473 Rice with added nutritional value especially higher antioxidants
474 Products development technology to increase rice value
475 Farm machineries (share and learn)
476 Capacity building for young scientists
477
- 478 **South Korea**
479 Similar with most topics already cited, in addition:
480 Japonica rice production, potential and price/market (global projections – production and
481 consumption)
482 Rice consumption in advanced countries/ health angle of rice consumption
483 Development of high temperature tolerant rice (during ripening stage)
484 Successfully finding and transferring resistant gene to Korean japonica backgrounds (relevant
485 breeding technologies/approaches, e.g. marker-assisted breeding)
486
- 487 **Japan**
488 Similar with topics already raised especially by Korea
489 Development of high yielding japonica varieties
490 Improvement of rice food value chain (include rice consumption, rice market)
491
- 492 **Nepal**
493 Most areas covered already
494 Develop support for rainfed and upland rice (varietal development, early maturing, drought
495 resistant)
496 Increased production
497 Fine or high quality rice/premium
498 Hybrid rice
499 Molecular breeding and biotechnology
500 (Small equipment) Mechanization for very small farming contexts (small, sloping);
501
- 502 **Lao PDR (based on their food security program)**
503 Breeding: glutinous rice (high yielding and good eating quality); drought and flood tolerance;
504 major pest and disease resistance
505 Mechanization and reduced labor
506 Cultivation techniques
507 Postharvest technology and value adding
508 Crop diversification
509 Rice marketing and Value chain
510 Capacity building of the next generation
511
- 512 **Malaysia**
513 Reducing postharvest losses
514 Developing Early warning systems for pests and diseases (early warning)

515 Hybrid breeding rice

516

517 **China**

518 Food safety

519 Super rice breeding (south-indica; north-japonica – China breeding program, started 1996,
520 already in 3rd phase) and new breeding methods

521 Simple, easy operation cultivation technologies (share China's technologies with other
522 members)

523 Mechanization technologies including transplanter and related issues like training, use and
524 effectiveness

525 Environment friendly cultivation technologies (less fertilizers and chemicals; soil improvement
526 against heavy metal pollution)

527 Mapping and cloning of important agricultural traits in rice (yield, quality and resistance)

528 Biotic stress breeding and abiotic (resistance, bph, blb, high temperature)

529 Rice functional genomic research

530

531 **Cambodia**

532 Similar to what was mentioned

533 Maximize germplasm use

534 Breeding for rainfed lowland and irrigated rice (include quality concerns; drought and
535 submergence tolerance and resistance to blb and blast in rainfed environments;

536 for irrigated/dry season – very early maturing materials with high yield of less than 100 days
537 with heat tolerance and high water use efficiency)

538 Machineries (more research); proper usage; introduction to farmers (training); effectiveness in
539 actual farm conditions

540 Crop intensification vs diversification

541 Site specific and simple rice technology package (2-3 technologies that deliver higher profits)

542 Use of good seeds/certified seeds; promotion of use of good/ certified seeds for higher
543 productivity

544 Capacity building of the next generation

545

546 **Other Matters and To Do's:**

547

548 1. CORRA secretariat to provide summary of the work plan in the next 7 days and discuss
549 the possibility of a CORRA meeting on a selected topic

550 2. Explore possibility of joint publication in international journals and research work of
551 CORRA members

552 3. 20th CORRA Meeting Venue: South Korea offered to host the 20th CORRA meeting

553 4. 20th CORRA Meeting Topics

554 Selected country reports

555 Special session on top 1-3 topics identified in the work plan

556 Explore possibility of inviting experts (to be discussed as well with next CORRA host)

- 557 5. Grisp 2 document, also known as CRP-RICE to be circulated to CORRA participants in
558 the next 10 days
- 559 6. CORRA members to compare GRiSP/RICE document with work plan to review
560 identified priorities and match with GRiSP focus areas (identify convergence and
561 divergence) and give feedback by November 30, 2015

562

563

564 **VOTE OF THANKS AND CLOSING REMARKS**

565 Dr. Hendriadi thanked all the participants in this year's meeting and shared how honored and
566 pleased he felt on behalf of Indonesia for the opportunity to host the 19th CORRA meeting. Dr.
567 Morell for his part thanked Dr. Hendriadi and IAARD for the very good meeting and for
568 hosting this year's meeting. He thanked all the participants for the constructive discussion and
569 sharing of perspectives. He also thanked South Korea for agreeing to host the 20th CORRA
570 meeting.

571

572 **Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm**

573

574

575

576 Prepared by
577 Benedict Pamatmat
578 CORRA Secretariat